



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 5486

LCO No. 1162

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and
Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN ELECTION PROCEDURES
RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND CONGRESSIONAL
REDISTRICTING.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

3 (a) The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or
4 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time,
5 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of
6 voters of any municipality taking such action shall provide a suitable
7 polling place in each district but, if the registrars fail to agree as to the
8 location of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall
9 determine the location thereof. Polling places to be used in an election
10 shall be determined at least thirty-one days before such election, and
11 such polling places shall not be changed within said period of thirty-
12 one days except that, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a
13 municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such
14 municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they

15 shall forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of
16 the one so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such
17 polling place has been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep
18 separate lists of the electors residing in each district and shall appoint
19 for each district a moderator in accordance with the provisions of
20 section 9-229 and such other election officials as are required by law,
21 and shall designate one of the moderators so appointed or any other
22 elector of such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of
23 declaring the results of elections in the whole municipality. The
24 registrars may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the
25 head moderator in the performance of his duties provided the deputy
26 head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled in the
27 same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372. The
28 selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and all other officers of the
29 municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with
30 respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance
31 with this section.

32 (b) [Voting] No municipality shall draw voting district lines [shall
33 not be drawn by a municipality so as to] that conflict with the lines of
34 congressional districts, senate districts or assembly districts as
35 established by law, except (1) as provided in section 9-169d, and (2)
36 that as to municipal elections, any part of a split voting district
37 containing less than two hundred electors may be combined with
38 another voting district adjacent thereto from which all and the same
39 officers are elected at such municipal election. No municipality shall
40 draw voting district lines that conflict with the lines of census blocks
41 delineated by the United States Bureau of the Census in the most
42 recent decennial census of the United States.

43 (c) Any change in the boundaries of voting districts made within
44 ninety days prior to any election or primary shall not apply with
45 respect to such election or primary. The provisions of this section shall
46 prevail over any contrary provision of any charter or special act.

47 Sec. 2. Section 9-169g of the general statutes is repealed and the
48 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

49 (a) The town clerk of any municipality (1) which is divided between
50 two or more assembly districts, two or more senatorial districts or two
51 or more congressional districts, or (2) which is not divided between
52 any such districts but is divided into two or more voting districts for
53 General Assembly or congressional elections, shall submit to the
54 Secretary of the State a street map of the municipality which indicates
55 the boundary lines of the voting districts established by the
56 municipality in accordance with sections 9-169, 9-169a and 9-169d. The
57 town clerk shall submit such map to the secretary [(A) not later than
58 July 30, 1997, if any such division is in effect on July 1, 1997, or, if no
59 such division is in effect on July 1, 1997,] (A) not later than thirty days
60 after any such division first takes effect, and (B) not later than thirty
61 days after any change in any such division takes effect. The Secretary
62 of the State shall be responsible for ensuring that town clerks comply
63 with the provisions of this subsection.

64 (b) The Secretary of the State shall make such maps available to the
65 General Assembly, for use by the General Assembly in carrying out its
66 responsibilities under (1) Article XXVI of the Amendments to the
67 Constitution of Connecticut, or any subsequent corresponding state
68 constitutional provision, with regard to the redistricting of assembly,
69 senatorial and congressional districts, and (2) Public Law 94-171,
70 concerning the establishment of a plan identifying the geographic
71 areas for which specific tabulations of population are desired in the
72 decennial census of the United States.

73 Sec. 3. Section 9-314 of the general statutes is repealed and the
74 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

75 (a) The moderator of each state election in each town not divided
76 into voting districts, and the head moderator in each town divided into
77 voting districts, and the town clerk of each such town, shall jointly
78 make out a [duplicate] list of the votes given in [his] said town for

79 each of the following officers: Presidential electors, Governor,
80 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller,
81 Attorney General, United States senator, representative in Congress,
82 state senator, judge of probate, state representative and registrars of
83 voters when said officers are to be chosen. Included in said list shall be
84 a statement of the total number of names on the official check list of
85 such town and the total number checked as having voted. [The
86 moderator or head moderator, as the case may be,] If the town is
87 divided into voting districts, the head moderator and the town clerk
88 shall also include in said list a breakdown of such election data for
89 each voting district. The moderator or head moderator and the town
90 clerk (1) shall prepare the list on a form prescribed by the Secretary of
91 the State, which shall provide for the data to be presented in a tabular
92 format, and (2) may transmit [such] said list to the Secretary of the
93 State electronically or by facsimile machine, provided [the moderator]
94 said officials shall also deliver [one of such lists] said list by hand in
95 accordance with the provisions of this section. [One of such lists he]
96 Said officials shall seal and deliver the list by hand either [(1)] (A) to
97 the Secretary of the State not later than six o'clock p.m. of the day after
98 the election, or [(2)] (B) to the state police not later than four o'clock
99 p.m. of the day after the election, in which case the state police shall
100 deliver it by hand to the Secretary of the State not later than six o'clock
101 p.m. of the day after the election. Any [such moderator or head
102 moderator, as the case may be,] moderator, head moderator or town
103 clerk who fails to so deliver [such] said list to either the Secretary of the
104 State or the state police by the time required shall pay a late filing fee
105 of fifty dollars. [The other of such lists he shall deliver to the clerk of
106 such town on or before the day after such election.] In the event of a
107 recanvass under section 9-311 or 9-311a, the moderator or head
108 moderator and the town clerk shall deliver any revisions to said list to
109 the Secretary of the State not later than the day after the completion of
110 said recanvass. The Secretary of the State shall enter the returns in
111 tabular form in books kept by [him] the secretary for that purpose and
112 present a printed report of the same, with the name of, and the total

113 number of votes received by, each of the candidates for said offices,
114 including a breakdown of such election data for each voting district for
115 any town divided into voting districts, to the General Assembly at its
116 next session. The Secretary of the State shall also examine the lists
117 transmitted under this subsection in a sampling of towns which are
118 divided into voting districts, to determine whether there are any
119 discrepancies within any said list between the total number of votes
120 cast for a candidate at such election in a town and the sum of the votes
121 cast for the same candidate in all voting districts in said town. In the
122 case of any such discrepancy, the Secretary of the State shall notify the
123 head moderator and the town clerk, and said officials shall transmit a
124 correction to the Secretary of the State. The Secretary of the State shall
125 retain each list transmitted under this subsection for not less than ten
126 years after the date of the election for which it was transmitted.

127 (b) The moderator of each municipal election in each town not
128 divided into voting districts, and the head moderator in each town
129 divided into voting districts shall forthwith transmit to the Secretary of
130 the State the results of the vote for each office contested at such
131 election. Such moderator or head moderator shall include in such
132 return a statement of the total number of names on the official check
133 list of such town and the total number checked as having voted. Such
134 return shall be on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State.

135 Sec. 4. Section 9-375b of the general statutes is repealed and the
136 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

137 Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9-374 and 9-375, during
138 the second calendar year following the year in which the decennial
139 census of the United States is taken, (1) any amendments of the state
140 rules of a particular party necessitated by redistricting may be made
141 [in 1992] by a majority vote of the members of the state central
142 committee of such party voting thereon at a meeting called for the
143 purpose of considering such amendments, and (2) any amendments of
144 the local rules of a particular party necessitated by redistricting may be

145 made [in 1992] by a majority vote of the members of the town
146 committee of such party voting thereon at a meeting called for the
147 purpose of considering such amendments. [, and any] Any such
148 [amendment] amendments shall be effective upon the filing of a copy
149 thereof in the office of the Secretary of the State by the chairman or
150 vice-chairman of such political party.

151 Sec. 5. (*Effective October 1, 2002*) Section 9-322a of the general statutes
152 is repealed.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2002</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To make minor changes in certain election procedures to facilitate the conduct and implementation of legislative redistricting.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]