



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 8558



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. 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 21 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu  
2 thereof:

3 "Sec. 21. Subsection (a) of section 9-140b of the general statutes is  
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
5 *2025*):

6 (a) An absentee ballot shall be cast at a primary, election or  
7 referendum only if: (1) It is mailed by (A) the ballot applicant, (B) a  
8 designee of a person who applies for an absentee ballot because of  
9 illness or physical disability, or (C) a member of the immediate family  
10 of an applicant who is a student, so that it is received by the clerk of the

11 municipality in which the applicant is qualified to vote not later than the  
12 close of the polls; (2) it is returned by the applicant in person to the clerk  
13 by the day before [a regular election, special] the election or primary or  
14 prior to the opening of the polls on the day of [a] the referendum; (3) it  
15 is returned by a designee of an ill or physically disabled ballot applicant,  
16 in person, to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of  
17 the election, primary or referendum; (4) it is returned by a member of  
18 the immediate family of the absentee voter, in person, to said clerk not  
19 later than the close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or  
20 referendum; (5) in the case of a presidential or overseas ballot, it is  
21 mailed or otherwise returned pursuant to the provisions of section 9-  
22 158g; or (6) it is returned with [the proper] a copy of the applicant's  
23 photo identification [as required by the Help America Vote Act, P.L.  
24 107-252, as amended from time to time, if applicable, inserted in the  
25 outer envelope so such identification can be viewed without opening  
26 the inner envelope] inserted in the outer envelope. A person returning  
27 an absentee ballot to the municipal clerk pursuant to subdivision (3) or  
28 (4) of this subsection shall present identification and, on the outer  
29 envelope of the absentee ballot, sign his name in the presence of the  
30 municipal clerk, and indicate his address, his relationship to the voter  
31 or his position, and the date and time of such return. As used in this  
32 section, "immediate family" means a dependent relative who resides in  
33 the individual's household or any spouse, child, parent or sibling of the  
34 individual."

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

37 "Sec. 501. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 1-1h of the general statutes  
38 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
39 *1, 2025*):

40 (a) Any person who does not possess a valid motor vehicle operator's  
41 license may apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles for an identity  
42 card. The application for an identity card shall be accompanied by the  
43 birth certificate of the applicant or a certificate of identification of the

44 applicant issued and authorized for such use by the Department of  
45 Correction and, except as provided in this subsection, a fee of twenty-  
46 eight dollars. Such application shall include: (1) The applicant's name;  
47 (2) the applicant's address; (3) whether the address is permanent or  
48 temporary; (4) the applicant's date of birth; (5) notice to the applicant  
49 that false statements on such application are punishable under section  
50 53a-157b; and (6) such other pertinent information as the Commissioner  
51 of Motor Vehicles deems necessary. The applicant shall sign the  
52 application in the presence of an official of the Department of Motor  
53 Vehicles. The commissioner shall waive the fee for any applicant who  
54 does not have the means to pay such fee, including any applicant who  
55 is a resident of a homeless shelter or other facility for homeless persons  
56 or a certified homeless youth or certified homeless young adult. The  
57 commissioner may waive the fee for any applicant (A) who has  
58 voluntarily surrendered such applicant's motor vehicle operator's  
59 license, (B) whose license has been refused by the commissioner  
60 pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 14-36, or (C) who  
61 is both a veteran, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, and  
62 blind, as defined in subsection (a) of section 1-1f, [ or (D) who is a  
63 resident of a homeless shelter or other facility for homeless persons or a  
64 certified homeless youth or certified homeless young adult. The] Not  
65 later than September 1, 2025, the commissioner shall adopt regulations,  
66 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish the  
67 procedure and qualifications for the issuance of an identity card to any  
68 such [homeless] applicant who does not have the means to pay the fee  
69 for such identity card. For the purposes of this subsection, "certified  
70 homeless youth" and "certified homeless young adult" have the same  
71 meanings as provided in section 7-36.

72 (b) (1) An identity card shall indicate its date of expiration, contain a  
73 picture of the applicant and specify the applicant's height, sex and eye  
74 color.

75 (2) (A) An original identity card shall expire within a period not  
76 exceeding seven years following the date of the applicant's next

77 birthday. Any person who holds an identity card may be notified by the  
78 commissioner before its expiration and may renew such card in such  
79 manner as the commissioner shall prescribe. Upon renewal of an  
80 identity card, the commissioner may issue an identity card for a period  
81 to be determined by the commissioner, provided such period does not  
82 exceed eight years. [The] Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this  
83 subdivision, the fee for the renewal of an identity card that expires eight  
84 years from the date of issuance shall be thirty-two dollars. The  
85 commissioner shall charge a prorated amount of such fee for an identity  
86 card that expires less than eight years from the date of issuance. The  
87 commissioner shall not provide notification by mail to the holder of an  
88 identity card if the United States Postal Service has determined that mail  
89 is undeliverable to such person at the address for such person that is in  
90 the records of the department.

91 (B) The commissioner shall waive the fee for the renewal of an  
92 identity card, or any prorated amount of such fee, for any person who  
93 does not have the means to pay such fee or prorated amount.

94 Sec. 502. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) At the request of any elector  
95 who has applied for and received an absentee ballot, each library in the  
96 state that is open to the public shall make available to such elector, free  
97 of charge, a photocopier in such library for the purposes of producing a  
98 copy of such elector's photo identification to be inserted in the outer  
99 envelope of such elector's returned absentee ballot in accordance with  
100 the provisions of section 9-140a of the general statutes, as amended by  
101 this act.

102 (b) At the request of any person applying for a presidential ballot by  
103 mail, each library in the state that is open to the public shall make  
104 available to such person, free of charge, a photocopier in such library for  
105 the purposes of producing a copy of such person's photo identification  
106 to accompany such person's application for a presidential ballot in  
107 accordance with the provisions of section 9-158e of the general statutes,  
108 as amended by this act.

109 (c) Each library in the state that is open to the public may seek  
110 reimbursement from the State Treasurer of all costs associated with  
111 producing copies of photo identification for the purposes described in  
112 subsections (a) and (b) of this section, upon submission of  
113 documentation substantiating that such costs were incurred.

114 Sec. 503. Section 9-140a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
115 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

116 Each absentee ballot applicant shall sign the form on the inner  
117 envelope provided for in section 9-137, which shall constitute a  
118 statement under the penalties of false statement in absentee balloting.  
119 Any absentee ballot applicant who is unable to write may cause his  
120 name to be signed on the form by an authorized agent who shall, in the  
121 space provided for the signature, write the name of the applicant  
122 followed by the word "by" and his own signature. The failure of the  
123 applicant or authorized agent to date the form shall not invalidate the  
124 ballot. The ballot shall be inserted in the inner envelope, [and] the inner  
125 envelope shall be inserted in the outer envelope [.] and a copy of the  
126 applicant's photo identification shall also be inserted in the outer  
127 envelope prior to the return of the ballot to the municipal clerk. [If an  
128 applicant is required to return identification with the ballot pursuant to  
129 the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time,  
130 such identification shall be inserted in the outer envelope so such  
131 identification can be viewed without opening the inner envelope.]

132 Sec. 504. Subsection (a) of section 9-158e of the general statutes is  
133 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
134 *2025*):

135 (a) A person applying for a presidential ballot in person shall present  
136 [:(1) A] a current and valid photo identification. [, or (2) a copy of a  
137 current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or  
138 other government document that shows the name and address of the  
139 voter.] The application for a presidential ballot by mail shall be  
140 accompanied by [:(A) A] a copy of a current and valid photo

141 identification. [ or (B) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,  
142 government check, paycheck or government document that shows the  
143 name and address of the voter.] Upon receipt of an application for a  
144 presidential ballot under sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, the clerk,  
145 if satisfied that the application is proper and that the applicant is  
146 qualified to vote under said sections, shall forthwith give or mail to the  
147 applicant, as the case may be, a ballot for presidential and vice-  
148 presidential electors for use at the election and instructions and  
149 envelopes for its return.

150 Sec. 505. Subsection (a) of section 9-261 of the general statutes is  
151 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
152 *2025*):

153 (a) In each primary, election or referendum, when an elector has  
154 entered the polling place, the elector shall announce the elector's street  
155 address, if any, and the elector's name to the official checker or checkers  
156 in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all the election officials  
157 present to hear the same. Each elector [who registered to vote by mail  
158 for the first time on or after January 1, 2003, and has a "mark" next to the  
159 elector's name on the official registry list, as required by section 9-23r,]  
160 shall present to the official checker or checkers, before the elector votes,  
161 [either] a current and valid photo identification that shows the elector's  
162 name and address. [or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,  
163 government check, paycheck or other government document that shows  
164 the name and address of the elector. Each other elector shall (1) present  
165 to the official checker or checkers the elector's Social Security card or any  
166 other preprinted form of identification which shows the elector's name  
167 and either the elector's address, signature or photograph, or (2) on a  
168 form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, write the elector's  
169 residential address and date of birth, print the elector's name and sign a  
170 statement under penalty of false statement that the elector is the elector  
171 whose name appears on the official checklist. Such form shall clearly  
172 state the penalty of false statement. A separate form shall be used for  
173 each elector. If the elector presents a preprinted form of identification

174 under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the official checker or checkers  
175 shall check the name of such elector on the official checklist, manually  
176 on paper or electronically. If the elector completes the form under  
177 subdivision (2) of this subsection, the registrar of voters or the assistant  
178 registrar of voters, as the case may be, shall examine the information on  
179 such form and either instruct the official checker or checkers to check  
180 the name of such elector on the official checklist, manually on paper or  
181 electronically, or notify the elector that the form is incomplete or  
182 inaccurate.]

183 Sec. 506. Section 9-23r of the general statutes is repealed and the  
184 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

185 (a) On or after January 1, 2003, any person who is applying, by mail,  
186 to register to vote for the first time in this state may submit as part of  
187 such voter registration application: (1) A copy of a current and valid  
188 photo identification, (2) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,  
189 government check, paycheck or government document that shows the  
190 name and address of the voter, (3) a valid Connecticut motor vehicle  
191 operator's license number, or (4) the last four digits of the individual's  
192 Social Security number. Members of the armed forces and persons  
193 entitled to use the federal post card application for absentee ballots  
194 under section 9-153a are not required to provide identification when  
195 registering by mail. No information submitted as part of a voter  
196 registration application under this subsection shall be subject to  
197 disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act pursuant to chapter  
198 14, except for the name, address, date of birth and telephone number of  
199 the applicant.

200 [(b) If an individual submits such information pursuant to this section  
201 as part of the individual's voter registration application and, with  
202 respect to subdivision (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of this section, the  
203 registrars of voters are able to match the information submitted with an  
204 existing Connecticut identification record bearing the same number,  
205 name and date of birth as provided, such individual shall not be  
206 required to produce identification when voting in person or by absentee

207 ballot and may sign a statement as described in subparagraph (B) of  
208 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-261 in lieu of presenting  
209 identification when voting in person.]

210 [(c)] (b) Any additional documentation submitted as part of the voter  
211 registration application pursuant to this section may be destroyed by  
212 the registrars of voters after verification pursuant to the Help America  
213 Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time.

214 [(d)] (c) If an individual described in subsection (a) of this section  
215 does not submit the identification described in subsection (a) of this  
216 section as part of the individual's application for admission as an elector,  
217 when the individual has entered the polling place in an election for  
218 federal office, the individual shall present [: (1) A] a current and valid  
219 photo identification, [, or (2) a copy of a current utility bill, bank  
220 statement, government check, paycheck or other government document  
221 that shows the name and address of the voter.] If an individual does not  
222 meet the requirements of this subsection in an election for federal office,  
223 such individual may cast a provisional ballot prescribed under sections  
224 9-232i to 9-232o, inclusive.

225 [(e)] (d) If an individual described in subsection (a) of this section  
226 does not submit the identification described in subsection (a) of this  
227 section as part of the individual's application for admission as an elector,  
228 and if the individual votes by absentee ballot in an election for federal  
229 office, the individual shall enclose in the outer absentee ballot envelope,  
230 and not in the inner envelope with the ballot [: (1) A] a copy of a current  
231 and valid photo identification, [, or (2) a copy of a current utility bill,  
232 bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government  
233 document that shows the name and address of the voter.] If an  
234 individual does not meet the requirements of this subsection in an  
235 election for federal office, such [individual's] individual's absentee  
236 ballot shall be processed in accordance with the provisions of  
237 subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 9-150a, as amended by this  
238 act, and treated as a provisional ballot for federal office only, pursuant  
239 to sections 9-232i to 9-232o, inclusive.



240 Sec. 507. Subdivision (4) of subsection (d) of section 9-23g of the  
241 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
242 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

243 (4) If on the day of an election or primary, the name of an applicant  
244 does not appear on the official check list, such applicant may present to  
245 the moderator at the polls either a notice of acceptance received through  
246 the mail or an application receipt that was previously provided to the  
247 applicant pursuant to section 9-19e, subsection (b) of section 9-19h,  
248 subsection (b) of this section or section 9-23n. If an applicant presents  
249 said notice or receipt, and either the registrars of voters find the original  
250 application or the applicant submits a new application at the polls, the  
251 registrar, or assistant registrar upon notice to and approval by the  
252 registrar, shall add such person's name and address to the official check  
253 list on such day and the person shall be allowed to vote if otherwise  
254 eligible to vote and the person presents to the checkers at the polling  
255 place a [preprinted form of identification pursuant to subparagraph (A)  
256 of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-261] current and valid  
257 photo identification.

258 Sec. 508. Subsection (d) of section 9-150a of the general statutes is  
259 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
260 *2025*):

261 (d) (1) If the statement on the inner envelope has not been signed as  
262 required by section 9-140a, as amended by this act, such inner envelope  
263 shall not be opened or the ballot removed therefrom, and such inner  
264 envelope shall be replaced in the opened outer envelope which shall be  
265 marked "Rejected" and the reason therefor endorsed thereon by the  
266 counters. (2) If such statement is signed but the individual completing  
267 the ballot is an individual described in subsection (a) of section 9-23r, as  
268 amended by this act, and has not met the requirements of subsection  
269 [(e)] (d) of section 9-23r, as amended by this act, the counters shall  
270 replace the ballot in the opened inner envelope, replace the inner  
271 envelope in the opened outer envelope and mark "Rejected as an  
272 Absentee Ballot" and endorse the reason for such rejection on the outer

273 envelope, and the ballot shall be treated as a provisional ballot for  
274 federal offices only, pursuant to sections 9-232i to 9-232o, inclusive."

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

Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-140b(a)
Sec. 501	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	1-1h(a) and (b)
Sec. 502	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 503	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-140a
Sec. 504	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-158e(a)
Sec. 505	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-261(a)
Sec. 506	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-23r
Sec. 507	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-23g(d)(4)
Sec. 508	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-150a(d)