

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Amendment

LCO No. 8154



Offered by: SEN. HARDING, 30<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. MARTIN, 31<sup>st</sup> Dist. SEN. SAMPSON, 16<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. CICARELLA, 34<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. SOMERS, 18<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. HWANG, 28<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. BERTHEL, 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist. SEN. FAZIO, 36<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. GORDON, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. KISSEL, 7<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. PERILLO J., 21<sup>st</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1163

File No. 531

Cal. No. 296

## "AN ACT CONCERNING QUALIFICATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED TO SERVE AS MODERATORS AT ELECTIONS AND PRIMARIES."

After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
 internal references accordingly:

"Sec. 501. Section 9-352 of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

5 Any election official who, with intent to cause or permit any voting 6 tabulator to fail to correctly register all votes cast thereon, tampers with 7 or disarranges such tabulator in any way or any part or appliance 8 thereof, or causes such tabulator to be used or consents to its being used 9 for voting at any election with knowledge of the fact that the same is not 10 in order, or not perfectly set and adjusted to correctly register all votes

11 cast thereon, or who, for the purpose of defrauding or deceiving any 12 elector or of causing it to be doubtful for what candidate or candidates 13 or proposition any vote is cast, or causing it to appear upon such 14 tabulator that votes cast for one candidate or proposition were cast for 15 another candidate or proposition, removes, changes or mutilates any 16 ballot, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of 17 imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced. 18 Sec. 502. Section 9-353 of the general statutes is repealed and the 19 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*): 20 Any election official who, at the close of the polls, purposely causes 21 the vote registered on the tabulator to be incorrectly taken down as to 22 any candidate or proposition voted on, or who knowingly causes to be 23 made or signed any false statement, certificate or return of any kind, of 24 such vote, or who knowingly consents to any such act, shall be guilty of 25 a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve 26 months that may not be suspended or reduced. 27 Sec. 503. Section 9-354 of the general statutes is repealed and the 28 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*): 29 Any person who prints or causes to be printed upon any official ballot 30 the name of any person not a candidate of a party whose name is printed 31 at the head of the column containing such nominees or who prints or 32 causes to be printed any authorized ballot in any manner other than that 33 prescribed by the Secretary of the State, shall be guilty of a class D felony 34 with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not 35 be suspended or reduced. 36 Sec. 504. Section 9-355 of the general statutes is repealed and the 37 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*): 38

Any person who, without reasonable cause, neglects to perform any of the duties required of him by the laws relating to elections or primaries and for which neglect no other punishment is provided, and any person who is guilty of fraud in the performance of any such duty, 42 and any person who makes any unlawful alteration in any list required 43 by law, shall be fined not more than three hundred dollars or be 44 imprisoned not more than [one year] twelve months or be both fined 45 and imprisoned. Any official who is convicted of fraud in the 46 performance of any duty imposed upon him by any law relating to the 47 registration or admission of electors or to the conduct of any election 48 shall be disfranchised. Any public officer or any election official upon 49 whom any duty is imposed by part I of chapter 147 and sections 9-308 50 to 9-311, inclusive, who wilfully omits or neglects to perform any such 51 duty or does any act prohibited therein for which punishment is not 52 otherwise provided shall be guilty of a class E felony with a minimum 53 term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or 54 reduced.

55 Sec. 505. Section 9-359 of the general statutes is repealed and the 56 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

57 (a) Any [(1)] person who executes an absentee ballot for the purpose 58 of informing any other person how he votes, or <u>who</u> procures any 59 absentee ballot to be prepared for such purpose, [(2)] <u>shall be guilty of a</u> 60 <u>class D felony.</u>

61 (b) Any (1) municipal clerk or moderator, elector appointed to count 62 any absentee ballot or other person who wilfully attempts to ascertain 63 how any elector marked his absentee ballot or how it was cast, [(3)] (2) 64 person who unlawfully opens or fills out, except as provided in section 65 9-140a with respect to a person unable to write, any elector's absentee 66 ballot signed in blank, [(4)] (3) person designated under section 9-140a 67 who executes an absentee ballot contrary to the elector's wishes, or [(5)] 68 (4) person who wilfully violates any provision of chapter 145, shall be 69 guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of 70 twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

71 Sec. 506. Section 9-359a of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

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73	(a) (1) A person is guilty of false statement in absentee balloting in the		
74	first degree when such person intentionally signs the name of another		
75	person to the application for an absentee ballot or the inner envelope		
76	accompanying any such ballot, which such person does not believe to		
77	be true and which signature is intended to mislead a public servant in		
78	the performance of such public servant's official function.		
79	(2) False statement in absentee balloting in the first degree is a class		
80	D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that		
81	may not be suspended or reduced.		
82	[(a)] (b) (1) A person is guilty of false statement in absentee balloting		
83	in the second degree when [he] such person intentionally makes a false		
84	written statement in or on [or signs the name of another person to] the		
85	application for an absentee ballot or the inner envelope accompanying		
86	any such ballot, which [he] <u>such person</u> does not believe to be true and		
87	which statement [or signature] is intended to mislead a public servant		
88	in the performance of [his] <u>such public servant's</u> official function.		
89	[(b)] (2) False statement in absentee balloting in the second degree is		
90	a class D felony.		
91	Sec. 507. Section 9-363 of the general statutes is repealed and the		
92	following is substituted in lieu thereof ( <i>Effective October 1, 2025</i> ):		
93	Any person who, with intent to defraud any elector of his or her vote		
94	or cause any elector to lose his or her vote or any part thereof, gives in		
95	any way, or prints, writes or circulates, or causes to be written, printed		
96	or circulated, any improper, false, misleading or incorrect instructions		
97	or advice or suggestions as to the manner of voting on any tabulator, the		
98	following of which or any part of which would cause any elector to lose		
99	his or her vote or any part thereof, or would cause any elector to fail in		
100	whole or in part to register or record the same on the tabulator for the		
101	candidates of his or her choice, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a		
102	minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be		
103	suspended or reduced.		

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104	Sec. 508. Section 9-364 of the general statutes is repealed and the		
105	following is substituted in lieu thereof ( <i>Effective October 1, 2025</i> ):		
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106	Any person who, with intent to disenfranchise any elector, influences		
107	or attempts to influence by force or threat, bribery or corrupt, fraudulent		
108	or deliberately deceitful means any elector to stay away from any		
109	election or otherwise refrain from voting, whether such voting is by		
110	mail, by deposit in a secure drop box or in person at a polling place or		
111	designated early voting or same-day election registration location, shall		
112	be guilty of a class D felony <u>with a minimum term of imprisonment of</u>		
113	twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.		
114	Sec. 509. Section 9-365 of the general statutes is repealed and the		
115	following is substituted in lieu thereof ( <i>Effective October 1, 2025</i> ):		
116	Any person who (1) during the period that is sixty days or less prior		
117	to any election, municipal meeting, school district election or school		

123 <u>term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or</u>
124 <u>reduced.</u>
125 Sec. 510. Section 9-366 of the general statutes is repealed and the

district meeting, attempts to influence the vote of any operative in his or her employ by threats of withholding employment from him or her or

by promises of employment, or (2) dismisses any operative from his or

her employment on account of any vote he or she has given at any such

election or meeting shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum

126 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

127 Any person who induces or attempts to induce any elector to write, 128 paste or otherwise place, on a ballot, or a table or booth used for voting, 129 any name, sign or device of any kind, as a distinguishing mark by which 130 to indicate to another how such elector voted, or enters into or attempts 131 to form any agreement or conspiracy with any person to induce or 132 attempt to induce electors or any elector to so place any distinguishing 133 mark on such ballot, table or booth, or attempts to induce any elector to 134 do anything with a view to enabling another person to see or know for

135	what persons or any of them such elector votes, or enters into or		
136	attempts to form any agreement or conspiracy to induce any elector to		
137	do any act for the purpose of enabling another person or persons to see		
138	or know for what person or persons such elector votes, or attempts to		
139	induce any person to place himself or herself in such position, or to do		
140	any other act for the purpose of enabling him or her to see or know for		
141	what candidates any elector other than himself or herself votes, or		
142	himself or herself attempts to get in such position to do any act so that		
143	he or she will be enabled to see or know how any elector other than		
144	himself or herself votes, or does any act which invades or interferes with		
145	the secrecy of the voting or causes the same to be invaded or interfered		
146	with, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of		
147	imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.		
148	Sec. 511. Section 9-368c of the general statutes is repealed and the		
149	following is substituted in lieu thereof ( <i>Effective October 1, 2025</i> ):		

(a) No person shall intentionally misrepresent the contents of apetition circulated under this title.

(b) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be
guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of
twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Sec. 501	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	9-352
Sec. 502	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	9-353
Sec. 503	October 1, 2025	9-354
Sec. 504	October 1, 2025	9-355
Sec. 505	October 1, 2025	9-359
Sec. 506	October 1, 2025	9-359a
Sec. 507	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	9-363
Sec. 508	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	9-364
Sec. 509	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	9-365
Sec. 510	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	9-366
Sec. 511	October 1, 2025	9-368c