STATE OF CONNECTICUT

General Assembly   ***Amendment***

January Session, 2025   LCO No. **8301**

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Offered by:
  SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. **1516**   File No. 673   Cal. No. 362

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE'S RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO VOTING AND ELECTIONS IN THIS STATE."

1   Strike section 22 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
2 thereof:

3   "Sec. 22. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There shall be, in (1) any
4 municipality with a population of at least one hundred forty thousand,
5 and (2) any municipality with a population of between twenty-five
6 thousand and twenty-seven thousand containing a campus of an
7 institution of higher education described in subdivision (1) of section
8 10a-1 of the general statutes, an election monitor for the municipal
9 election in 2025 and the state election in 2026 to detect and prevent
10 irregularity and impropriety in the management of election
11 administration procedures and the conduct of said elections in such
12 municipalities. The office of the Secretary of the State shall contract with
13 each such individual to serve in such capacity as an election monitor
14 until December 31, 2026, unless such contract is terminated for any
15 reason by the Secretary of the State prior to said date. Each such election

16   monitor shall: (A) Not be considered a state employee; (B) be
17   compensated in accordance with such contract; and (C) be reimbursed
18   for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties.
19   Costs related to the service of each such election monitor shall be paid
20   from moneys appropriated to the Secretary for such purpose. Any such
21   municipalities shall provide for such election monitors any office space,
22   supplies, equipment and services necessary to properly carry out the
23   duties and responsibilities of the position. As used in this section,
24   "population" means the estimated number of people according to the
25   most recent version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant
26   to section 3-90 of the general statutes.

27   (b) An election monitor appointed under subsection (a) of this section
28   shall: (1) Oversee the municipal primary and election in 2025 in the
29   municipality to which such election monitor is assigned, including, but
30   not limited to, absentee ballots, early voting, same-day election
31   registration and voting at polling places on the days of the primary and
32   the election; (2) oversee the state primary and election in 2026 in the
33   municipality to which such election monitor is assigned, including, but
34   not limited to, absentee ballots, early voting, same-day election
35   registration and voting at polling places on the days of the primary and
36   the election; (3) oversee each special election in 2025 and 2026, if any; (4)
37   conduct inspections, inquiries and investigations relating to any duty or
38   responsibility under title 9 of the general statutes to be carried out by
39   any official of the municipality to which such election monitor is
40   assigned or appointee of such official; (5) have access to all records, data
41   and material maintained by or available to any such official or
42   appointee; (6) issue periodic reports on a schedule agreed to by the
43   Secretary of the State; and (7) immediately report to the Secretary any
44   irregularity or impropriety in the performance of any duty or
45   responsibility under title 9 of the general statutes to be carried out by
46   any official of the municipality to which such election monitor is
47   assigned or appointee of such official. Nothing in this section shall be
48   construed to prohibit the State Elections Enforcement Commission from
49   taking any action authorized under section 9-7b of the general statutes.

50   (c) The Secretary of the State shall, using moneys appropriated
51 pursuant to this section, develop and conduct a town-wide bilingual
52 public awareness campaign in each such municipality to educate
53 members of the public regarding title 9 of the general statutes and such
54 members' rights thereunder."