



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 448**

February Session, 2008

Substitute Senate Bill No. 446

*Senate, April 4, 2008*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. SLOSSBERG of the 14th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING VOTERS WHO CHANGE PARTY AFFILIATION.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-59 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes  
2 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *from passage*):

4 Any elector whose name appears on any enrollment list or who has  
5 made application for enrollment may, at any time, make a written  
6 application, on an application form for admission as an elector, which  
7 shall be signed by such elector, to either registrar for erasure of his  
8 name from such list or for transfer of his name to the enrollment list of  
9 another party. If an elector makes an application for erasure, his name  
10 shall be erased from said enrollment list and, if a municipality is  
11 having a primary in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote,  
12 under section 9-431, such elector's name shall be placed on the list of  
13 unaffiliated electors together with the date he is eligible to vote in a

14 primary. If an elector makes an application for transfer, his name shall  
 15 be transferred to the enrollment list of another party, together with the  
 16 effective date of such transfer. Any elector whose name has been  
 17 transferred from one enrollment list to another or who has applied for  
 18 erasure or transfer of his name from an enrollment list shall not be  
 19 entitled to participate or vote in a caucus or primary of [any] the party  
 20 to which transfer was made or applied for, participate in the  
 21 appointment of members to any board or commission that is political  
 22 in nature, be appointed as a member of any board or commission that  
 23 is political in nature or be entitled to the privileges accompanying  
 24 enrollment in [any] the party to which transfer was made or applied  
 25 for, for a period of [three months] one month from the date of the filing  
 26 of his application for transfer or for erasure. Any elector who removes  
 27 his name from the registry list and from an enrollment list in  
 28 accordance with the provisions of section 9-35b shall not be entitled to  
 29 enroll in any political party or vote in any primary for three months  
 30 after such removal. The registrars of voters shall state, on the notice of  
 31 acceptance sent under sections 9-23g of the 2008 supplement to the  
 32 general statutes, 9-19b and 9-19e, the date enrollment privileges for the  
 33 party of transfer take effect, if delayed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-59

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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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 chamber thereof for any purpose:

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

This bill shortens the period of time an elector who changes party affiliation must wait before enrollment privileges in the new party take effect. There is no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities associated with this bill.

***The Out Years***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 446*****AN ACT CONCERNING VOTERS WHO CHANGE PARTY AFFILIATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill shortens the period of time an elector who changes party affiliation must wait before his or her enrollment privileges in the new party take effect. Under the bill, an elector who applies for transfer from one party's voter list to another's is entitled to enrollment privileges one month, rather than three months, after the date of application. By law, such an elector may not vote in a primary or caucus, or appoint members to any political board or commission or accept such an appointment until his or her privileges take effect.

The bill retains the three-month waiting period for an elector who relinquishes his or her voter registration and party enrollment, if any. He or she may reapply to register to vote at any time, but must wait for three months after removal before party privileges attach.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 11 Nay 2 (03/17/2008)