

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Amendment

LCO No. 10287



Offered by: SEN. SAMPSON, 16<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7242

File No. 927

Cal. No. 483

## "AN ACT STUDYING EFFORTS TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION AND AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL PILOT PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE SUCH EFFORTS."

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

"Sec. 501. Section 9-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5 (a) Ballots shall be printed in plain clear type and on material of such 6 size as will fit the tabulator, and shall be furnished by the registrar of 7 voters. The size and style of the type used to print the name of a political 8 party on a ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type 9 used to print the names of all other political parties appearing on such 10 ballot.

11 (b) The name of each major party candidate for a municipal office, as 12 defined in section 9-372, except for the municipal offices of state senator 13 and state representative, shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each

14 candidate. The name of each major party candidate for a state or district 15 office, as defined in section 9-372, or for the municipal office of state 16 senator or state representative shall appear on the ballot as it appears on 17 the certificate or statement of consent filed under section 9-388, 18 subsection (b) of section 9-391, or section 9-400 or 9-409. The name of 19 each minor party candidate shall appear on the ballot as authorized by 20 each candidate, except as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) 21 of this section. The name of each nominating petition candidate shall 22 appear on the ballot as it is verified by the town clerk on the application 23 filed under section 9-453b.

24 (c) (1) The size and style of the type used to print the name of a 25 candidate on a ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type 26 used to print the names of all other candidates appearing on such ballot. 27 Such ballot shall contain the names of the offices and the names of the 28 candidates arranged thereon. [The] Except as provided in subdivision 29 (2) of this subsection, the names of the political parties and party 30 designations shall be arranged on the ballots and followed by the word 31 "party", either in columns or horizontal rows as set forth in section 9-32 249a, immediately adjacent to the column or row occupied by the 33 candidate or candidates of such political party or organization.

(2) In the case of a candidate who has been nominated by more than
one major or minor party, as defined in section 9-372, to the same office,
or a candidate who has been nominated by a major or minor party to an
office and who is also eligible to appear on the ballot by nominating
petition for the same office in accordance with the provisions of section
9-453t, the name of such candidate shall appear on the ballot only once.

40 (d) The ballot shall be printed in such manner as to indicate how 41 many candidates the elector may vote for each office, provided in the 42 case of a town adopting the provisions of section 9-204a, such ballot 43 shall indicate the maximum number of candidates who may be elected 44 to such office from any party. If two or more candidates are to be elected 45 to the same office for different terms, the term for which each is 46 nominated shall be printed on the official ballot as a part of the title of

47 the office. If, at any election, one candidate is to be elected for a full term 48 and another to fill a vacancy, the official ballot containing the names of 49 the candidates in the foregoing order shall, as a part of the title of the 50 office, designate the term which such candidates are severally 51 nominated to fill. No column, under the name of any political party or 52 independent organization, shall be printed on any official ballot, which 53 contains more candidates for any office than the number for which an 54 elector may vote for that office.

55 Sec. 502. Section 9-242 of the general statutes is repealed and the 56 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

57 (a) A voting tabulator approved by the Secretary of the State shall be 58 so constructed as to provide facilities for voting for the candidates of at 59 least nine different parties or organizations. It shall permit voting in 60 absolute secrecy. It shall be provided with a lock by means of which any 61 illegal movement of the voting or registering mechanism is absolutely 62 prevented. Such tabulator shall be so constructed that an elector cannot 63 vote for a candidate or on a proposition for whom or on which the 64 elector is not lawfully entitled to vote.

65 (b) It shall be so constructed as to prevent an elector from voting for 66 more than one person for the same office, except when the elector is 67 lawfully entitled to vote for more than one person for that office, and it 68 shall afford the elector an opportunity to vote for only as many persons 69 for that office as the elector is by law entitled to vote for, at the same 70 time preventing the elector from voting for the same person twice. It 71 shall be so constructed that all votes cast will be registered or recorded 72 by the tabulator. [In the event that a candidate is cross endorsed and an 73 elector casts more than one vote for such candidate, such vote shall be 74 attributed by the head moderator to the endorsing parties as provided 75 for in this subsection. The head moderator shall (1) determine the 76 percentage of all attributable votes the candidate received that are 77 attributable to each endorsing party, (2) determine the number of ballots 78 upon which an elector voted for the candidate more than once, and (3) 79 apply the percentage determined under subdivision (1) of this

80 subsection for an endorsing party to the total determined under 81 subdivision (2) of this subsection. The resulting number from the 82 calculation under subdivision (3) of this subsection shall be the number 83 of votes the head moderator attributes to the endorsing party associated 84 with the percentage used in the calculation under subdivision (3) of this 85 subsection. The head moderator shall repeat the calculation in 86 subdivision (3) of this subsection for each endorsing party. For any 87 result under subdivision (3) of this subsection that is a fractional 88 number, the head moderator shall round such result to the nearest 89 whole number, provided a half number shall be rounded to the next 90 highest whole number, and provided further that each such endorsing 91 party with a percentage greater than zero under subdivision (1) of this 92 subsection shall receive at least one such vote, with the remaining 93 parties receiving a proportional reduction in votes, if necessary. If any 94 vote remains that can not be evenly attributed to such parties, such vote 95 shall be attributed to the endorsing party with the most votes.]

96 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, 97 the Secretary of the State may approve a voting tabulator which requires 98 the elector in the polls to place the elector's ballot into the recording 99 device and which meets the voluntary performance and test standards 100 for voting systems adopted by (1) the Federal Election Commission on 101 January 25, 1990, as amended from time to time, or (2) the Election 102 Assistance Commission pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002, 103 P.L. 107-252, 42 USC 15481-85, as amended from time to time, whichever 104 standards are most current at the time of the Secretary of the State's 105 approval, and regulations which the Secretary of the State may adopt in 106 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. [, provided the voting 107 tabulator shall (A) warn the elector of overvotes, (B) not record 108 overvotes, and (C) not record more than one vote of an elector for the 109 same person for an office. In the event that a candidate is cross endorsed 110 and an elector casts more than one vote for such candidate, such vote 111 shall be attributed by the head moderator to the endorsing parties as 112 provided for in this subsection. The head moderator shall (i) determine 113 the percentage of all attributable votes the candidate received that are

114 attributable to each endorsing party, (ii) determine the number of ballots 115 upon which an elector voted for the candidate more than once, and (iii) 116 apply the percentage determined under subparagraph (C)(i) of this 117 subsection for an endorsing party to the total determined under 118 subparagraph (C)(ii) of this subsection. The resulting number from the 119 calculation under subparagraph (C)(iii) of this subsection shall be the 120 number of votes the head moderator attributes to the endorsing party 121 associated with the percentage used in the calculation under 122 subparagraph (C)(iii) of this subsection. The head moderator shall 123 repeat the calculation in subparagraph (C)(iii) of this subsection for each 124 endorsing party. For any result under subparagraph (C)(iii) of this 125 subsection that is a fractional number, the head moderator shall round 126 such result to the nearest whole number, provided a half number shall 127 be rounded to the next highest whole number, and provided further that 128 each such endorsing party with a percentage greater than zero under 129 subparagraph (C)(i) of this subsection shall receive at least one such 130 vote, with the remaining parties receiving a proportional reduction in 131 votes, if necessary. If any vote remains that can not be evenly attributed 132 to such parties, such vote shall be attributed to the endorsing party with 133 the most votes.]

(d) Any direct recording electronic voting tabulator approved by the
Secretary of the State for an election or primary held on or after July 1,
2005, shall be so constructed as to:

137 (1) (A) Contemporaneously produce an individual, permanent, paper 138 record containing all of the elector's selections of ballot preferences for 139 candidates and questions or proposals, if any, prior to the elector's 140 casting a ballot, as set forth in this subsection, and (B) produce at any 141 time after the close of the polls a voting tabulator generated, individual, 142 permanent, paper record of each such elector's selections of ballot 143 preferences for candidates and questions or proposals, if any. Both the 144 contemporaneously produced paper record and the voting tabulator 145 generated paper record of each elector's selections of ballot preferences 146 shall include a voting tabulator generated unique identifier that can be

matched against each other and which preserves the secrecy of theelector's ballot as set forth in subdivision (4) of this subsection;

149 (2) Provide each elector with an opportunity to verify that the 150 contemporaneously produced, individual, permanent, paper record 151 accurately conforms to such elector's selection of ballot preferences, as 152 reflected on the electronic summary screen, and to hear, if desired, an 153 audio description of such electronic summary screen, for the purpose of 154 having an opportunity to make any corrections or changes prior to 155 casting the ballot. If an elector makes corrections or changes prior to 156 the ballot, the voting tabulator shall void such casting 157 contemporaneously produced paper record, contemporaneously 158 produce another paper record containing such corrections or changes 159 and provide the elector with another opportunity to verify ballot 160 preferences in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision. As 161 used in this section, "electronic summary screen" means a screen 162 generated by a direct recording electronic voting tabulator that displays 163 a summary of an elector's selections of ballot preferences for candidates 164 and questions or proposals, if any, at an election or primary;

165 (3) Provide that a ballot shall be deemed cast on the voting tabulator 166 at the time that an elector's contemporaneously produced, individual, 167 permanent, voter-verified paper record, containing all of the elector's 168 final selections of ballot preferences, is (A) deposited inside a receptacle 169 designed to store all such paper records produced by such voting 170 tabulator on the day of the election or primary, and (B) the elector's 171 selection of ballot preferences is simultaneously electronically recorded 172 inside the voting tabulator for the purpose of (i) being electronically 173 tabulated immediately after the polls are closed on the day of the 174 election or primary, and (ii) producing, on such other day as required 175 under section 9-242b, a voting tabulator generated, individual, 176 permanent, paper record of each such elector's selections of ballot 177 preferences for candidates and questions or proposals, if any;

178 (4) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (1) of section 9-242b,179 secure the secrecy of each such elector's ballot by making it impossible

180 for any other individual to identify the elector in relationship to such 181 elector's selection of ballot preferences at the time that the elector (A) 182 selects ballot preferences; (B) verifies the accuracy of the electronic 183 summary screen by comparing it to the contemporaneously produced, 184 individual, permanent, paper record or the audio description of such 185 electronic summary screen, prior to casting a ballot; (C) makes 186 corrections or changes by reselecting ballot preferences and verifies the 187 accuracy of such preferences in accordance with the provisions of 188 subdivision (2) of this subsection prior to casting a ballot; and (D) casts 189 the ballot; and at the time that all electors' ballots are canvassed, 190 recanvassed or otherwise tallied to produce a final count of the vote for 191 candidates and questions or proposals, if any, whether through the 192 electronic vote tabulation process or through the manual count process 193 of each elector's contemporaneously produced, individual, permanent, 194 voter-verified paper record, as set forth in section 9-242b; and

195 (5) (A) Be accessible to blind or visually impaired persons by 196 providing each elector, if desired by the elector, an audio description of 197 the contemporaneously produced individual, permanent, paper record 198 containing all of the elector's selections of ballot preferences, in addition 199 to an audio description of the electronic summary screen and comply 200 with such additional standards of accessibility included in regulations 201 that the Secretary of the State may adopt in accordance with the 202 provisions of chapter 54.

203 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this 204 subdivision, on or before June 30, 2007, the Secretary of the State may 205 approve an electronic voting tabulator that does not comply with the 206 provisions of said subparagraph if (i) the Secretary determines that there 207 are no electronic voting tabulators available for purchase or lease at the 208 time of such approval that are capable of complying with said 209 subparagraph (A), (ii) the electronic voting tabulator complies with the 210 provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection, and 211 (iii) the person applying to the Secretary for approval of the electronic 212 voting tabulator agrees to include a provision in any contract for the sale

213 or lease of such voting tabulators that requires such person, upon 214 notification by the Secretary that modifications to such tabulators that 215 would bring the tabulators into compliance with said subparagraph (A) 216 are available, to (I) so modify any electronic voting tabulators 217 previously sold or leased under such contract in order to comply with 218 said subparagraph (A), and (II) provide that any electronic voting 219 tabulators sold or leased after receipt of such notice comply with said 220 subparagraph (A). No voting tabulator approved under this 221 subparagraph shall be used on or after July 1, 2007, unless it has been 222 modified to comply with the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this 223 subdivision."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following<br/>sections:Sec. 501from passage9-250Sec. 502from passage9-242