



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 6023



Offered by:

SEN. HARDING, 30<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. MARTIN, 31<sup>st</sup> Dist.  
SEN. SAMPSON, 16<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. BERTHEL, 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

SEN. FAZIO, 36<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. GORDON, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. PERILLO J., 21<sup>st</sup> 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. (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, as amended by this act, or 9-  
10 365 of the general statutes in the casting of absentee ballots at such  
11 election, or that such candidate is aggrieved by a violation of any  
12 provision of sections 9-700 to 9-716, inclusive, of the general statutes,

13 and (2) notifies the clerk of the Senate or the House of Representatives,  
14 as applicable, that such candidate contests the results of the election for  
15 such candidate's district, may bring such candidate's complaint to any  
16 judge of the Superior Court, in which such candidate shall set out the  
17 claimed errors of such election official, the claimed errors in the count  
18 or the claimed violations of said sections. In any action brought  
19 pursuant to the provisions of this section, the complainant shall send a  
20 copy of the complaint by first-class mail, or deliver a copy of the  
21 complaint by hand, to the State Elections Enforcement Commission. If  
22 such complaint is made prior to such election, such judge shall proceed  
23 expeditiously to render judgment on the complaint and shall cause  
24 notice of the hearing to be given to the Secretary of the State and the  
25 State Elections Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made  
26 subsequent to the election, it shall be brought not later than fourteen  
27 days after the election or, if such complaint is brought in response to the  
28 manual tabulation of paper ballots authorized pursuant to section 9-320f  
29 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, such complaint shall be  
30 brought not later than seven days after the close of any such manual  
31 tabulation and, in either such circumstance, such judge shall forthwith  
32 order a hearing to be had upon such complaint, upon a day not more  
33 than five nor less than three days from the making of such order, and  
34 shall cause notice of not less than three nor more than five days to be  
35 given to any candidate or candidates whose election may be affected by  
36 the decision upon such hearing, to such election official, the Secretary of  
37 the State, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and to any other  
38 party or parties whom such judge deems proper parties thereto, of the  
39 time and place for the hearing upon such complaint. Such judge shall,  
40 on the day fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary delay,  
41 proceed to hear the parties. Such judge shall thereupon, in case such  
42 judge finds any error in the rulings of the election official, any mistake  
43 in the count of the votes or any violation of said sections, issue the  
44 decision of such judge's findings to the Secretary of the State before the  
45 fifteenth day of the next succeeding December. Such judge may enjoin  
46 the Secretary of the State from certifying the results of such election for  
47 state senator or state representative, and such injunction shall remain in

48 effect until the Senate or the House of Representatives, as applicable,  
49 resolves the contested election in accordance with section 7 of article  
50 third of the state Constitution. Such judge's decision shall be final and  
51 conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the rulings of such  
52 election officials, to the correctness of such count, and, for the purposes  
53 of this section only, such claimed violations, unless the same is appealed  
54 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