

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10485

Cal. No.



Offered by:

SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: House Bill No. **7287** File No.

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET."

- 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 amended by adding subdivision (5) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2025*):
- 5 (NEW) (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4),
- 6 inclusive, of this subsection, the registrars of voters of each municipality
- 7 shall designate as many locations for the conduct of early voting as
- 8 necessary to reasonably ensure that during the period of early voting
- 9 the time an elector spends in line to vote at any such location will likely
- 10 not exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such registrars designate
- 11 fewer than one such location.
- 12 Sec. 502. Section 9-168 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 13 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

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In any town not divided into voting districts, [the place of holding elections may be determined by the legislative body of such town shall designate as many places for holding elections as necessary to reasonably ensure that the time an elector spends in line to vote at any such place will likely not exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such <u>legislative</u> body designate fewer than one such place. In towns divided into voting districts the place of holding elections shall be determined as provided in section 9-169 [or any special act, whichever applies] notwithstanding the provisions of any special act. Except as provided in section 9-169a, state elections shall be held at the usual place or places of holding elections in the town or the voting districts thereof, as the case may be, unless the registrars of voters, in writing, have designated to the clerk of such town, at least thirty-one days before any such state election, a different place or places for holding such election. [Unless otherwise provided by special act, the place of holding city or borough elections shall be determined by the Notwithstanding any provision of any special act, in any city or borough, the legislative body of such city or borough shall designate as many places for holding elections as necessary to reasonably ensure that the time an elector spends in line to vote at any such place will likely not exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such legislative body designate fewer than one such place. Any provision of any charter or special act to the contrary notwithstanding, the place or places of holding an election shall be determined at least thirty-one days prior to such election, and such place or places shall not be changed within the period of thirty-one days prior to such election except that, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling place has been so changed.

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

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The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time, redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of voters of any municipality taking such action shall [provide a suitable polling place in each district but, if designate in each voting district as many polling places as necessary to reasonably ensure that the time an elector spends in line to vote at any such polling place will likely not exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such registrars designate in each district fewer than one such polling place, except that, if the registrars fail to agree as to the location of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall determine the location thereof. Polling places to be used in an election shall be determined at least thirty-one days before such election, and such polling places shall not be changed within said period of thirty-one days except that, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling place has been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate lists of the electors residing in each district and shall appoint for each district a moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229 and such other election officials as are required by law, and shall designate one of the moderators so appointed or any other elector of such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of declaring the results of elections in the whole municipality. The registrars may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the head moderator in the performance of his duties provided the deputy head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled in the same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372. The selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and all other officers of the municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance with this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn by a municipality so as to conflict with the lines of congressional districts, senate districts or assembly districts as established by law,

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except (1) as provided in section 9-169d₂ and (2) that as to municipal elections, any part of a split voting district containing less than two hundred electors may be combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from which all and the same officers are elected at such municipal election. Any change in the boundaries of voting districts made within ninety days prior to any election or primary shall not apply with respect to such election or primary. The provisions of this section 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	July 1, 2025	9-163aa(b)(5)
Sec. 502	July 1, 2025	9-168
Sec. 503	Iulu 1, 2025	9-169