



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10023



Offered by:

REP. KAVROS DEGRAW, 17th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **7150**

File No. 723

Cal. No. 454

"AN ACT CONCERNING JUSTICES OF THE PEACE."

1 In line 5, after "act", insert "or section 4 of this act"

2 Strike lines 18 to 22, inclusive, in their entirety, and insert in lieu
3 thereof: "(2) Certify, on a form prescribed by the Secretary, that such
4 person has received and read the manual published by the Secretary
5 pursuant to (c) of this section not later than (A) thirty days after an
6 appointment made after January 1, 2026, or (B) February 1, 2026, if such
7 appointment is made on or before January 1, 2026."

8 In line 37, before the period, insert ", unless the justice of the peace's
9 employer is found liable pursuant to subsection (c) of this section"

10 In line 85, after "select", insert ", pursuant to subsection (d) of section
11 9-184c of the general statutes, as amended by this act,"

12 In line 86, after "peace", insert ", except as provided in subparagraph
13 (B) of subdivision (2) of this subsection,"

14 Strike section 5 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

15 "Sec. 5. Section 9-184c of the general statutes is repealed and the
16 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

17 (a) In 1994, 1996, and quadrennially thereafter, the town clerk of each
18 town shall appoint as justice of the peace a number of electors of the
19 town who are not members of major parties, as defined in section 9-372,
20 which shall not exceed (1) where no justices of the peace are selected
21 under section 9-183c, one-third of the total number of justices of the
22 peace in the town, or (2) where justices of the peace are selected under
23 section 9-183c, one-third of the total number of justices of the peace in
24 the town less the number of justices of the peace in the town selected
25 under section 9-183c. Such percentage shall be rounded up to the nearest
26 whole number of justices of the peace. Any such appointment shall be
27 made upon written application submitted on or after August first and
28 on or before November first, in such year. No person who has
29 enrollment privileges in the town in a political party [which] that
30 selected justices of the peace under section 9-183b or [under] section 9-
31 183c within the period beginning three months before said August first
32 and ending on the date the person is to be appointed under this [section]
33 subsection, shall be eligible for such appointment. Not later than August
34 1, 1996, and quadrennially thereafter, the town clerk shall send a written
35 notice to each incumbent justice of the peace appointed under this
36 section. Such notice shall inform such justices of the peace of the
37 procedures set forth in this section concerning the reappointment of
38 such justices of the peace.

39 (b) If, on November first in such year, the number of applications for
40 justice of the peace filed with the town clerk under subsection (a) of this
41 section exceeds the number of justices of the peace allowed under this
42 section, (1) each such applicant who is an incumbent justice of the peace
43 appointed under this section shall be reappointed if there are sufficient
44 openings, and (2) the town clerk shall, on or before the fifteenth business
45 day of November, select the remaining applicants to be appointed as
46 justices of the peace by lot in a ceremony which shall be open to the
47 public and held on five days' public notice. At such lottery, the town

48 clerk shall determine the order of all such remaining applications for the
49 purpose of filling future vacancies under subsection (d) of this section.
50 If [a] the town clerk receives a number of applications under subsection
51 (a) of this section that is less than the number of justices of the peace that
52 [he] the town clerk is authorized to appoint under this section in any
53 year, [he shall not] the town clerk may only appoint [any] additional
54 justices of the peace to fill vacancies in the office of a justice of the peace
55 in accordance with the provisions of subsections (d) and (e) of this
56 section.

57 (c) Justices of the peace appointed in 1994 [.] shall serve a term of two
58 years beginning on the first Monday in 1995, and justices of the peace
59 appointed in 1996 and thereafter shall serve a term of four years
60 beginning on the first Monday in January in the succeeding year.

61 (d) Any vacancy in the office of any such justice of the peace shall be
62 filled by appointment by the town clerk of an elector qualifying under
63 subsection (a) of this section in the order determined in the lottery held
64 under [said] subsection (b) of this section. If no such lottery is held [.] or
65 if the town clerk receives a number of applications that is less than the
66 number of justices of the peace that the town clerk is authorized to
67 appoint under this section, such that the number of vacancies exceeds
68 the number of remaining applicants determined in the lottery held
69 under subsection (b) of this section, the vacancy shall [not] be filled
70 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

71 (e) If no such lottery is held or if the number of vacancies exceeds the
72 number of remaining applicants determined in the lottery held under
73 subsection (b) of this section, the town clerk shall issue a public notice
74 of the number of such vacancies and the procedure for appointing new
75 justices of the peace under this subsection. Any such appointment shall
76 be made upon written application submitted not later than thirty days
77 following such public notice. No person who has enrollment privileges
78 in the town in a political party that selected justices of the peace under
79 section 9-183b or 9-183c within the period beginning three months
80 before the public notice under this subsection and ending on the date

81 the person is to be appointed under this subsection shall be eligible for
82 such appointment. If the number of applications for justice of the peace
83 filed with the town clerk under this subsection exceeds the number of
84 vacancies specified in the public notice, the town clerk shall, not earlier
85 than ten and not later than fifteen days following the close of the period
86 for submission of such applications, select the remaining applicants to
87 be appointed as justices of the peace by lottery in a ceremony that shall
88 be open to the public and held not earlier than five days after the giving
89 of public notice by the town clerk. At such lottery, the town clerk shall
90 determine the order of all such remaining applications for the purpose
91 of filling future vacancies under subsection (d) of this section. If a town
92 clerk receives a number of applications under this subsection that is less
93 than the number of justices of the peace that the town clerk is authorized
94 to appoint under this section in any year, the town clerk shall not
95 appoint any additional justices of the peace."