



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10627



Offered by:
SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **7228**

File No. 693

Cal. No.

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

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

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Any candidate who (1) claims
4 that such candidate is aggrieved by any ruling of any election official in
5 connection with any election for state senator or state representative, or
6 that there has been a mistake in the count of the votes cast at such
7 election for a candidate for such office, or that such candidate is
8 aggrieved by a violation of any provision of section 9-355, sections 9-357
9 to 9-361, inclusive, section 9-364, 9-364a or 9-365 of the general statutes
10 in the casting of absentee ballots at such election, or that such candidate
11 is aggrieved by a violation of any provision of sections 9-700 to 9-716,
12 inclusive, of the general statutes, and (2) notifies the clerk of the Senate
13 or the House of Representatives, as applicable, that such candidate
14 contests the results of the election for such candidate's district, may
15 bring such candidate's complaint to any judge of the Superior Court, in

16 which such candidate shall set out the claimed errors of such election
17 official, the claimed errors in the count or the claimed violations of said
18 sections. In any action brought pursuant to the provisions of this section,
19 the complainant shall send a copy of the complaint by first-class mail,
20 or deliver a copy of the complaint by hand, to the State Elections
21 Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made prior to such
22 election, such judge shall proceed expeditiously to render judgment on
23 the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing to be given to the
24 Secretary of the State and the State Elections Enforcement Commission.
25 If such complaint is made subsequent to the election, it shall be brought
26 not later than fourteen days after the election or, if such complaint is
27 brought in response to the manual tabulation of paper ballots
28 authorized pursuant to section 9-320f of the general statutes, such
29 complaint shall be brought not later than seven days after the close of
30 any such manual tabulation and, in either such circumstance, such judge
31 shall forthwith order a hearing to be had upon such complaint, upon a
32 day not more than five nor less than three days from the making of such
33 order, and shall cause notice of not less than three nor more than five
34 days to be given to any candidate or candidates whose election may be
35 affected by the decision upon such hearing, to such election official, the
36 Secretary of the State, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and
37 to any other party or parties whom such judge deems proper parties
38 thereto, of the time and place for the hearing upon such complaint. Such
39 judge shall, on the day fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary
40 delay, proceed to hear the parties. Such judge shall thereupon, in case
41 such judge finds any error in the rulings of the election official, any
42 mistake in the count of the votes or any violation of said sections, issue
43 the decision of such judge's findings to the Secretary of the State before
44 the fifteenth day of the next succeeding December. Such judge may
45 enjoin the Secretary of the State from certifying the results of such
46 election for state senator or state representative, and such injunction
47 shall remain in effect until the Senate or the House of Representatives,
48 as applicable, resolves the contested election in accordance with section
49 7 of article third of the state Constitution. Such judge's decision shall be
50 final and conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the rulings

51 of such election officials, to the correctness of such count, and, for the
52 purposes of this section only, such claimed violations, unless the same
53 is appealed from as provided in section 9-325 of the general statutes."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>from passage</i>	New section