



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10613



Offered by:

REP. BLUMENTHAL, 147th Dist.

SEN. FLEXER, 29th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7228

File No. 693

Cal. No. 433

**"AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REFORMS TO THE
ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS IN THIS STATE."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

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 Section 9-163aa of the general statutes is repealed and the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

5 (a) (1) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a regular
6 election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a
7 period of early voting at each regular election held on or after April 1,
8 2024.

9 (B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this
10 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2,
11 commence on the fifteenth day prior to and conclude on the second day
12 prior to such regular election, and (ii) consist of such days between and
13 inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, except any legal

14 holiday designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4, and
15 at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section
16 9-174.

17 (2) (A) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection,
18 any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a primary, other than a
19 presidential preference primary, in accordance with the provisions of
20 this section, during a period of early voting at each primary, other than
21 a presidential preference primary, held on or after April 1, 2024.

22 (B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this
23 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2,
24 commence on the eighth day prior to and conclude on the second day
25 prior to such primary, other than a presidential preference primary, and
26 (ii) consist of such days between and inclusive of such commencement
27 and conclusion, except any legal holiday designated, appointed or
28 recommended under section 1-4, and at such times as provided in
29 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-174.

30 (3) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a special
31 election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a
32 period of early voting at each special election held on or after April 1,
33 2024.

34 (B) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection, any
35 eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a presidential preference
36 primary, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a
37 period of early voting at each presidential preference primary held on
38 or after April 1, 2024.

39 (C) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) or (B) of this
40 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2,
41 commence on the fifth day prior to and conclude on the second day
42 prior to such special election or such presidential preference primary,
43 except that such commencing and concluding days shall be adjusted to
44 exclude from such period March 31, 2024, and any legal holiday

45 designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4, and (ii)
46 consist of four total days between and inclusive of such commencement
47 and conclusion, as may be adjusted pursuant to subparagraph (C)(i) of
48 this subdivision, and at such times as provided in subdivision (2) of
49 subsection (c) of section 9-174.

50 (4) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9-19e, 9-23a, 9-26,
51 9-31a, 9-55, 9-56, as amended by this act, and 9-57:

52 (i) In the case of an unaffiliated elector who wishes to vote during the
53 period of early voting at a primary, such elector shall be eligible to so
54 vote if such elector's application for enrollment with the political party
55 holding such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve
56 o'clock noon on the business day immediately preceding the day on
57 which such period of early voting commences.

58 (ii) In the case of a person who is not admitted as an elector and who
59 wishes to vote during the period of early voting at a primary, such
60 person shall be eligible to so vote if such person's application for
61 admission as an elector and enrollment with the political party holding
62 such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve o'clock noon
63 on the business day immediately preceding the day during such period
64 of early voting on which such person offers to vote at such primary.

65 (B) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an individual
66 who enrolls in a political party during a period of early voting at a
67 primary from voting by absentee ballot, if eligible, or in person on the
68 day of such primary.

69 (b) (1) (A) The registrars of voters of each municipality shall designate
70 a location for the conduct of early voting [, which] but, if the registrars
71 fail to agree as to such location, the legislative body or, in a municipality
72 where the legislative body is a town meeting, the board of selectmen,
73 shall designate such location. Such location shall be the same for the
74 duration of the period of early voting except as otherwise specified in
75 this subdivision, provided [(A)] (i) the registrars of voters have access to

76 the state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location,
77 and ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) such location is certified in writing to the Secretary of the
78 State, [not later than sixty days prior to the day of an election or a
79 primary.] The written certification under subparagraph ~~[(B)]~~ (A)(ii) of
80 this subdivision shall be submitted annually by the registrars of voters
81 to the Secretary not later than February fifteenth. Any change to such
82 written certification shall be made and submitted, and approved or
83 disapproved, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (B) of
84 this subdivision. Such written certification shall provide ~~[(i)]~~ (I) the
85 name, street address and relevant contact information associated with
86 such location, ~~[(ii)]~~ (II) the number of election or primary officials to be
87 appointed by the registrars of voters to serve at such location and the
88 roles of such officials, and ~~[(iii)]~~ (III) a description of the design of such
89 location and a plan for effective conduct of such early voting, and shall
90 include the information required for same-day election registration
91 under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-19j, as amended by
92 this act. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such written
93 certification annually not later than [forty-five days prior to the day of
94 an election or a primary] March first. If the Secretary disapproves such
95 certification, the Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons for such
96 disapproval and shall issue an order for such corrective action as the
97 Secretary deems necessary, including, but not limited to, the
98 appointment of additional election or primary officials or the alteration
99 of such design or plan. After having received approval of such
100 certification or having complied with any order for corrective action to
101 the Secretary's satisfaction, as applicable, the registrars of voters shall
102 determine the site of such location designated for the conduct of early
103 voting at least thirty-one days prior to an election or a primary. Such
104 location shall not be changed within such period, except, if the
105 municipal clerk and registrars of voters unanimously find that such
106 location has been rendered unusable within such period, such clerk and
107 registrars shall forthwith designate another location for the conduct of
108 early voting to be used in place of the location so rendered unusable and
109 shall give adequate notice that such location has been so changed. The
110 provisions of sections 9-168d and 9-168e shall apply to such location

111 designated for the conduct of early voting.

112 (B) If, after the registrars of voters annually submit the written
113 certification under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the registrars
114 make any change to any part of such written certification, such registrars
115 shall submit to the Secretary of the State an updated written
116 certification, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, as soon
117 as practicable but in no case later than seven days after such change. The
118 registrars shall clearly indicate on such updated written certification the
119 information that has changed since the prior submission. The Secretary
120 shall approve or disapprove such updated written certification as soon
121 as practicable but in no case later than seven days after submission
122 thereof. If the Secretary disapproves such updated certification, the
123 Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons for such disapproval and
124 shall issue an order for such corrective action as the Secretary deems
125 necessary, in accordance with subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

126 (2) In any municipality with a population of at least twenty thousand,
127 the legislative body may hold a public hearing on whether to designate
128 any additional location in such municipality for the conduct of early
129 voting, which public hearing, if any, shall be held not later than fifteen
130 days prior to the time for designating any such location set forth in
131 subdivision (1) of this subsection. Any legislative body holding such a
132 public hearing shall properly notice such public hearing not later than
133 ten days prior to such public hearing in a newspaper having general
134 circulation in such municipality and on the Internet web site of the
135 municipality. For any such municipality in which such a public hearing
136 was not held, the legislative body thereof shall determine whether to
137 designate any such additional location and shall notify the Secretary of
138 the State with a detailed explanation for such determination. For any
139 municipality in which such a public hearing was held, not later than
140 three days after the conclusion of such public hearing, the legislative
141 body thereof shall determine whether to designate any such additional
142 location and shall notify the Secretary with a detailed explanation for
143 such determination. If the legislative body determines that any such

144 additional location be designated, the [registrars of voters] legislative
145 body or, in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting,
146 the board of selectmen, shall so designate such additional location and
147 the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to such
148 additional location. The Secretary shall take no action on any detailed
149 explanation submitted under this subdivision with regard to the
150 number of additional locations designated in such a municipality, and
151 shall preserve each such detailed explanation as a public record open to
152 public inspection. For the purposes of this subdivision, "population"
153 means the estimated number of people according to the most recent
154 version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant to section
155 3-90.

156 (3) At each location designated for the conduct of early voting, the
157 registrars of voters shall provide to prospective electors during the early
158 voting period the opportunity to apply for same-day election
159 registration, in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 9-19j,
160 as amended by this act, for such application and for the completion and
161 processing of any such application.

162 (4) (A) The registrars of voters shall appoint, for each day on which
163 early voting is conducted, a moderator and such other election or
164 primary officials to serve at each location designated for such conduct.
165 The moderator so appointed shall perform any duty required, and may
166 exercise any power authorized, under this title related to the conduct of
167 early voting at such location. On any such day and solely for purposes
168 related to the conduct of early voting, the registrars of voters of a
169 municipality may, upon agreement, appoint one of the registrars from
170 such municipality as moderator in accordance with the provisions of
171 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. The registrars of voters may
172 delegate to each other election or primary official so appointed any of
173 the responsibilities assigned to the registrars of voters. The registrars of
174 voters shall supervise each such official and train each such official to be
175 an early voting election or primary official.

176 (B) Whenever the registrars of voters of a municipality appoint,

177 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, one of the registrars
178 of such municipality as moderator to serve at a location designated for
179 the conduct of early voting, such registrars of voters shall jointly submit
180 to the Secretary of the State (i) a certification that the registrars of voters
181 of such municipality are in agreement as to such appointment, and (ii)
182 a written plan detailing alternative coverage of the duties normally
183 carried out by the registrar so appointed to ensure that such registrar
184 abstains, on each day in which such registrar serves as moderator, from
185 any such duties that conflict with those of the moderator.

186 (C) Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the commencement
187 of the period of early voting, the registrars of voters shall provide to the
188 Secretary of the State a written report setting forth the name, address
189 and, if available, cellular mobile telephone number of the moderator
190 appointed to serve at each location designated for the conduct of early
191 voting pursuant to this subdivision. Such written report shall be
192 included as part of the written report provided by the registrars to the
193 Secretary under section 9-228a, as amended by this act.

194 (c) Any elector who wishes to vote during a period of early voting at
195 an election or primary, and is eligible to so vote at such election or
196 primary, shall (1) appear in person at such times as provided in
197 subsection (c) of section 9-174, at the location designated by the
198 registrars of voters for early voting, and (2) identify such elector as
199 required by subsection (a) of section 9-261. [, and (3) declare under oath
200 that such elector has not previously voted in such election or primary,
201 as provided in subsection (e) of this section.]

202 (d) If the registrars of voters determine that an elector is eligible to
203 vote in the election or primary, the registrars of voters shall check the
204 state-wide centralized voter registration system before allowing such
205 elector to cast an early voting ballot as provided in subsection (e) of this
206 section.

207 (1) If the registrars of voters determine that the elector has not already
208 voted, or if there is no report that the elector has already voted, the

209 registrars shall allow such elector to vote.

210 (2) If the registrars of voters believe that the elector may have already
211 voted, such matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters. After
212 completion of such review, if a resolution of the matter cannot be made
213 and such elector claims to have neither in fact voted nor offered to vote
214 in person or by absentee ballot, such elector may request a challenged
215 ballot in accordance with section 9-232d and may cast such challenged
216 ballot in accordance with section 9-232e. Such matter shall be reported
217 to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, which shall conduct an
218 investigation of the matter. The provisions of section 9-232f shall apply
219 to any challenged ballot cast under this subdivision.

220 (e) If the elector is allowed to vote, the registrars of voters shall
221 provide such elector with an early voting ballot, [and early voting
222 envelope and shall make a record of such issuance. The] shall make a
223 record of such issuance and shall announce to such elector the voting
224 district in which such elector resides and the ballot, corresponding to
225 such voting district, that such elector should properly receive. Prior to
226 marking the early voting ballot, the elector shall complete [an] a printed
227 affirmation [printed upon the back of the early voting envelope] in a log
228 book provided by the registrars of voters and shall declare under oath
229 that the voter has not previously voted in the election or primary. [The]
230 The Secretary of the State shall prescribe the form of such log book and
231 shall make a sample thereof available on the Internet web site of the
232 office of the Secretary of the State. Such printed affirmation shall be in
233 the form substantially as follows and signed by the voter:

234 AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty
235 of false statement (perjury), that:

236 1. I am the elector appearing in person to vote early at [an] this
237 election or primary. [prior to the day of such election or primary.]

238 2. I am eligible to vote in [the] this election or primary. [indicated for
239 today.]

240 3. I have identified myself to the satisfaction of the registrars of voters.

241 4. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not vote
242 otherwise than by this ballot at this election or primary.

243 5. I have received an early voting ballot for the purpose of [so] voting.

244 (Signature of voter)

245 (f) The elector shall forthwith mark the early voting ballot in the
246 presence of the registrars of voters in such a manner that the registrars
247 of voters shall not know how the early voting ballot is marked. The
248 elector shall place the early voting ballot [in the early voting ballot
249 envelope provided and deposit such envelope in a secured early voting
250 ballot depository receptacle] into the voting tabulator. At the conclusion
251 of each day during the early voting period, the registrars of voters shall
252 [transport such receptacle containing] (1) publicly open the voting
253 tabulator, secure and seal such day's early voting ballots [to the
254 municipal clerk, who shall] in a secure receptacle and retain and
255 securely store such ballots in as near a manner as possible to that for the
256 retention and secure storage of [absentee] ballots cast at polling places
257 under section 9-261, as provided in subsection (g) of this section, except
258 that, if such manner is not practicable, then such early voting ballots
259 shall be retained and securely stored as provided in an alternate plan
260 submitted by the registrars of voters to the Secretary of the State and
261 approved by the Secretary, [On the day of the election or primary, the
262 early voting ballots shall be delivered to the registrars of voters for the
263 purpose of counting such ballots. A section of the head moderator's
264 return shall show the number of early voting ballots received from
265 electors. The registrars of voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for
266 early voting ballots in a depository envelope with the early voting
267 ballots and store such early voting depository envelope with the other
268 election or primary results materials. The early voting depository
269 envelope shall be preserved by the registrars of voters for the period of
270 time required to preserve counted ballots for elections or primaries] and
271 (2) secure the voting tabulator in a locked area.

272 (g) Except as provided in section 9-163bb, as amended by this act, the
273 provisions of this title and any regulation adopted under this title
274 concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of
275 [absentee] ballots cast at polling places under section 9-261 shall apply,
276 as nearly as possible, to the custody, control and counting of early voting
277 ballots under this section. A section of the head moderator's return shall
278 show the number of early voting ballots received from electors.

279 (h) (1) No person shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to any
280 candidate or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being
281 submitted at the election or primary, or loiter or peddle or offer any
282 advertising matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius
283 of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any
284 building that contains any location designated by the registrars of voters
285 for early voting or in any corridor, passageway or other approach
286 leading from any such outside entrance to any such location or in any
287 room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach.

288 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, no person
289 shall be allowed within any location designated by the registrars of
290 voters for early voting for any purpose other than casting such person's
291 vote, except (A) primary officials under section 9-436, (B) election
292 officials under section 9-258, including (i) a municipal clerk or registrar
293 of voters, who is a candidate for the same office, and (ii) a deputy
294 registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters,
295 performing such official's duties, and (C) unofficial checkers under
296 section 9-235.

297 (3) A person, including any candidate or any campaign or party
298 employee or volunteer, may be within the seventy-five-foot radius
299 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection (A) only for purposes
300 related to the performance of such person's official duties or to the
301 conduct of government business within such radius, (B) only for as long
302 as necessary to perform such duties or conduct such business, and (C)
303 provided such person is not engaged in any conduct described in
304 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

305 (i) The provisions of subsections (a) to (h), inclusive, of this section
306 shall not apply to any primary held for the purpose of choosing town
307 committee members.

308 (j) No election or primary official shall perform services for any party
309 or candidate on any day during the period of early voting on which such
310 election or primary official is appointed to serve under this section, nor
311 appear at any political party headquarters prior to the hour prescribed
312 under subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (c) of section 9-174, as
313 applicable, for the closing of the location designated for early voting on
314 such day.

315 Sec. 2. Section 9-163bb of the general statutes is repealed and the
316 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

317 (a) [Early voting ballots received by the municipal clerk prior to the
318 day of an election or primary, and same-day] (1) Same-day election
319 registration ballots received by the municipal clerk prior to the day of a
320 regular election [.] shall be delivered by the municipal clerk to the
321 registrars between six o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m. on the day of the
322 regular election. [or primary.]

323 [(b)] (2) The ballot counters for such [early voting ballots and] same-
324 day election registration ballots shall proceed to the central counting
325 location or to the respective polling places when counting is to take
326 place pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a at the time, between
327 six o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m. on the day of the regular election,
328 [or primary,] designated by the registrars of voters. At the time such
329 ballots are delivered to the ballot counters pursuant to subsection (a) of
330 this section, the ballot counters shall perform any checking of such
331 ballots and proceed, as nearly as possible, as provided in section 9-150a,
332 as amended by this act.

333 (b) Upon the close of the polls on the day of an election or primary,
334 the moderator for the location designated for the conduct of early
335 voting, in the presence of the other election or primary officials at such

336 location, shall immediately lock the voting tabulator for early voting
337 ballots against voting and immediately cause the vote totals for all
338 candidates and questions to be produced.

339 Sec. 3. Section 9-19j of the general statutes is repealed and the
340 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

341 (a) As used in this section:

342 (1) "Election day" means the day on which a regular election, as
343 defined in section 9-1, is held; and

344 (2) "Same-day election registration" means admission as an elector
345 during the period of early voting at a regular election, as provided in
346 section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, or on election day.

347 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person who (1)
348 is (A) not an elector, or (B) an elector registered in a municipality who
349 wishes to change such elector's registration to another municipality
350 pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this
351 section, and (2) meets the eligibility requirements under subsection (a)
352 of section 9-12, may apply for same-day election registration pursuant
353 to the provisions of this section.

354 (c) (1) (A) The registrars of voters shall designate a location for the
355 completion and processing of same-day election registrations on
356 election day, provided [(A)] (i) the registrars of voters have access to the
357 state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location, and
358 [(B)] (ii) such location is certified in writing to the Secretary of the State,
359 [not later than forty-five days before election day.] The written
360 certification under subparagraph [(B)] (A)(ii) of this subdivision shall
361 [(i) include] be submitted annually by the registrars of voters to the
362 Secretary not later than February fifteenth as part of such registrars'
363 submission under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b)
364 of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act. Any change to such written
365 certification shall be made and submitted, and approved or
366 disapproved, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (B) of

367 this subdivision. Such written certification shall provide (I) the name,
368 street address and relevant contact information associated with such
369 location, [(ii) list the name and address of each election official who
370 shall] (II) the number of election officials to be appointed by the
371 registrars of voters to serve at such location [, if any] and the roles of
372 such officials, and [(iii) provide] (III) a description of the design of such
373 location and a plan for effective completion and processing of [such
374 applications] same-day election registrations. The Secretary shall
375 approve or disapprove such written certification annually not later than
376 [twenty-nine days before election day] March first and may require the
377 registrars of voters to appoint one or more additional election officials
378 or alter such design or plan.

379 (B) If, after the registrars of voters annually submit the written
380 certification under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the registrars
381 make any change to any part of such written certification, including for
382 any additional location designated pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
383 subsection, such registrars shall submit to the Secretary of the State an
384 updated written certification, in a form and manner prescribed by the
385 Secretary, as soon as practicable but in no case later than seven days
386 after such change. The registrars shall clearly indicate on such updated
387 written certification the information that has changed since the prior
388 submission. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such updated
389 written certification as soon as practicable but in no case later than seven
390 days after submission thereof. If the Secretary disapproves such
391 updated certification, the Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons
392 for such disapproval and shall issue an order for such corrective action
393 as the Secretary deems necessary, in accordance with subparagraph (A)
394 of this subdivision.

395 (2) The legislative body of the municipality may apply to the
396 Secretary of the State not later than seventy-four days before election
397 day, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, to designate any
398 additional location for the completion and processing of same-day
399 election [registration applications] registrations on election day. The

400 Secretary shall approve or disapprove such application not later than
401 fifty-nine days before election day. If the Secretary approves such
402 application, the registrars of voters may so designate any such
403 additional location. The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection
404 shall apply to any such additional location.

405 (3) (A) The registrars of voters shall appoint, for each day on which
406 same-day election registrations are completed and processed, a
407 moderator and such other election officials to serve at each location
408 designated for such completion and processing. The moderator so
409 appointed shall perform any duty required, and may exercise any
410 power authorized, under this title related to the completion and
411 processing of same-day election registrations at such location. On any
412 such day and solely for purposes related to the completion and
413 processing of same-day election registrations, the registrars of voters of
414 a municipality may, upon agreement, appoint one of the registrars from
415 such municipality as moderator in accordance with the provisions of
416 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. The registrars of voters may
417 delegate to each other election official so appointed [pursuant to
418 subdivision (1) of this subsection] any of the responsibilities assigned to
419 the registrars of voters. The registrars of voters shall supervise each such
420 election official and train each such official to be a same-day election
421 registration election official.

422 (B) Whenever the registrars of voters of a municipality appoint,
423 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, one of the registrars
424 of such municipality as moderator to serve at a location designated for
425 the completion and processing of same-day election registrations, such
426 registrars of voters shall jointly submit to the Secretary of the State (i) a
427 certification that the registrars of voters of such municipality are in
428 agreement as to such appointment, and (ii) a written plan detailing
429 alternative coverage of the duties normally carried out by the registrar
430 so appointed to ensure that such registrar abstains, on each day in which
431 such registrar serves as moderator, from any such duties that conflict
432 with those of the moderator.

433 (C) Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the commencement
434 of the period of early voting prior to election day, the registrars of voters
435 shall provide to the Secretary of the State a written report setting forth
436 the name, address and, if available, cellular mobile telephone number of
437 the moderator appointed to serve at each location designated for the
438 completion and processing of same-day election registrations pursuant
439 to this subdivision. Such written report shall be included as part of the
440 written report provided by the registrars to the Secretary under section
441 9-228a, as amended by this act.

442 (d) Any person applying for same-day election registration under the
443 provisions of this section shall make application in accordance with the
444 provisions of section 9-20, provided (1) (A) on election day, the applicant
445 shall appear in person not later than eight o'clock p.m., in accordance
446 with subsection (b) of section 9-174, at the location designated by the
447 registrars of voters for same-day election registration, and (B) during the
448 period of early voting prior to election day, the applicant shall appear
449 in person at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c)
450 of section 9-174, at such location, (2) an applicant who is a student
451 enrolled at an institution of higher education may submit a current
452 photo identification card issued by such institution in lieu of the
453 identification required by section 9-20, and (3) the applicant shall
454 declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the
455 election, as provided in subsection (f) of this section. If the information
456 that the applicant is required to provide under section 9-20 and this
457 section does not include proof of the applicant's residential address, the
458 applicant shall also submit identification that shows the applicant's
459 bona fide residence address, including, but not limited to, a learner's
460 permit issued under section 14-36 or a utility bill that has the applicant's
461 name and current address and that has a due date that is not later than
462 thirty days after the election or, in the case of a student enrolled at an
463 institution of higher education, a registration or fee statement from such
464 institution that has the applicant's name and current address.

465 (e) If the registrars of voters determine that an applicant satisfies the

466 application requirements set forth in subsection (d) of this section, the
467 registrars of voters shall check the state-wide centralized voter
468 registration system before admitting such applicant as an elector.

469 (1) If the registrars of voters determine that the applicant is not
470 already an elector, the registrars of voters shall admit the applicant as
471 an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.

472 (2) If the registrars of voters determine that such applicant is an
473 elector in another municipality and such applicant wants to change the
474 municipality in which the applicant is an elector, notwithstanding the
475 provisions of section 9-21, the registrars of voters of the municipality in
476 which such elector now seeks to register shall immediately notify the
477 registrars of voters in such other municipality that such elector is
478 changing the municipality in which the applicant is an elector. The
479 registrars of voters in such other municipality shall notify the election
480 officials in such municipality to remove such elector from the official
481 voter list of such municipality. Such election officials shall cross through
482 the elector's name on such official voter list and mark "off" next to such
483 elector's name on such official voter list.

484 (A) If it is reported that such applicant already voted in such other
485 municipality, the registrars of voters of such other municipality shall
486 immediately notify the registrars of voters of the municipality in which
487 such elector now seeks to register. In such event, such elector shall not
488 receive a same-day election registration ballot from the registrars of
489 voters of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register.
490 For any such elector, the same-day election registration process shall
491 cease in the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register and
492 such matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters in the
493 municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. After
494 completion of such review, if a resolution of the matter cannot be made,
495 such matter shall be reported to the State Elections Enforcement
496 Commission which shall conduct an investigation of the matter.

497 (B) If there is no such report that such applicant already voted in the

498 other municipality, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which
499 the applicant seeks to register shall admit the applicant as an elector and
500 the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.

501 (f) If the applicant is admitted as an elector, the registrars of voters
502 shall provide the elector with a same-day election registration ballot and
503 same-day election registration envelope and shall make a record of such
504 issuance. The elector shall complete an affirmation imprinted upon the
505 back of the same-day election registration envelope and shall declare
506 under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the election.
507 The affirmation shall be in the form substantially as follows and signed
508 by the voter:

509 AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty
510 of false statement, (perjury) that:

511 1. I am the person admitted here as an elector in the town indicated.

512 2. I am eligible to vote in the election indicated for today in the town
513 indicated.

514 3. The information on my voter registration card is correct and
515 complete.

516 4. I reside at the address that I have given to the registrars of voters.

517 5. If previously registered at another location, I have provided such
518 address to the registrars of voters and hereby request cancellation of
519 such prior registration.

520 6. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not vote
521 otherwise than by this ballot at this election.

522 7. I completed an application for a same-day election registration
523 ballot and received a same-day election registration ballot.

524 (Signature of voter)

525 (g) The elector shall forthwith mark the same-day election
526 registration ballot in the presence of the registrars of voters in such a
527 manner that the registrars of voters shall not know how the same-day
528 election registration ballot is marked. The elector shall place the same-
529 day election registration ballot in the same-day election registration
530 ballot envelope provided, and deposit such envelope in a secured same-
531 day election registration ballot depository receptacle. At the conclusion
532 of each day during the early voting period, the registrars of voters shall
533 transport such receptacle containing such day's same-day election
534 registration ballots to the municipal clerk, who shall retain and securely
535 store such ballots in as near a manner as possible to that for the retention
536 and secure storage of absentee ballots, as provided in subsection (h) of
537 this section, except that, if such manner is not practicable, such same-
538 day election registration ballots shall be retained and securely stored as
539 provided in an alternate plan submitted by the registrars of voters to the
540 Secretary of the State and approved by the Secretary. On election day,
541 the previously retained and securely stored same-day election
542 registration ballots shall be delivered to the registrars of voters and, at
543 the time designated by the registrars of voters and noticed to election
544 officials, the registrars of voters shall transport such receptacle
545 containing the same-day election registration ballots received on such
546 election day to the central location or polling place, pursuant to
547 subsection (b) of section 9-147a, where absentee ballots are counted and
548 such same-day election registration ballots shall be counted by the
549 election officials present at such central location or polling place. A
550 section of the head moderator's return shall show the number of same-
551 day election registration ballots received from electors. The registrars of
552 voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for same-day election
553 registration ballots in a depository envelope with the same-day election
554 registration ballots and store such same-day election registration
555 depository envelope with the other election results materials. The same-
556 day election registration depository envelope shall be preserved by the
557 registrars of voters for the period of time required to preserve counted
558 ballots for elections.

559 (h) Except as provided in section 9-163bb, as amended by this act, the
560 provisions of this title and any regulation adopted under this title
561 concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of
562 absentee ballots shall apply, as nearly as possible, to the custody, control
563 and counting of same-day election registration ballots under this
564 section.

565 (i) After the acceptance of a same-day election registration, the
566 registrars of voters shall forthwith send a registration confirmation
567 notice to the residential address of each applicant who was admitted as
568 an elector on election day or during the period of early voting prior to
569 election day under this section. Such confirmation shall be sent by first
570 class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not
571 deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. If a confirmation
572 notice is returned undelivered, the registrars shall forthwith take the
573 necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43, as applicable,
574 notwithstanding the May first deadline in section 9-35.

575 (j) (1) No person shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to any
576 candidate or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being
577 submitted at the election, or loiter or peddle or offer any advertising
578 matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius of seventy-
579 five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any building that
580 contains any location designated by the registrars of voters for same-
581 day election registration balloting or in any corridor, passageway or
582 other approach leading from any such outside entrance to any such
583 location or in any room opening upon any such corridor, passageway
584 or approach.

585 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, no person
586 shall be allowed within any location designated by the registrars of
587 voters for same-day election registration balloting for any purpose other
588 than casting such person's vote, except (A) primary officials under
589 section 9-436, (B) election officials under section 9-258, including (i) a
590 municipal clerk or registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same
591 office, and (ii) a deputy registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the

592 office of registrar of voters, performing such official's duties, and (C)
593 unofficial checkers under section 9-235.

594 (3) A person, including any candidate or any campaign or party
595 employee or volunteer, may be within the seventy-five-foot radius
596 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection (A) only for purposes
597 related to the performance of such person's official duties or to the
598 conduct of government business within such radius, (B) only for as long
599 as necessary to perform such duties or conduct such business, and (C)
600 provided such person is not engaged in any conduct described in
601 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

602 (k) No election official shall perform services for any party or
603 candidate on any day on which such election official is appointed to
604 serve under this section, nor appear at any political party headquarters
605 prior to the hour prescribed under subsection (b) or subdivision (1) of
606 subsection (c) of section 9-174, as applicable, for the closing of the
607 location designated for same-day election registration on such day.

608 Sec. 4. Section 9-228a of the general statutes is repealed and the
609 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

610 (a) [The] Not later than the thirty-first day preceding the day of each
611 municipal, state or federal election or primary, the registrars of voters of
612 each municipality shall [, not later than thirty-one days prior to each
613 municipal, state or federal election or primary,] certify to the Secretary
614 of the State, in writing, the location of each polling place that will be
615 used for such election or primary. Such certification shall detail the
616 name, address, relevant contact information and corresponding federal,
617 state and municipal districts associated with each polling place used for
618 such election or primary.

619 (b) [The] Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the
620 commencement of the period of early voting at each municipal, state or
621 federal election or primary, in accordance with the provisions of
622 subsection (a) of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, the registrars

623 of voters of each municipality shall [, prior to each municipal, state or
624 federal election or primary,] provide a written report to the Secretary of
625 the State setting forth the names, [and] addresses and, if available,
626 cellular mobile telephone numbers of each moderator for each (1)
627 polling place location disclosed pursuant to subsection (a) of this
628 section, (2) location designated for the conduct of early voting pursuant
629 to subsection (b) of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, and (3)
630 location designated for the completion and processing of same-day
631 election registrations pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-19j, as
632 amended by this act.

633 (c) The Secretary of the State shall have the authority to disqualify
634 any moderator appointed by the registrars of voters if, after consultation
635 with both registrars of voters, the Secretary determines such moderator
636 has committed material misconduct, material neglect of duty or material
637 incompetence in the discharge of his or her duties as a moderator. If the
638 Secretary disqualifies a moderator, the Secretary shall share his or her
639 findings upon which the disqualification was based with the registrars
640 of voters.

641 Sec. 5. Section 9-56 of the general statutes is repealed and the
642 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

643 Except as otherwise provided in the case of an elector whose name
644 has not been placed on or has been removed from the enrollment list
645 under section 9-59, 9-60, 9-61 or 9-62, any elector not enrolled on any
646 enrollment list may at any time make a written and signed application
647 for enrollment to the registrars of voters on an application form for
648 admission as an elector, in accordance with the requirements of this
649 section. The application shall be effective as of the date it is filed with
650 the registrars of voters of the town of residence of the applicant and any
651 person making application for enrollment in such manner shall
652 immediately be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment unless the
653 application for enrollment (1) is filed in person by the applicant with the
654 registrars of voters after twelve o'clock noon on the last business day
655 before a primary, in which case he shall be entitled to the privileges of

656 party enrollment immediately after the primary, (2) is otherwise filed
657 with the registrar after the [fifth] eighteenth day before the primary, in
658 which case he shall be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment
659 immediately after the primary, except as provided in section 9-23a, or
660 (3) is filed with the registrars of voters after 5:00 p.m. on the last business
661 day before a caucus or convention, in which case he shall be entitled to
662 the privileges of party enrollment immediately after the caucus or
663 convention. The application shall be signed or initialed by the registrar,
664 deputy, assistant or registrar's clerk receiving it, or by such other
665 personnel as such registrar or deputy may appoint for the purpose,
666 showing the date when such application is received and, in the case of
667 an applicant not immediately eligible under section 9-59, 9-60, 9-61 or 9-
668 62 to the privileges accompanying enrollment in the party named in his
669 application, the date upon which such applicant becomes so eligible. In
670 municipalities divided into voting districts in which an enrollment
671 session is held in each district thereof under section 9-51, application for
672 enrollment shall be made to the registrar or assistant registrar, as the
673 case may be, in the voting district in which such elector is entitled to
674 vote at the time of making such application. If any registrar or assistant
675 registrar fails to add any name to any such list on written application or
676 adds any name to any such list except as herein provided, he shall be
677 guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

678 Sec. 6. Subsection (d) of section 9-229 of the general statutes is
679 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
680 *1, 2026*):

681 (d) If the person designated as moderator is unable to serve for any
682 reason, a certified alternate moderator shall serve as moderator. If such
683 certified alternate moderator is not called upon to serve as moderator,
684 he shall serve in another capacity as an election official on election or
685 primary day. If any town or voting district lacks a moderator due to the
686 death, disability or withdrawal of a certified moderator or alternate
687 moderator, or due to the disqualification of a moderator for any reason,
688 including failure to attend an instructional session as required by this

689 section, the registrars of voters shall appoint a new moderator for such
690 town or voting district in the manner provided in this section, except
691 that the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has,
692 in a court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or
693 nolo contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny,
694 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. Such
695 new moderator shall attend an instructional session and a certification
696 session conducted in accordance with the provisions of this section. If
697 all such sessions have been conducted at the time of appointment of the
698 new moderator, the new moderator shall receive instruction from the
699 registrars who appointed the new moderator.

700 Sec. 7. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the
701 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

702 The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or
703 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time,
704 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of voters
705 of any municipality taking such action shall provide a suitable polling
706 place in each district but, if the registrars fail to agree as to the location
707 of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall determine the
708 location thereof. Polling places to be used in an election shall be
709 determined at least thirty-one days before such election, and such
710 polling places shall not be changed within said period of thirty-one days
711 except that, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a
712 municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such
713 municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall
714 forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of the one
715 so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling
716 place has been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate
717 lists of the electors residing in each district and shall appoint for each
718 district a moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229,
719 as amended by this act, and such other election officials as are required
720 by law, and shall designate one of the moderators so appointed or any
721 other elector of such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of

722 declaring the results of elections in the whole municipality, except that
723 the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has, in a
724 court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo
725 contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny,
726 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. The
727 registrars may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the
728 head moderator in the performance of his duties provided the deputy
729 head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled in the
730 same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372. The
731 selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and all other officers of the
732 municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with
733 respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance with
734 this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn by a municipality so
735 as to conflict with the lines of congressional districts, senate districts or
736 assembly districts as established by law, except [(1)] (A) as provided in
737 section 9-169d, and [(2)] (B) that as to municipal elections, any part of a
738 split voting district containing less than two hundred electors may be
739 combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from which all
740 and the same officers are elected at such municipal election. Any change
741 in the boundaries of voting districts made within ninety days prior to
742 any election or primary shall not apply with respect to such election or
743 primary. The provisions of this section shall prevail over any contrary
744 provision of any charter or special act.

745 Sec. 8. Section 9-322a of the general statutes is repealed and the
746 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

747 (a) Not later than forty-eight hours following each regular election,
748 the registrars of voters shall provide the results of the votes cast at such
749 election to the town clerk. Not later than nine o'clock a.m. on the third
750 day following each regular election, the head moderator, registrars of
751 voters and town clerk for each town [divided into voting districts] shall
752 meet to identify any error in the returns. Not later than one o'clock p.m.
753 on the third day following each regular election, the head moderator
754 shall correct any error identified and file an amended return with the

755 Secretary of the State, the town clerk and the registrars of voters.

756 (b) Not later than twenty-one days following each regular state
757 election, the town clerk of each town [divided into voting districts] shall
758 file with the Secretary of the State a consolidated listing, in tabular
759 format, as prescribed by the Secretary of the State, of the official returns
760 [of each such voting district] for all offices voted on at such election,
761 including the total number of votes cast for each candidate, the total
762 number of names on the registry list, and the total number of names
763 checked as having voted, [in each such district.] The town clerk of such
764 town shall certify that he or she has examined the lists transmitted under
765 this section to determine whether there are any discrepancies between
766 the total number of votes cast for a candidate at such election in such
767 town, including for any recanvass conducted pursuant to section 9-311,
768 as amended by this act, or 9-311a, and the sum of the votes cast for the
769 same candidate in all voting districts in such town if such town has been
770 divided into voting districts. In the case of any such discrepancy, the
771 town clerk shall notify the head moderator and certify that such
772 discrepancy has been rectified. Each listing filed under this section shall
773 be retained by the Secretary of the State not less than ten years after the
774 date of the election for which it was filed.

775 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
776 "municipality", "government enforcement action", "federal Voting
777 Rights Act" and "protected class" have the same meanings as provided
778 in section 9-368i of the general statutes.

779 (b) The corporation counsel of any municipality that has been subject
780 to any court order or government enforcement action described in
781 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-368m
782 of the general statutes shall provide to the office of the Secretary of the
783 State all details pertaining to such matter not later than one month after
784 the effective date of this section, the issuance of such court order or the
785 commencement of such government enforcement action, whichever is
786 latest.

787 (c) If an action filed in a court of competent jurisdiction alleges a
788 violation of the provisions of sections 9-368j to 9-368q, inclusive, of the
789 general statutes, the federal Voting Rights Act, any state or federal civil
790 rights law, the fifteenth amendment to the United States Constitution or
791 the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution, which
792 violation concerns the right to vote or a pattern, practice or policy of
793 discrimination against any protected class, the party that filed such
794 action shall cause notice of the hearing on such action to be given to the
795 Secretary of the State.

796 Sec. 10. Section 9-388 of the general statutes is repealed and the
797 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

798 (a) Whenever a convention of a political party is held for the
799 endorsement of candidates for nomination to state or district office, each
800 candidate endorsed at such convention shall file with the Secretary of
801 the State a certificate, signed by him, stating that he was endorsed by
802 such convention, his name as he authorizes it to appear on the ballot, his
803 full residence address and the title and district, if applicable, of the office
804 for which he was endorsed. Such certificate shall be attested by either
805 (1) the chairman or presiding officer, or (2) the secretary of such
806 convention and shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later
807 than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of such
808 convention. Such certificate shall either be mailed to the Secretary of the
809 State by certified mail, return receipt requested, or delivered in person,
810 in which case a receipt indicating the date and time of delivery shall be
811 provided by the Secretary of the State to the person making delivery. If
812 a certificate of a party's endorsement for a particular state or district
813 office is not received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such
814 certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of [section 9-
815 416 and section 9-416a] sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to
816 have made no endorsement of any candidate for such office. If
817 applicable, the chairman of a party's state convention shall, forthwith
818 upon the close of such convention, file with the Secretary of the State the
819 names and full residence addresses of persons selected by such

820 convention as the nominees of such party for electors of President and
821 Vice-President of the United States in accordance with the provisions of
822 section 9-175.

823 (b) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of a party's endorsement
824 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which contains an error or
825 omission that would operate to invalidate such endorsement, the
826 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
827 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
828 person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
829 p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district
830 convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to make such
831 correction. If such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend
832 such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such
833 party, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to
834 have made no such endorsement.

835 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
836 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of a
837 party's endorsement to correct any such error or omission, and shall
838 keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
839 subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require
840 the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission
841 in any such certificate.

842 Sec. 11. Subsection (c) of section 9-391 of the general statutes is
843 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
844 *1, 2026*):

845 (c) (1) Each endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the
846 nomination of candidates for a municipal office to be voted upon at a
847 state election shall be made under the provisions of section 9-390 not
848 earlier than the eighty-fourth day or later than the seventy-seventh day
849 preceding the day of such primary. Each certification to be filed under
850 this subsection shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later
851 than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of the town

852 committee meeting, caucus or convention, as the case may be. If such a
853 certificate of a party's endorsement is not received by the Secretary of
854 the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party,
855 for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-418, shall be deemed to have
856 neither made nor certified any endorsement of any candidate for such
857 office. The candidate so endorsed for a municipal office to be voted upon
858 at a state election, other than the office of justice of the peace, shall file
859 with the Secretary of the State a certificate, signed by that candidate,
860 stating that such candidate was so endorsed, the candidate's name as
861 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
862 street address and the title and district of the office for which the
863 candidate was endorsed. Such certificate may be filed by a candidate
864 whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such
865 party within the senatorial district within which the candidate is
866 endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of
867 state senator, or the assembly district within which the candidate is
868 endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of
869 state representative, or the municipality or political subdivision within
870 which the candidate is to run for nomination for other municipal offices
871 to be voted on at a state election. Such certificate shall be attested by
872 either the chairperson or presiding officer or the secretary of the town
873 committee, caucus or convention which made such endorsement. The
874 endorsement of any candidate for the office of justice of the peace shall
875 be certified to the clerk of the municipality by either the chairperson or
876 presiding officer or the secretary of the town committee, caucus or
877 convention, and shall contain the name and street address of each
878 candidate so endorsed and the title of the office for which each such
879 candidate is endorsed. Such certification shall be made on a form
880 prescribed by the Secretary of the State or on such other form as may
881 comply with the provisions of this subsection.

882 (2) (A) In the case of a timely filed certificate of a party's endorsement
883 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, which contains an error
884 or omission that would operate to invalidate such endorsement, the
885 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of

886 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
887 person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
888 p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the town committee
889 meeting, caucus or convention, as applicable, and amending such
890 certificate to make such correction. If such candidate or individual does
891 not appear to so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate
892 shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-
893 418, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified such
894 endorsement.

895 (B) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
896 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, amend a timely filed certificate of
897 a party's endorsement to correct any such error or omission, and shall
898 keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
899 subparagraph. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to
900 require the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or
901 omission in any such certificate.

902 Sec. 12. Section 9-400 of the general statutes is repealed and the
903 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

904 (a) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a state office
905 may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon
906 the last-completed enrollment list of such party in any municipality
907 within the state and who has either (1) received at least fifteen per cent
908 of the votes of the convention delegates present and voting on any roll-
909 call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a
910 candidate for such state office, whether or not the party-endorsed
911 candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on the last ballot,
912 or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of at least two
913 per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the state, in accordance
914 with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive. Candidacies
915 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed by
916 submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m.
917 on the fourteenth day following the close of the state convention, a
918 certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the

919 chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that
920 such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that
921 such candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for
922 such state office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as
923 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
924 residence address and the title of the office for which the candidacy is
925 being filed. If such certificate for a state office is not received by the
926 Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and
927 such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be
928 deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination
929 by a political party [for] to such state office. A single such certificate or
930 petition for state office may be filed on behalf of two or more candidates
931 for different state offices who consent to have their names appear on a
932 single row of the primary ballot under subsection (b) of section 9-437.
933 Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed
934 by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-
935 third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar
936 of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were
937 circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the
938 Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c.
939 A petition filed by or on behalf of a candidate for state office shall be
940 invalid for such candidate if such candidate is certified as the party-
941 endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act,
942 or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such
943 office pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a,
944 upon the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and
945 circulation and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or
946 more candidacies for such state office have been filed pursuant to the
947 provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town
948 clerks and registrars of voters in accordance with the provisions of
949 section 9-433, that a primary for such state office shall be held in each
950 municipality in accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

951 (b) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a district office
952 may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon

953 the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the district the
954 person seeks to represent that is in the office of the Secretary of the State
955 at the end of the last day prior to the convention for the party from
956 which the person seeks nomination and who has either (1) received at
957 least fifteen per cent of the votes of the convention delegates present and
958 voting on any roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed
959 endorsement of a candidate for such district office, whether or not the
960 party-endorsed candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on
961 the last ballot, or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of
962 at least two per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district
963 for the district office of representative in Congress, and at least five per
964 cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district for the district
965 offices of state senator, state representative and judge of probate, in
966 accordance with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive.
967 Candidacies described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed
968 by submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
969 p.m. on the fourteenth day following the close of the district convention,
970 a certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the
971 chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that
972 such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that
973 the candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for
974 such district office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as
975 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
976 residence address and the title and district of the office for which the
977 candidacy is being filed. If such certificate for a district office is not
978 received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall
979 be invalid and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-
980 416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy
981 for nomination by a political party [for] to such district office.
982 Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed
983 by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-
984 third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar
985 of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were
986 circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the
987 Secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c. A petition

988 may only be filed by or on behalf of a candidate for the district office of
989 state senator, state representative or judge of probate who is not certified
990 as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended
991 by this act, or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote
992 for such office pursuant to this subsection. A petition filed by or on
993 behalf of a candidate for the district office of representative in Congress
994 shall be invalid if said candidate is certified as the party-endorsed
995 candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act, or as
996 receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such office
997 pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a, upon
998 the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and circulation
999 and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or more
1000 candidacies for such district office have been filed pursuant to the
1001 provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town
1002 clerks within the district, in accordance with the provisions of section 9-
1003 433, that a primary for such district office shall be held in each
1004 municipality and each part of a municipality within the district in
1005 accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

1006 (c) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of candidacy for
1007 nomination by a political party pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this
1008 section, which contains an error or omission that would operate to
1009 invalidate such candidacy for nomination, the person so certified or an
1010 agent of such person may correct such error or omission by appearing
1011 in person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four
1012 o'clock p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district
1013 convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to make such
1014 correction, provided neither failure of such person to timely file such
1015 certificate pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section nor failure of
1016 the chairperson, presiding officer or secretary of the convention to attest
1017 such certificate shall be an error or omission that may be corrected
1018 pursuant to this subsection. If such person or agent does not appear to
1019 so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid
1020 and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be
1021 deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination

1022 by a political party. As used in this subsection, "agent" means an
1023 individual authorized to act on behalf of a person.

1024 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
1025 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of
1026 candidacy for nomination to correct any such error or omission, and
1027 shall keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
1028 subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require
1029 the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission
1030 in any such certificate.

1031 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) For the purposes of this section, the number of enrolled
1032 members of a party shall be determined by the latest enrollment records
1033 in the office of the Secretary of the State prior to the earliest date that
1034 primary petitions were available. The names of electors on the inactive
1035 registry list compiled under section 9-35 shall not be counted for
1036 purposes of computing the number of petition signatures required
1037 under this section, as provided in section 9-35c.

1038 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) On the last day for filing primary petition candidacies in
1039 accordance with the provisions of this section, the office or office
1040 facilities of the registrars of voters shall open not later than one o'clock
1041 p.m., and remain open until at least four o'clock p.m., and such
1042 registrars or the deputy or assistant registrars shall be present.

1043 Sec. 13. Section 9-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1044 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

1045 (a) All minor parties nominating candidates for any elective office
1046 shall make such nominations and certify and file a list of such
1047 nominations, as required by this section, not later than the sixty-second
1048 day prior to the day of the election at which such candidates are to be
1049 voted for. A list of nominees in printed or typewritten form that includes
1050 each candidate's name as authorized by each candidate to appear on the
1051 ballot, the signature of each candidate, the full street address of each
1052 candidate and the title and district of the office for which each candidate

1053 is nominated shall be certified by the presiding officer of the committee,
1054 meeting or other authority making such nomination and shall be filed
1055 by such presiding officer with the Secretary of the State, in the case of
1056 any state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election,
1057 or with the clerk of the municipality, in the case of any municipal office
1058 to be voted upon at a municipal election, not later than the sixty-second
1059 day prior to the day of the election. The registrars of voters of such
1060 municipality shall promptly verify and correct the names on any such
1061 list filed with him, or the names of nominees forwarded to the clerk of
1062 the municipality by the Secretary of the State, in accordance with the
1063 registry list of such municipality and endorse the same as having been
1064 so verified and corrected. For purposes of this section, a list of
1065 nominations shall be deemed to be filed when it is received by the
1066 Secretary of the State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate. If such
1067 certificate of a party's nomination is not received by the Secretary of the
1068 State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate, by such time, such
1069 certificate shall be invalid and such party, for purposes of sections 9-460,
1070 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any
1071 nomination of any candidate for such office. A candidacy for
1072 nomination by a minor party to a district or municipal office may be
1073 filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed
1074 registry list of the district or municipality represented by such office, as
1075 the case may be. A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a state
1076 office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the
1077 last-completed registry list of the state.

1078 (b) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of nomination for any
1079 state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election
1080 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which contains an error or
1081 omission that would operate to invalidate such nomination, the
1082 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
1083 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
1084 person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
1085 p.m. on the fifty-seventh day prior to the day of the election and
1086 amending such certificate to make such correction, provided neither

1087 failure of the presiding officer of the committee, meeting or other
1088 authority to timely file such certificate pursuant to subsection (a) of this
1089 section nor failure of the candidate to sign such certificate shall be an
1090 error or omission that may be corrected pursuant to this subsection. If
1091 such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend such
1092 certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party,
1093 for the purposes of sections 9-460, 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to
1094 have neither made nor certified any such nomination.

1095 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
1096 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of
1097 nomination to correct any such error or omission, and shall keep a
1098 record of any such amendment made pursuant to this subdivision.
1099 Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require the Secretary
1100 to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission in any such
1101 certificate.

1102 Sec. 14. Subsection (d) of section 9-404b of the general statutes is
1103 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
1104 *passage*):

1105 (d) Each circulator of a primary petition page shall be an enrolled
1106 party member of a municipality in this state. Each petition page shall
1107 contain a statement signed by the registrar of the municipality in which
1108 the circulator is an enrolled party member attesting that the circulator is
1109 an enrolled party member in the municipality. Unless such a statement
1110 by the registrar of voters appears on each page so submitted, the
1111 Secretary shall reject the page. Each separate page of the petition shall
1112 contain a statement as to the authenticity of the signatures on the page
1113 and the number of such signatures, and shall be signed under the
1114 penalties of false statement by the person who circulated the page,
1115 setting forth the circulator's address and the town in which the
1116 circulator is an enrolled party member and attesting that each person
1117 whose name appears on the page signed the petition in person in the
1118 presence of the circulator, that the circulator either knows each such
1119 signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified himself or herself to the

1120 circulator and that the spaces for candidates supported, offices sought
1121 and the political party involved were filled in prior to the obtaining of
1122 the signatures. Each separate page of the petition shall also be
1123 acknowledged before an appropriate person as provided in section 1-
1124 29. The Secretary shall reject any page of a petition filed with the
1125 Secretary which does not contain such a statement by the circulator as
1126 to the authenticity of the signatures on the page, or upon which the
1127 statement of the circulator is incomplete in any respect, or which does
1128 not contain the certification required under this section by the registrar
1129 of the town in which the circulator is an enrolled party member. No
1130 person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall circulate
1131 any page of a primary petition during such person's period of probation
1132 or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such person's release
1133 from confinement, probation or parole, and the Secretary shall reject for
1134 filing any such page that was circulated in violation of such prohibition.
1135 Any individual proposed as a candidate in any primary petition may
1136 serve as a circulator of the pages of the petition, provided the
1137 individual's service as circulator does not violate any provision of this
1138 section.

1139 Sec. 15. Subsection (c) of section 9-410 of the general statutes is
1140 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
1141 *passage*):

1142 (c) Each circulator of a primary petition page shall be an enrolled
1143 party member of a municipality in this state who is entitled to vote. Each
1144 petition page shall contain a statement signed by the registrar of the
1145 municipality in which such circulator is an enrolled party member
1146 attesting that the circulator is an enrolled party member in such
1147 municipality. Unless such a statement by the registrar appears on each
1148 page so submitted, the registrar shall reject such page. No candidate for
1149 the nomination of a party for a municipal office or the position of town
1150 committee member shall circulate any petition for another candidate or
1151 another group of candidates contained in one primary petition for the
1152 nomination of such party for the same office or position, and any

1153 petition page circulated in violation of this provision shall be rejected by
1154 the registrar. No person shall circulate petitions for more than the
1155 maximum number of candidates to be nominated by a party for the
1156 same office or position, and any petition page circulated in violation of
1157 this provision shall be rejected by the registrar. Each separate sheet of
1158 such petition shall contain a statement as to the authenticity of the
1159 signatures thereon and the number of such signatures, and shall be
1160 signed under the penalties of false statement by the person who
1161 circulated the same, setting forth such circulator's address and the town
1162 in which such circulator is an enrolled party member and attesting that
1163 each person whose name appears on such sheet signed the same in
1164 person in the presence of such circulator, that the circulator either knows
1165 each such signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified the signer to
1166 the circulator and that the spaces for candidates supported, offices or
1167 positions sought and the political party involved were filled in prior to
1168 the obtaining of the signatures. Each separate sheet of such petition shall
1169 also be acknowledged before an appropriate person as provided in
1170 section 1-29. Any sheet of a petition filed with the registrar which does
1171 not contain such a statement by the circulator as to the authenticity of
1172 the signatures thereon, or upon which the statement of the circulator is
1173 incomplete in any respect, or which does not contain the certification
1174 hereinbefore required by the registrar of the town in which the
1175 circulator is an enrolled party member, shall be rejected by the registrar.
1176 No person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall
1177 circulate any page of a primary petition during such person's period of
1178 probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such person's
1179 release from confinement, probation or parole, and the registrar shall
1180 reject for filing any such page that was circulated in violation of such
1181 prohibition. Any individual proposed as a candidate in any primary
1182 petition may serve as a circulator of the pages of such petition, provided
1183 such individual's service as circulator does not violate any provision of
1184 this section.

1185 Sec. 16. Section 9-453e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1186 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1187 (a) Each circulator of a nominating petition page shall be a United
1188 States citizen, at least eighteen years of age and a resident of a town in
1189 this state and shall not be on parole for conviction of a felony. Any
1190 individual proposed as a candidate in any nominating petition may
1191 serve as circulator of the pages of such nominating petition.

1192 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
1193 no person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall
1194 circulate any page of a nominating petition during such person's period
1195 of probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such
1196 person's release from confinement, probation or parole. The appropriate
1197 town clerk or the Secretary of the State, as applicable under section 9-
1198 453i, shall reject for filing any such page that was circulated in violation
1199 of such prohibition.

1200 Sec. 17. Section 9-453j of the general statutes is repealed and the
1201 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1202 Each page of a nominating petition submitted to the town clerk or the
1203 Secretary of the State and filed with the Secretary of the State under the
1204 provisions of sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, or section 9-216 shall
1205 contain a statement as to the residency in this state and eligibility of the
1206 circulator and authenticity of the signatures thereon, signed under
1207 penalties of false statement, by the person who circulated the same. Such
1208 statement shall set forth (1) such circulator's residence address,
1209 including the town in this state in which such circulator is a resident, (2)
1210 the circulator's date of birth and that the circulator is at least eighteen
1211 years of age, (3) that the circulator is a United States citizen and [not]
1212 neither (A) on parole for conviction of a felony, nor (B) on probation or
1213 parole for conviction of a crime under this title or within twelve years of
1214 release from confinement, probation or parole due to such a conviction
1215 under this subparagraph, and (4) that each person whose name appears
1216 on such page signed the same in person in the presence of such
1217 circulator and that either the circulator knows each such signer or that
1218 the signer satisfactorily identified himself to the circulator. Any false
1219 statement committed with respect to such statement shall be deemed to

1220 have been committed in the town in which the petition was circulated.

1221 Sec. 18. Subsection (k) of section 9-140 of the general statutes is
1222 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
1223 *passage*):

1224 (k) (1) (A) A person shall register with the town clerk before
1225 distributing five or more absentee ballot applications for an election,
1226 primary or referendum, not including applications distributed to such
1227 person's immediate family. Such requirement shall not apply to a person
1228 who is the designee of an applicant.

1229 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this
1230 subdivision, no person who has been convicted of a crime under this
1231 title shall distribute any absentee ballot application during such person's
1232 period of probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such
1233 person's release from confinement, probation or parole. The town clerk
1234 shall reject for filing any absentee ballot application that was distributed
1235 in violation of such prohibition.

1236 (2) Any person who distributes absentee ballot applications shall
1237 maintain a list of the names and addresses of prospective absentee ballot
1238 applicants who receive such applications, and shall file such list with
1239 the town clerk prior to the date of the primary, election or referendum
1240 for which the applications were so distributed. Any person who
1241 distributes absentee ballot applications and receives an executed
1242 application shall forthwith file the application with the town clerk.

1243 Sec. 19. Section 9-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1244 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

1245 (a) Ballots shall be printed in plain clear type and on material of such
1246 size as will fit the tabulator, and shall be furnished by the registrar of
1247 voters. The size and style of the type used to print the name of a political
1248 party on a ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type
1249 used to print the names of all other political parties appearing on such
1250 ballot. The name of each major party candidate for a municipal office, as

1251 defined in section 9-372, except for the municipal offices of state senator
1252 and state representative, shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each
1253 candidate. The name of each major party candidate for a state or district
1254 office, as defined in section 9-372, or for the municipal office of state
1255 senator or state representative shall appear on the ballot as it appears on
1256 the certificate or statement of consent filed under section 9-388, as
1257 amended by this act, subsection (b) of section 9-391, or section 9-400, as
1258 amended by this act, or 9-409. The name of each minor party candidate
1259 shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each candidate. The name of
1260 each nominating petition candidate shall appear on the ballot as it is
1261 verified by the town clerk on the application filed under section 9-453b.
1262 The size and style of the type used to print the name of a candidate on a
1263 ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type used to print
1264 the names of all other candidates appearing on such ballot. Such ballot
1265 shall contain the names of the offices and the names of the candidates
1266 arranged thereon. The names of the political parties and party
1267 designations shall be arranged on the ballots and followed by the word
1268 "party", either in columns or horizontal rows as set forth in section 9-
1269 249a, immediately adjacent to the column or row occupied by the
1270 candidate or candidates of such political party or organization. The
1271 ballot shall be printed in such manner as to indicate how many
1272 candidates the elector may vote for each office, provided in the case of a
1273 town adopting the provisions of section 9-204a, such ballot shall indicate
1274 the maximum number of candidates who may be elected to such office
1275 from any party. If two or more candidates are to be elected to the same
1276 office for different terms, the term for which each is nominated shall be
1277 printed on the official ballot as a part of the title of the office. If, at any
1278 election, one candidate is to be elected for a full term and another to fill
1279 a vacancy, the official ballot containing the names of the candidates in
1280 the foregoing order shall, as a part of the title of the office, designate the
1281 term which such candidates are severally nominated to fill. No column,
1282 under the name of any political party or independent organization, shall
1283 be printed on any official ballot, which contains more candidates for any
1284 office than the number for which an elector may vote for that office.

1285 (b) Not later than ten days prior to the commencement of the period
1286 of early voting at an election, the registrars of voters of each
1287 municipality shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting
1288 district in such municipality, the official ballot to be used for such voting
1289 district. No such official ballot shall be used at any election unless it has
1290 been approved by the Secretary of the State.

1291 Sec. 20. Subsection (j) of section 9-437 of the general statutes is
1292 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
1293 *1, 2026*):

1294 (j) (1) All ballots used at a primary shall be prepared by the clerk of
1295 the municipality in which such primary is held and shall be printed at
1296 the expense of the municipality. Not later than ten days prior to the
1297 commencement of the period of early voting at a primary, such clerk
1298 shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting district in such
1299 municipality at which such primary is held, the ballot to be used for
1300 such voting district. No such ballot shall be used at any primary unless
1301 it has been approved by the Secretary of the State.

1302 (2) Each municipality shall provide for all polling places:

1303 [(1)] (A) At least forty-eight hours before the primary, such clerk shall
1304 have sample ballots for general distribution, which shall contain the
1305 offices or positions and names of candidates to be voted upon. Each such
1306 sample ballot shall also include printed instructions approved by the
1307 Secretary of the State concerning the use of the voting tabulator and
1308 information concerning the date of the primary and the hours during
1309 which polling places will be open. Such clerk shall have available for
1310 distribution such number of sample ballots as such clerk deems
1311 advisable, but in no event less than three which shall be posted inside
1312 the polling place so as to be visible to those within the polling place
1313 during the whole day of the primary. At least one of such sample ballots
1314 shall be posted so as to be visible to an elector being instructed on the
1315 demonstrator device, pursuant to section 9-260. If paper ballots are used
1316 in any primary, such sample paper ballots shall be overprinted with the

1317 word "Sample";

1318 [(2)] (B) Instructions on how to cast a provisional ballot, as prescribed
1319 by the Secretary of the State;

1320 [(3)] (C) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters who
1321 register to vote by mail on or after January 1, 2003, as prescribed by the
1322 Secretary of the State;

1323 [(4)] (D) General information concerning voting rights under federal
1324 and Connecticut laws, including information on the right of an
1325 individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how to contact
1326 the appropriate officials if such rights are alleged to have been violated,
1327 as prescribed by the Secretary of the State; and

1328 [(5)] (E) General information on federal and state laws concerning
1329 prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation, as prescribed by
1330 the Secretary of the State.

1331 Sec. 21. Subsection (a) of section 9-135a of the general statutes is
1332 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
1333 *1, 2026*):

1334 (a) Each absentee ballot shall be arranged to resemble the appropriate
1335 ballot and sample ballot as prescribed by law, and shall include, as
1336 applicable, the offices, party designations, names of candidates and
1337 questions to be voted upon and spaces for write-in votes. A replica of
1338 the state seal shall be printed on the ballot. The size, type, form,
1339 instructions, specifications for paper and printing and other
1340 specifications shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the State. Prior to
1341 printing such absentee ballots pursuant to this section, the clerk of the
1342 municipality shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting
1343 district in such municipality, the absentee ballot to be used for such
1344 voting district. No such absentee ballot shall be used at any election or
1345 primary unless it has been approved by the Secretary of the State.

1346 Sec. 22. Section 9-135b of the general statutes is repealed and the

1347 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

1348 (a) Immediately after the deadline for certification of all candidates
1349 whose names are to appear on the ballot, and in sufficient time to begin
1350 issuing absentee ballots on the day prescribed by law, the municipal
1351 clerk shall prepare the absentee ballots and have them printed. Prior to
1352 printing such ballots, the registrars of voters of the municipality may
1353 provide comments concerning the content and form of such ballots to
1354 the clerk, provided no such ballot shall be printed unless the Secretary
1355 of the State has approved of such ballot in accordance with section 9-
1356 135a, as amended by this act.

1357 (b) A layout model of each different absentee ballot shall be available
1358 for public inspection at the clerk's office prior to printing. The model
1359 shall indicate the type face to be used, the spelling and placement of
1360 names and other information to be printed on the ballots.

1361 (c) Immediately upon receiving the printed absentee ballots, the
1362 municipal clerk shall file one with the Secretary of the State or, if there
1363 are different ballots for different political subdivisions, one ballot for
1364 each subdivision. The clerk shall also file his affidavit with the Secretary,
1365 stating the number of ballots printed. The form of affidavit shall be
1366 prescribed by the Secretary. If any correction or alteration is
1367 subsequently made on any absentee ballot the clerk shall immediately
1368 file a corrected or altered ballot and, using the prescribed form, his
1369 affidavit stating the number of such ballots printed, with the Secretary.

1370 (d) If a vacancy in candidacy occurs after the ballots have been
1371 printed, the clerk may either reprint the ballots or cause printed stickers
1372 to be affixed to them so that the name of any candidate who has vacated
1373 his candidacy is deleted and the name of any candidate chosen to fill the
1374 vacancy as provided in section 9-428 or section 9-460 appears in the
1375 same position as that in which the vacated candidacy appeared except
1376 as provided in section 9-426 or 9-453s. If no candidate is chosen to fill
1377 such vacancy as so provided, the clerk shall cause the name of the
1378 candidate whose candidacy has been vacated to be obscured in such

1379 manner that such name is no longer visible.

1380 (e) [The] Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the
1381 Secretary of the State [shall examine each absentee ballot required to be
1382 filed pursuant to this section and if a ballot contains an omission or
1383 error, the Secretary shall order] from ordering the municipal clerk to
1384 reprint a corrected absentee ballot or to take such other action as the
1385 Secretary may deem appropriate in the case of an absentee ballot that
1386 contains an omission or error.

1387 Sec. 23. Section 9-256 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1388 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

1389 [The registrars of voters of each municipality shall, not less than ten
1390 days prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at an
1391 election, file with the Secretary of the State a sample ballot identical with
1392 those to be provided for each polling place under section 9-255. The
1393 Secretary of the State shall examine the sample ballot required to be filed
1394 under this section, and if such sample ballot contains an error, the
1395 Secretary of the State shall order] Notwithstanding the provisions of
1396 subsection (b) of section 9-250, as amended by this act, the Secretary of
1397 the State may order the registrars of voters to reprint a corrected
1398 [sample] ballot or to take other such action as the Secretary may deem
1399 appropriate in the case of any ballot that contains an omission or error.

1400 Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 9-140b of the general statutes is
1401 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
1402 *passage*):

1403 (a) An absentee ballot shall be cast at a primary, election or
1404 referendum only if: (1) It is mailed by (A) the ballot applicant, (B) a
1405 designee of a person who applies for an absentee ballot because of
1406 illness or physical disability, or (C) a member of the immediate family
1407 of an applicant who is a student, so that it is received by the clerk of the
1408 municipality in which the applicant is qualified to vote not later than the
1409 close of the polls; (2) it is returned by the applicant in person to the clerk

1410 by the day before [a regular election, special] the election or primary or
1411 prior to the opening of the polls on the day of [a] the referendum; (3) it
1412 is returned by a designee of an ill or physically disabled ballot applicant,
1413 in person, to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of
1414 the election, primary or referendum; (4) it is returned by a member of
1415 the immediate family of the absentee voter, in person, to said clerk not
1416 later than the close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or
1417 referendum; (5) in the case of a presidential or overseas ballot, it is
1418 mailed or otherwise returned pursuant to the provisions of section 9-
1419 158g; or (6) it is returned with the proper identification as required by
1420 the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time,
1421 if applicable, inserted in the outer envelope so such identification can be
1422 viewed without opening the inner envelope. A person returning an
1423 absentee ballot to the municipal clerk pursuant to subdivision (3) or (4)
1424 of this subsection shall present identification and, on the outer envelope
1425 of the absentee ballot, sign his name in the presence of the municipal
1426 clerk, and indicate his address, his relationship to the voter or his
1427 position, and the date and time of such return. As used in this section,
1428 "immediate family" means a dependent relative who resides in the
1429 individual's household or any spouse, child, parent or sibling of the
1430 individual.

1431 Sec. 25. Section 9-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1432 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1433 (a) The Secretary of the State, by virtue of the office, shall be the
1434 Commissioner of Elections of the state, with such powers and duties
1435 relating to the conduct of elections as are prescribed by law and, unless
1436 otherwise provided by state statute, the Secretary's regulations,
1437 declaratory rulings, instructions and opinions, if in written form, and
1438 any order issued under subsection (b) of this section, shall be presumed
1439 as correctly interpreting and effectuating the administration of elections
1440 and primaries under this title, except for chapters 155 to 158, inclusive,
1441 and shall be executed, carried out or implemented, as the case may be,
1442 provided nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the right of

1443 appeal provided under the provisions of chapter 54. Any such written
1444 instruction or opinion shall be labeled as an instruction or opinion
1445 issued pursuant to this section, as applicable, and any such instruction
1446 or opinion shall cite any authority that is discussed in such instruction
1447 or opinion.

1448 (b) During any municipal, state or federal election, primary or
1449 recanvass, or any audit conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, the
1450 Secretary of the State may issue an order, whether orally or in writing,
1451 to any registrar of voters or moderator to correct any irregularity or
1452 impropriety in the conduct of such election, primary or recanvass or
1453 audit. Any such order shall be effective upon issuance. As soon as
1454 practicable after issuance of an oral order pursuant to this subsection,
1455 the Secretary shall reduce such order to writing, cite within such order
1456 any applicable provision of law authorizing such order and cause a copy
1457 of such written order to be delivered to the individual who is the subject
1458 of such order or, in the case that such order was originally issued in
1459 writing, issue a subsequent written order that conforms to such
1460 requirements. The Superior Court, on application of the Secretary or the
1461 Attorney General, may enforce by appropriate decree or process any
1462 such order issued pursuant to this subsection.

1463 (c) Whenever, during the ninety days preceding the day of an election
1464 or primary, one or more electors have alleged aggrievement under this
1465 title, the Secretary of the State may commence a declaratory judgment
1466 action under section 52-29 for a determination as to whether such elector
1467 or electors have been so aggrieved and for an order to ensure election
1468 administration procedures are properly executed and electors' rights are
1469 adequately protected under this title.

1470 Sec. 26. Subsection (d) of section 9-150a of the general statutes is
1471 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1472 *2026*):

1473 (d) (1) If the statement on the inner envelope has not been signed as
1474 required by section 9-140a, such inner envelope shall not be opened or

1475 the ballot removed therefrom, and such inner envelope shall be replaced
1476 in the opened outer envelope which shall be marked "Rejected" and the
1477 reason therefor endorsed thereon by the counters. The moderator shall
1478 maintain a log of each absentee ballot applicant whose ballot was
1479 marked "Rejected" under this subdivision and include thereon for each
1480 such applicant the reason for the rejection. The moderator shall transmit
1481 such log to the Secretary of the State at the same time and in the same
1482 manner as the duplicate list to be transmitted to the Secretary by
1483 electronic means in accordance with section 9-314.

1484 (2) If such statement is signed but the individual completing the
1485 ballot is an individual described in subsection (a) of section 9-23r and
1486 has not met the requirements of subsection (e) of section 9-23r, the
1487 counters shall replace the ballot in the opened inner envelope, replace
1488 the inner envelope in the opened outer envelope and mark "Rejected as
1489 an Absentee Ballot" and endorse the reason for such rejection on the
1490 outer envelope, and the ballot shall be treated as a provisional ballot for
1491 federal offices only, pursuant to sections 9-232i to 9-232o, inclusive. The
1492 moderator shall maintain a log of each absentee ballot applicant whose
1493 ballot was marked "Rejected as an Absentee Ballot" under this
1494 subdivision and include thereon for each such applicant the reason for
1495 the rejection. The moderator shall transmit such log to the Secretary of
1496 the State at the same time and in the same manner as the duplicate list
1497 to be transmitted to the Secretary by electronic means in accordance
1498 with section 9-314.

1499 Sec. 27. Subsection (a) of section 9-311 of the general statutes is
1500 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
1501 *1, 2026*):

1502 (a) If, within three days after an election, it appears to the moderator
1503 that there is a discrepancy in the returns of any voting district, such
1504 moderator shall forthwith within said period summon, by written
1505 notice delivered personally, the recanvass officials, consisting of at least
1506 two checkers of different political parties and at least two absentee ballot
1507 counters of different political parties who served at such election, and

1508 the registrars of voters of the municipality in which the election was
1509 held and such other officials as may be required to conduct such
1510 recanvass. Such written notice shall require the clerk or registrars of
1511 voters, as the case may be, to bring with them the depository envelopes
1512 required by section 9-150a, as amended by this act, the package of write-
1513 in ballots provided for in section 9-310, the absentee ballot applications,
1514 the list of absentee ballot applications, the registry list and the
1515 moderators' returns and shall require such recanvass officials to meet at
1516 a specified time not later than the fifth business day after such election
1517 to recanvass the returns of [a] each voting tabulator [or voting tabulators
1518 or] and all absentee ballots [or] and write-in ballots used in [such
1519 district] the municipality in such election. If any of such recanvass
1520 officials are unavailable at the time of the recanvass, the registrar of
1521 voters of the same political party as that of the recanvass official unable
1522 to attend shall designate another elector having previous training and
1523 experience in the conduct of elections to take his place. Before such
1524 recanvass is made, such moderator shall give notice, in writing, to the
1525 chairperson of the town committee of each political party which
1526 nominated candidates for the election, and, in the case of a state election,
1527 not later than twenty-four hours after a determination is made
1528 regarding the need for a recanvass to the Secretary of the State, of the
1529 time and place where such recanvass is to be made; and each such
1530 chairperson may send party representatives to be present at such
1531 recanvass. Such party representatives may observe, but no one other
1532 than a recanvass official may take part in the recanvass. If any
1533 irregularity in the recanvass procedure is noted by such a party
1534 representative, he shall be permitted to present evidence of such
1535 irregularity in any contest relating to the election.

1536 Sec. 28. Subsection (d) of section 9-311 of the general statutes is
1537 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
1538 *1, 2026*):

1539 (d) (1) The moderator may, when any disorder arises that interferes
1540 with the conduct of a recanvass, including any attempt by a person other

1541 than a recanvass official to take part in such recanvass or by such a
 1542 person to communicate with a recanvass official, [other than the
 1543 moderator,] and the offender refuses to submit to the moderator's lawful
 1544 authority, order that the offender be removed by the recanvass officials
 1545 from such recanvass until the offender conforms to order or, if need be,
 1546 until such recanvass is completed.

1547 (2) Each political party or, in the case of an office subject to recanvass
 1548 for which there is more than one candidate from a political party, each
 1549 candidate may appoint one representative to communicate directly with
 1550 the moderator during a recanvass."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2025	9-163aa
Sec. 2	July 1, 2025	9-163bb
Sec. 3	July 1, 2025	9-19j
Sec. 4	July 1, 2025	9-228a
Sec. 5	January 1, 2026	9-56
Sec. 6	January 1, 2026	9-229(d)
Sec. 7	January 1, 2026	9-169
Sec. 8	from passage	9-322a
Sec. 9	from passage	New section
Sec. 10	January 1, 2026	9-388
Sec. 11	January 1, 2026	9-391(c)
Sec. 12	January 1, 2026	9-400
Sec. 13	January 1, 2026	9-452
Sec. 14	from passage	9-404b(d)
Sec. 15	from passage	9-410(c)
Sec. 16	from passage	9-453e
Sec. 17	from passage	9-453j
Sec. 18	from passage	9-140(k)
Sec. 19	January 1, 2026	9-250
Sec. 20	January 1, 2026	9-437(j)
Sec. 21	January 1, 2026	9-135a(a)
Sec. 22	January 1, 2026	9-135b
Sec. 23	January 1, 2026	9-256
Sec. 24	from passage	9-140b(a)

Sec. 25	<i>from passage</i>	9-3
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	9-150a(d)
Sec. 27	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-311(a)
Sec. 28	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-311(d)