



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Amendment

LCO No. 3871

SB0002003871SR0

Offered by:

SEN. RORABACK, 30th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 20

File No. 29

Cal. No. 84

**"AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTION DAY VOTER
REGISTRATION."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 9-158c of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
5 *1, 2004*):

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

16 resident or former resident applying for a "presidential ballot" in
17 person shall present to the clerk the resident's or former resident's
18 Social Security card or any other preprinted form of identification
19 which shows the name and the address, signature or photograph of the
20 resident or former resident.

21 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 9-158d of the general statutes is
22 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
23 *1, 2004*):

24 (a) The application for a presidential ballot shall be [a form signed in
25 duplicate by the applicant under penalty of false statement in absentee
26 balloting, which] in the form of an affidavit executed in duplicate, and
27 sworn to or affirmed before an officer authorized to administer oaths,
28 and shall provide substantially as follows:

29 To the Town Clerk of the Town of Connecticut

30 I, the undersigned, [declare under penalty of false statement in
31 absentee balloting] swear or affirm that the following statements are
32 true:

33 1. I am a citizen of the United States.

34 2. I have not forfeited my electoral privileges because of conviction
35 of a disfranchising crime.

36 3. I was born on, and on the day of the next presidential election,
37 I shall be at least 18 years of age. Check and complete 4 or 5, whichever
38 applies:

39 4. RESIDENT. I am a bona fide resident of the above town, to which
40 I am making this application, and I reside at Street. I moved to said
41 town on the day of, 20... Before becoming a resident of said town,
42 I resided at Street, in the Town of County of, State of

43 5. FORMER RESIDENT. I am a former resident of the above town,
44 to which I am making this application, and resided at Street therein.

45 I moved from such town to my present town of residence on the ...
46 day of ..., 20., being within thirty days before the date of the next
47 presidential election, and for that reason I cannot register to vote in
48 said presidential election in my present town of residence. I am now a
49 bona fide resident of the Town of ..., in the state of ..., now residing at
50 ... Street therein.

51 6. I hereby apply for a "presidential ballot" for the election to be held
52 on ..., 20... I have not voted and will not vote otherwise than by this
53 ballot at that election. I am not eligible to vote for electors of President
54 and Vice-President in any other town in Connecticut or in any other
55 state.

56 7. The said ballot is to be given to me personally mailed to me at
57 ... (bona fide mailing address)

58 Dated at ..., this ... day of ... 20...

59 ... (Signature of applicant)

60 Subscribed and sworn to or affirmed before me this ... day of ...
61 20...

62 ... (Signature and title of officer administering oath)

63 The oath administered in connection with any such application may
64 be administered by any officer empowered to administer oaths under
65 section 1-24, as amended, or any officer empowered to administer
66 oaths under the laws of any state or by any commissioned officer in the
67 armed forces, or any consul, vice consul or deputy consul representing
68 the United States in a foreign country, and shall be attested by such
69 officer over the officer's signature and title or statement of rank.

70 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 9-158e of the general statutes is
71 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
72 *1, 2004*):

73 (a) Upon receipt of an application for a presidential ballot under
74 sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, and after checking the preprinted
75 form of identification presented by an applicant who applies in person,
76 the clerk, if satisfied that the application is proper and that the
77 applicant is qualified to vote under said sections, shall forthwith give
78 or mail to the applicant, as the case may be, a ballot for presidential
79 and vice-presidential electors for use at the election and instructions
80 and envelopes for its return. If the applicant has sworn on the
81 application that the applicant is a Connecticut resident, the clerk shall
82 include with the presidential ballot an application for admission as an
83 elector under section 9-23g, as amended, and shall notify the applicant
84 that the applicant may cast said presidential ballot only if the applicant
85 completes the application for admission as an elector and returns it to
86 the clerk with the completed presidential ballot. At such time the
87 clerks shall also mail a duplicate of the application for a presidential
88 ballot to the appropriate official of (1) the state or the town in this state
89 in which the applicant last resided in the case of an applicant who is a
90 resident, or (2) the state or the town in this state in which the applicant
91 now resides in the case of an applicant who is a former resident.

92 Sec. 4. Section 9-158g of the general statutes is repealed and the
93 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2004*):

94 The voter shall sign the certification upon the inner envelope,
95 securely seal it, enclose it in an outer serially-numbered envelope, and
96 return it to the municipal clerk of the town in which [he] the voter is
97 qualified to vote. The clerk shall keep it in [his] the clerk's office until
98 delivered by [him] the clerk to the registrars of voters at the same time
99 and in the same manner as is provided for absentee ballots. If the ballot
100 is returned by a person other than the voter or the United States Postal
101 Service, the person delivering the ballot shall sign [his] the person's
102 name and address and the date and time of its delivery on the outer
103 envelope in the clerk's presence. The ballot, to be cast, shall be returned
104 so that it is received by the town clerk not later than the close of the
105 polls on the day of the election. If the applicant is a Connecticut
106 resident and the ballot is not accompanied by a completed application

107 for admission as an elector under section 9-23g, as amended, the clerk
 108 shall endorse on the face of said outer envelope the word "rejected"
 109 and the ballot shall not be counted. If the applicant returns the ballot in
 110 person, the applicant shall present to the clerk the applicant's Social
 111 Security card or any other preprinted form of identification which
 112 shows the name and the address, signature or photograph of the
 113 applicant.

114 Sec. 5. Subsection (y) of section 9-1 of the general statutes is repealed
 115 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2004*):

116 (y) "The last session for admission of electors prior to an election"
 117 means the day which is the [fourteenth] seventh day prior to an
 118 election.

119 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 9-17 of the general statutes is
 120 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 121 *1, 2004*):

122 (a) For the purposes of this section, "primary day" means the day
 123 that a primary for state, district and municipal offices is being held in
 124 accordance with section 9-423, as amended, and "election day" means
 125 the day of each regular election. (1) The registrars of voters of each
 126 town shall hold sessions to examine the qualifications of electors and
 127 admit those found qualified on the dates and at the times set forth in
 128 this section. Such sessions shall be held on the following days during
 129 the hours indicated, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this
 130 subsection:

T1	Day	Hours
T2	Fourteenth day	
T3	before primary day	any two hours between
T4		5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
T5	Saturday of third week	
T6	before election day	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

T7 [Fourteenth] seventh day
T8 before election day 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

131 The session of the registrars of voters on the [fourteenth] seventh
132 day before election day shall be the last regular session for the
133 admission of electors prior to an election, as defined in subsection (y)
134 of section 9-1. (2) No town having a population of less than twenty-five
135 thousand persons shall be required to hold sessions for admission of
136 electors on the fourteenth day before primary day.

137 Sec. 7. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 9-23g of the general statutes
138 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
139 *July 1, 2004*):

140 (c) Forthwith upon receipt of a registration application in the office
141 of the registrars of voters, the registrar shall mark such date on the
142 application and review the application to determine whether the
143 applicant has properly completed it and is legally qualified to register.
144 Forthwith upon completing his review, the registrar shall (1) indicate
145 on the application whether the application has been accepted or
146 rejected, (2) mail a notice to the applicant, (3) indicate on the
147 application the date on which such notice is mailed, and (4) provide a
148 copy of such notice to the other registrar. If the registrar determines
149 that the applicant has not properly completed the application or is not
150 legally qualified to register, the notice shall indicate that the
151 application has been rejected and shall state the reason for rejection. If
152 the registrar determines that the applicant has properly completed the
153 application and is legally qualified to register, the notice shall indicate
154 that the application has been accepted. A notice of acceptance or a
155 notice of rejection shall be sent (A) within four days of receipt of an
156 application during the period beginning on the forty-ninth day before
157 an election and ending on the twenty-first day before such election, (B)
158 on the day of receipt of an application if it is received (i) during the
159 period beginning on the twentieth day before such election and ending
160 on the [fourteenth] seventh day before such election, (ii) during the

161 period beginning on the [thirteenth] sixth day before an election and
162 ending on election day if the application has been received by the
163 [fourteenth] seventh day before an election by the Commissioner of
164 Motor Vehicles or by a voter registration agency, (iii) during the period
165 beginning on the twenty-first day before a primary and ending on the
166 fifth day before a primary, or (iv) during the period beginning on the
167 fourth day before a primary and ending at twelve o'clock noon on the
168 last weekday before a primary, if the application has been postmarked
169 by the fifth day before the primary and is received in the office of the
170 registrars of voters during such period or if the application is received
171 by the fifth day before a primary by the Commissioner of Motor
172 Vehicles or by a voter registration agency, and (C) within ten days of
173 receipt of an application at any other time. A notice of acceptance shall
174 be sent by first-class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be
175 returned if not deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. A
176 notice of acceptance shall indicate the effective date of the applicant's
177 registration and enrollment, the date of the next regularly scheduled
178 election or primary in which the applicant shall be eligible to vote and
179 the applicant's precinct and polling place. If a notice of acceptance of
180 an application is returned undelivered, the registrars shall forthwith
181 take the necessary action in accordance with section 9-35, as amended,
182 or 9-43, notwithstanding the May first deadline in section 9-35, as
183 amended. An applicant for admission as an elector pursuant to this
184 section and section 9-23h, as amended, may only be admitted as an
185 elector by a registrar of voters of the town of his residence. Not later
186 than December thirty-first, annually, the Secretary of the State shall
187 establish an official calendar of all deadlines set forth in this subsection
188 for regularly scheduled elections and primaries to be held in the
189 following calendar year.

190 (d) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the
191 privileges of an elector for any applicant for admission under this
192 section and section 9-23h, as amended, shall attach immediately upon
193 approval by the registrar, and the registrars shall enter the name of the
194 elector on the registry list.

195 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, if a
 196 mailed application is postmarked, or if a delivered application is
 197 received in the office of the registrars of voters, after the [fourteenth]
 198 seventh day before an election or after the fifth day before a primary,
 199 the privileges of an elector shall not attach until the day after such
 200 election or primary, as the case may be.

201 (3) If an application is received after the [fourteenth] seventh day
 202 before an election or after the fifth day before a primary by the
 203 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or by a voter registration agency, the
 204 privileges of an elector shall not attach until the day after the election
 205 or primary, as the case may be, or on the day the registrar approves it,
 206 whichever is later.

207 (4) If on the day of an election or primary, the name of an applicant
 208 does not appear on the official check list, such applicant may present
 209 to the moderator at the polls either a notice of acceptance received
 210 through the mail or an application receipt that was previously
 211 provided to the applicant pursuant to section 9-19e, subsection (b) of
 212 section 9-19h, subsection (b) of this section or section 9-23n. If an
 213 applicant presents said notice or receipt, and either the registrars of
 214 voters find the original application or the applicant submits a new
 215 application at the polls, the registrar, or assistant registrar upon notice
 216 to and approval by the registrar, shall add such person's name and
 217 address to the official check list on such day and the person shall be
 218 allowed to vote if otherwise eligible to vote and the person presents to
 219 the checkers at the polling place a preprinted form of identification
 220 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of
 221 section 9-261, as amended."

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2004</i>

Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2004</i>