



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 6013



Offered by:

SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.
SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.
SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd Dist.
SEN. FAZIO, 36th Dist.
SEN. PERILLO J., 21st Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5001

File No. 725

Cal. No. 460

"AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL AND VARIOUS OTHER REFORMS RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS."

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

3 "Sec. 501. Subsection (b) of section 9-163aa of the 2026 supplement to
4 the general statutes, as amended by section 69 of public act 26-1, is
5 amended by adding subdivision (6) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

6 (NEW) (6) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (5),
7 inclusive, of this subsection, the registrars of voters of each municipality
8 shall designate as many locations for the conduct of early voting as
9 necessary to reasonably ensure that during the period of early voting
10 the time an elector spends in line to vote at any such location will likely
11 not exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such registrars designate

12 fewer than one such location.

13 Sec. 502. Section 9-168 of the general statutes is repealed and the
14 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

15 In any town not divided into voting districts, [the place of holding
16 elections may be determined by] the legislative body of such town shall
17 designate as many places for holding elections as necessary to
18 reasonably ensure that the time an elector spends in line to vote at any
19 such place will likely not exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such
20 legislative body designate fewer than one such place. In towns divided
21 into voting districts the place of holding elections shall be determined
22 as provided in section 9-169, as amended by this act, [or any special act,
23 whichever applies] notwithstanding the provisions of any special act.
24 Except as provided in section 9-169a, state elections shall be held at the
25 usual place or places of holding elections in the town or the voting
26 districts thereof, as the case may be, unless the registrars of voters, in
27 writing, have designated to the clerk of such town, at least thirty-one
28 days before any such state election, a different place or places for
29 holding such election. [Unless otherwise provided by special act, the
30 place of holding city or borough elections shall be determined by]
31 Notwithstanding any provision of any special act, in any city or
32 borough, the legislative body of such city or borough shall designate as
33 many places for holding elections as necessary to reasonably ensure that
34 the time an elector spends in line to vote at any such place will likely not
35 exceed thirty minutes, but in no case shall such legislative body
36 designate fewer than one such place. Any provision of any charter or
37 special act to the contrary notwithstanding, the place or places of
38 holding an election shall be determined at least thirty-one days prior to
39 such election, and such place or places shall not be changed within the
40 period of thirty-one days prior to such election except that, if the
41 municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously
42 find that any such polling place within such municipality has been
43 rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith designate
44 another polling place to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable

45 and shall give adequate notice that such polling place has been so
46 changed.

47 Sec. 503. Section 9-169 of the general statutes, as amended by section
48 76 of public act 26-1, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
49 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

50 The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or
51 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time,
52 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of voters
53 of any municipality taking such action shall [provide a suitable polling
54 place in each district but,] designate in each voting district as many
55 polling places as necessary to reasonably ensure that the time an elector
56 spends in line to vote at any such polling place will likely not exceed
57 thirty minutes, but in no case shall such registrars designate in each
58 district fewer than one such polling place, except that, if the registrars
59 fail to agree as to the location of any polling place or places, the
60 legislative body shall determine the location thereof. Polling places to
61 be used in an election shall be determined at least thirty-one days before
62 such election, and such polling places shall not be changed within said
63 period of thirty-one days except that, if the municipal clerk and
64 registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously find that any such
65 polling place within such municipality has been rendered unusable
66 within such period, they shall forthwith designate another polling place
67 to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable and shall give
68 adequate notice that such polling place has been so changed. The
69 registrars of voters shall keep separate lists of the electors residing in
70 each district and shall appoint for each district a moderator in
71 accordance with the provisions of section 9-229, as amended by [this act]
72 public act 26-1, and such other election officials as are required by law,
73 and shall designate one of the moderators so appointed or any other
74 elector of such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of
75 declaring the results of elections in the whole municipality, except that
76 the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has, in a
77 court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo

78 contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny,
79 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. The
80 registrars may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the
81 head moderator in the performance of his duties provided the deputy
82 head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled in the
83 same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372. The
84 selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and all other officers of the
85 municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with
86 respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance with
87 this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn by a municipality so
88 as to conflict with the lines of congressional districts, senate districts or
89 assembly districts as established by law, except (A) as provided in
90 section 9-169d, and (B) that as to municipal elections, any part of a split
91 voting district containing less than two hundred electors may be
92 combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from which all
93 and the same officers are elected at such municipal election. Any change
94 in the boundaries of voting districts made within ninety days prior to
95 any election or primary shall not apply with respect to such election or
96 primary. The provisions of this section shall prevail over any contrary
97 provision of any charter or special act."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	9-163aa(b)(6)
Sec. 502	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	9-168
Sec. 503	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	9-169