



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 8711



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

3 "Sec. 501. Subsection (b) of section 9-163aa of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
5 *2025*):

6 (b) (1) The registrars of voters of each municipality shall designate [a
7 location for the conduct of early voting, which location] as many
8 locations for the conduct of early voting as necessary to reasonably
9 ensure that during the period of early voting the time an elector spends
10 in line to vote at any such location will likely not exceed thirty minutes,
11 but in no case shall such registrars designate fewer than one such
12 location. Each location so designated shall be the same for the duration
13 of the period of early voting except as otherwise specified in this
14 subdivision, provided (A) the registrars of voters have access to the

15 state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location, and
16 (B) such location is certified in writing to the Secretary of the State not
17 later than sixty days prior to the day of an election or a primary. The
18 written certification under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision shall
19 provide (i) the name, street address and relevant contact information
20 associated with such location, (ii) the number of election or primary
21 officials to be appointed by the registrars of voters to serve at such
22 location and the roles of such officials, and (iii) a description of the
23 design of such location and a plan for effective conduct of such early
24 voting. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such written
25 certification not later than forty-five days prior to the day of an election
26 or a primary. If the Secretary disapproves such certification, the
27 Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons for such disapproval and
28 shall issue an order for such corrective action as the Secretary deems
29 necessary, including, but not limited to, the appointment of additional
30 election or primary officials or the alteration of such design or plan.
31 After having received approval of such certification or having complied
32 with any order for corrective action to the Secretary's satisfaction, as
33 applicable, the registrars of voters shall determine the site of such
34 location designated for the conduct of early voting at least thirty-one
35 days prior to an election or a primary. Such location shall not be changed
36 within such period, except, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters
37 unanimously find that such location has been rendered unusable within
38 such period, such clerk and registrars shall forthwith designate another
39 location for the conduct of early voting to be used in place of the location
40 so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such location
41 has been so changed. The provisions of sections 9-168d and 9-168e shall
42 apply to such location designated for the conduct of early voting.

43 [(2) In any municipality with a population of at least twenty
44 thousand, the legislative body may hold a public hearing on whether to
45 designate any additional location in such municipality for the conduct
46 of early voting, which public hearing, if any, shall be held not later than
47 fifteen days prior to the time for designating any such location set forth
48 in subdivision (1) of this subsection. Any legislative body holding such

49 a public hearing shall properly notice such public hearing not later than
50 ten days prior to such public hearing in a newspaper having general
51 circulation in such municipality and on the Internet web site of the
52 municipality. For any such municipality in which such a public hearing
53 was not held, the legislative body thereof shall determine whether to
54 designate any such additional location and shall notify the Secretary of
55 the State with a detailed explanation for such determination. For any
56 municipality in which such a public hearing was held, not later than
57 three days after the conclusion of such public hearing, the legislative
58 body thereof shall determine whether to designate any such additional
59 location and shall notify the Secretary with a detailed explanation for
60 such determination. If the legislative body determines that any such
61 additional location be designated, the registrars of voters shall so
62 designate such additional location and the provisions of subdivision (1)
63 of this subsection shall apply to such additional location. The Secretary
64 shall take no action on any detailed explanation submitted under this
65 subdivision with regard to the number of additional locations
66 designated in such a municipality, and shall preserve each such detailed
67 explanation as a public record open to public inspection. For the
68 purposes of this subdivision, "population" means the estimated number
69 of people according to the most recent version of the State Register and
70 Manual prepared pursuant to section 3-90.]

71 [(3)] (2) At each location designated for the conduct of early voting,
72 the registrars of voters shall provide to prospective electors during the
73 early voting period the opportunity to apply for same-day election
74 registration, in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 9-19j,
75 for such application and for the completion and processing of any such
76 application.

77 [(4)] (3) (A) The registrars of voters shall appoint, for each day on
78 which early voting is conducted, a moderator and such other election or
79 primary officials to serve at each location designated for such conduct.
80 The moderator so appointed shall perform any duty required, and may
81 exercise any power authorized, under this title related to the conduct of

82 early voting at such location. On any such day and solely for purposes
83 related to the conduct of early voting, the registrars of voters of a
84 municipality may, upon agreement, appoint one of the registrars from
85 such municipality as moderator in accordance with the provisions of
86 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. The registrars of voters may
87 delegate to each other election or primary official so appointed any of
88 the responsibilities assigned to the registrars of voters. The registrars of
89 voters shall supervise each such official and train each such official to be
90 an early voting election or primary official.

91 (B) Whenever the registrars of voters of a municipality appoint,
92 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, one of the registrars
93 of such municipality as moderator to serve at a location designated for
94 the conduct of early voting, such registrars of voters shall jointly submit
95 to the Secretary of the State (i) a certification that the registrars of voters
96 of such municipality are in agreement as to such appointment, and (ii)
97 a written plan detailing alternative coverage of the duties normally
98 carried out by the registrar so appointed to ensure that such registrar
99 abstains, on each day in which such registrar serves as moderator, from
100 any such duties that conflict with those of the moderator.

101 Sec. 502. Section 9-168 of the general statutes is repealed and the
102 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

103 In any town not divided into voting districts, [the place of holding
104 elections may be determined by] the legislative body of such town shall
105 designate as many places for holding elections as necessary to
106 reasonably ensure that the time an elector spends in line to vote at any
107 such place will likely not exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such
108 legislative body designate fewer than one such place. In towns divided
109 into voting districts the place of holding elections shall be determined
110 as provided in section 9-169, as amended by this act, [or any special act,
111 whichever applies] notwithstanding the provisions of any special act.
112 Except as provided in section 9-169a, state elections shall be held at the
113 usual place or places of holding elections in the town or the voting
114 districts thereof, as the case may be, unless the registrars of voters, in

115 writing, have designated to the clerk of such town, at least thirty-one
116 days before any such state election, a different place or places for
117 holding such election. [Unless otherwise provided by special act, the
118 place of holding city or borough elections shall be determined by the]
119 Notwithstanding any provision of any special act, in any city or
120 borough, the legislative body of such city or borough shall designate as
121 many places for holding elections as necessary to reasonably ensure that
122 the time an elector spends in line to vote at any such place will likely not
123 exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such legislative body
124 designate fewer than one such place. Any provision of any charter or
125 special act to the contrary notwithstanding, the place or places of
126 holding an election shall be determined at least thirty-one days prior to
127 such election, and such place or places shall not be changed within the
128 period of thirty-one days prior to such election except that, if the
129 municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously
130 find that any such polling place within such municipality has been
131 rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith designate
132 another polling place to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable
133 and shall give adequate notice that such polling place has been so
134 changed.

135 Sec. 503. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the
136 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

137 The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or
138 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time,
139 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of voters
140 of any municipality taking such action shall [provide a suitable polling
141 place in each district but, if] designate in each voting district as many
142 polling places as necessary to reasonably ensure that the time an elector
143 spends in line to vote at any such polling place will likely not exceed
144 thirty minutes, but in no case shall such registrars designate in each
145 district fewer than one such polling place, except that, if the registrars
146 fail to agree as to the location of any polling place or places, the
147 legislative body shall determine the location thereof. Polling places to

148 be used in an election shall be determined at least thirty-one days before
149 such election, and such polling places shall not be changed within said
150 period of thirty-one days except that, if the municipal clerk and
151 registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously find that any such
152 polling place within such municipality has been rendered unusable
153 within such period, they shall forthwith designate another polling place
154 to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable and shall give
155 adequate notice that such polling place has been so changed. The
156 registrars of voters shall keep separate lists of the electors residing in
157 each district and shall appoint for each district a moderator in
158 accordance with the provisions of section 9-229 and such other election
159 officials as are required by law, and shall designate one of the
160 moderators so appointed or any other elector of such town to be the
161 head moderator for the purpose of declaring the results of elections in
162 the whole municipality. The registrars may also designate a deputy
163 head moderator to assist the head moderator in the performance of his
164 duties provided the deputy head moderator and the head moderator
165 shall not be enrolled in the same major party, as defined in subdivision
166 (5) of section 9-372. The selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and
167 all other officers of the municipality shall perform the duties required of
168 them by law with respect to elections in each voting district established
169 in accordance with this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn
170 by a municipality so as to conflict with the lines of congressional
171 districts, senate districts or assembly districts as established by law,
172 except (1) as provided in section 9-169d and (2) that as to municipal
173 elections, any part of a split voting district containing less than two
174 hundred electors may be combined with another voting district adjacent
175 thereto from which all and the same officers are elected at such
176 municipal election. Any change in the boundaries of voting districts
177 made within ninety days prior to any election or primary shall not apply
178 with respect to such election or primary. The provisions of this section
179 shall prevail over any contrary provision of any charter or special act. "

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-163aa(b)
Sec. 502	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-168
Sec. 503	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-169

Sec. 501	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-163aa(b)
Sec. 502	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-168
Sec. 503	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	9-169