



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 349

February Session, 2004

Substitute House Bill No. 5592

House of Representatives, March 30, 2004

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. O'ROURKE of the 32nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SEPARATE LOCATION IN A MUNICIPALITY FOR PRESIDENTIAL BALLOTING.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 9-158c of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2004*):

4 (a) (1) Not earlier than forty-five days before the election and not
5 later than the close of the polls on election day, each resident, or
6 former resident who desires to vote in a presidential election under
7 sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, may apply for a "presidential
8 ballot" to the municipal clerk of the town in which he is qualified to
9 vote on the form prescribed in section 9-158d. Application for a
10 "presidential ballot" may be made in person or absentee, in the manner
11 provided for applying for an absentee ballot under section 9-140,
12 except as provided in said sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive.

13 (2) A municipal clerk shall have the authority to designate a location
 14 in a municipal facility for the distribution, completion and processing
 15 of presidential ballot applications and the distribution, casting and
 16 return of presidential ballots under sections 9-158a to 9-158m,
 17 inclusive, on election day. Such municipal clerk may appoint one or
 18 more presidential ballot assistants to serve at such location, may
 19 delegate to such assistants any of the responsibilities assigned to
 20 municipal clerks under said sections, and shall train and supervise
 21 such presidential ballot assistants.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	July 1, 2004

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which gives municipal clerks the authority to designate a location in a municipal facility for distributing, casting, and returning presidential ballots on Election Day, will have no impact on the state or municipalities.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5592

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SEPARATE LOCATION IN A MUNICIPALITY FOR PRESIDENTIAL BALLOTING**SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes municipal clerk to designate a location in a municipal facility for distributing, completing, and processing presidential ballot applications and distributing, casting, and returning presidential ballots on Election Day. The clerk may appoint one or more presidential ballot assistants to serve at the location and delegate to these assistants, whom they must train and supervise, any of the responsibilities the presidential ballot statutes assign to municipal clerks.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2004

BACKGROUND***Presidential Ballots***

The federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 USC § 1973aa-1) requires states to provide by law for those otherwise qualified to vote who fail to meet a residency requirement to vote in an election for U. S. president and vice-president. The presidential ballot is available to Connecticut residents who are not registered voters and former residents who have moved within 30 days before the election, and it allows them to vote for president and vice president only.

Related Bill

sSB 20 (File 29), which the Government Administration and Elections Committee favorably reported on February 20, allows voters to register on the day of an election and removes a provision for Connecticut residents to vote by presidential ballot, leaving the procedure in place only for former state residents.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17 Nay 0