



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 5665

LCO No. 2196

02196_____GAE

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS AND CERTAIN COMPENSATION OF REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-158j of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

3 Upon receipt of an application for a "Presidential Ballot" or
4 "Overseas Ballot" the town clerk shall forthwith notify the registrars of
5 voters of the applicant's name, with a notation designating [him] the
6 applicant as a person voting for presidential and vice-presidential
7 electors or federal offices only. If the name of a presidential voter who
8 is a former resident appears on the registry list, the registrars of voters
9 or assistant registrars of voters, as the case may be, shall insert the
10 letters "pf" in red ink within the margin preceding [his] the voter's
11 name. The registrars of voters shall prepare a list of names and
12 addresses of presidential voters and overseas electors whose names do
13 not appear on the registry list, for each voting district, [which] if
14 district counting is used. Such list shall accompany the official check

15 list to be used at such election in such district. [The registrars shall
16 insert the letters "pf" in the margin of such list of presidential voters
17 preceding the name of each applicant who is a former resident.] If
18 central counting is used, such list shall go to central counting.

19 Sec. 2. Section 9-168 of the general statutes is repealed and the
20 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

21 In any town not divided into voting districts, the place of holding
22 elections may be determined by the [legislative body] registrars of
23 voters of such town. In towns divided into voting districts the place of
24 holding elections shall be determined as provided in section 9-169, as
25 amended by this act, or any special act, whichever applies. Except as
26 provided in section 9-169a, state elections shall be held at the usual
27 place or places of holding elections in the town or the voting districts
28 thereof, as the case may be, unless the registrars of voters, in writing,
29 have designated to the clerk of such town, at least thirty-one days
30 before any such state election, a different place or places for holding
31 such election. Unless otherwise provided by special act, the place of
32 holding city or borough elections shall be determined by the registrars
33 of voters, with approval of the legislative body of such city or borough.
34 Any provision of any charter or special act to the contrary
35 notwithstanding, the place or places of holding an election shall be
36 determined at least thirty-one days prior to such election, and such
37 place or places shall not be changed within the period of thirty-one
38 days prior to such election except that, if the [municipal clerk and]
39 registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously find that any such
40 polling place within such municipality has been rendered unusable
41 within such period, they shall forthwith designate another polling
42 place to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable and shall
43 give adequate notice that such polling place has been so changed.

44 Sec. 3. Section 9-168a of the general statutes is repealed and the
45 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

46 (a) Any provision of the general statutes to the contrary

47 notwithstanding, in any municipality in which, at any election, or
48 primary, as a result of the assembly, senatorial or congressional district
49 lines in effect, there is a voting district or a part of a voting district
50 which differs geographically from the district lines as constituted in a
51 municipal election year, the registrars of voters may either provide a
52 suitable polling place therein or may, in lieu thereof, with the approval
53 of the legislative body of the municipality, provide separate voting
54 [machines] tabulators in the polling place of another voting district in
55 said municipality for use by such electors. The registrars of voters shall
56 determine which polling place officials are necessary for such separate
57 [machines] tabulators and shall provide the procedure to ensure that
58 the electors use the proper voting [machine] tabulator, which
59 procedure may include the registrars of voters prescribing and
60 providing receipts.

61 (b) Any provision of the general statutes to the contrary
62 notwithstanding, in any municipality in which, at any election or
63 primary, as a result of the assembly, senatorial or congressional district
64 lines in effect, there is a voting district with less than one thousand five
65 hundred electors who vote for a combination of officers that no other
66 electors of the town vote for, the registrars of voters may either
67 provide a suitable polling place therein or may, in lieu thereof, provide
68 separate voting [machines] tabulators in the polling place of another
69 voting district in said municipality for use by such electors. If the
70 registrars of voters provide separate voting [machines] tabulators in
71 the polling place of another voting district, they shall determine which
72 polling place officials are necessary for the district containing less than
73 one thousand five hundred electors and shall provide the procedure to
74 ensure that the electors use the proper voting [machines] tabulators,
75 which procedure may include the registrars of voters prescribing and
76 providing receipts.

77 (c) In any election or primary where electors in more than one
78 voting district vote in the same building and vote for all the same
79 officers, and the law does not require separate returns, the registrars of

80 voters may combine the voting districts and polling places into one
81 voting district and polling place, with or without integrating the
82 voting districts on the check lists used at the election or primary. The
83 registrars of voters shall file a statement of their action with the [town]
84 municipal clerk before the election or primary and the [town clerk]
85 registrars of voters shall label the polling place return form to show
86 which districts are combined on such return.

87 Sec. 4. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the
88 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

89 The registrars of voters, with approval of the legislative body of any
90 town, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough,
91 may divide and, from time to time, redivide such municipality into
92 voting districts. The registrars of voters of any municipality taking
93 such action shall provide a suitable polling place in each district but, if
94 the registrars of voters fail to agree as to the location of any polling
95 place or places, the legislative body shall determine the location
96 thereof. Polling places to be used in an election shall be determined at
97 least thirty-one days before such election, and such polling places shall
98 not be changed within said period of thirty-one days except that, if the
99 [municipal clerk and] registrars of voters of a municipality
100 unanimously find that any such polling place within such municipality
101 has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith
102 designate another polling place to be used in place of the one so
103 rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling
104 place has been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate
105 lists of the electors residing in each district and shall appoint for each
106 district a moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229
107 and such other election officials as are required by law, and shall
108 designate one of the moderators so appointed or any other elector of
109 such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of declaring the
110 results of elections in the whole municipality. The registrars of voters
111 may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the head
112 moderator in the performance of his or her duties. [provided the

113 deputy head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled
114 in the same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372.]
115 The [selectmen, town clerk,] registrars of voters and all other officers of
116 the municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with
117 respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance
118 with this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn by a
119 municipality so as to conflict with the lines of congressional districts,
120 senate districts or assembly districts as established by law, except (1) as
121 provided in section 9-169d, and (2) that as to municipal elections, any
122 part of a split voting district containing less than two hundred electors
123 may be combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from
124 which all and the same officers are elected at such municipal election.
125 Any change in the boundaries of voting districts made within ninety
126 days prior to any election or primary shall not apply with respect to
127 such election or primary. The provisions of this section shall prevail
128 over any contrary provision of any charter or special act.

129 Sec. 5. Section 9-35 of the general statutes is repealed and the
130 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

131 (a) The registrars of voters, on the Tuesday of the fifth week before
132 each regular election, shall [be in session for the purpose of completing
133 a correct] complete a list of all electors who will be entitled to vote at
134 such election. Such registry list shall consist of an active registry list
135 and an inactive registry list. [Such session shall be held during such
136 hours between nine o'clock a.m. and five o'clock p.m. as the registrars
137 find necessary to complete the list. Notice of such session shall be
138 given at least five days before the session by publication in a
139 newspaper having a circulation in such municipality, if any, and by
140 posting on the signpost therein, if any, or at some other exterior place
141 near the office of the town clerk. Such publication shall not be required
142 to be in the form of a legal advertisement.]

143 (b) [At such session and on any day except on the day of an election
144 or primary, the registrars] On a routine basis throughout the year, the

145 registrars of voters shall remove from the list the name of each elector
146 who has died, who has been disfranchised or who has confirmed in
147 writing that the elector has moved out of the municipality, except
148 electors entitled to remain on such list under the provisions of this
149 chapter. An elector shall be deemed to have confirmed in writing that
150 the elector has moved out of the municipality if (1) the elector has
151 submitted a change of address form for purposes of a state motor
152 vehicle operator's license, unless the elector states on the form that the
153 change of address is not for voter registration purposes, (2) the elector
154 has submitted a change of address form to a voter registration agency,
155 as defined in section 9-23n, and such agency has provided such change
156 of address to the registrars of voters, or (3) the registrars of voters have
157 received a cancellation of previous registration from any other election
158 official indicating that such elector has registered as an elector outside
159 such municipality.

160 (c) Whenever the registrars of voters of a town remove from the
161 registry list the name of an elector who has submitted a change of
162 address to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or a voter registration
163 agency under subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (b) of this section,
164 indicating that the elector has moved out of such town, the registrars
165 of voters shall send the elector, by forwardable mail to the elector's
166 former address from such list or current address in the new town, (1) a
167 notice of removal, (2) information explaining how to have the elector's
168 name restored to such list, which shall be in a form prescribed by the
169 Secretary of the State, and (3) a mail-in voter registration application
170 which can be used by the elector to apply for admission as an elector in
171 the new town. If such notice, information and application are sent to
172 the elector's former address and are returned undeliverable, the
173 registrars of voters shall mail such documents to the elector's address
174 in the new town.

175 (d) The registrars of voters shall enter the names on such list by
176 street and number of the house, when the houses are numbered, so
177 that there shall be entered on the list first, the street, avenue or road;

178 second, the number of the house or residence in numerical order or, if
179 the registrars of any town find it more convenient, by odd and even
180 numbers in numerical order; and third, the names of the electors in
181 such house in alphabetical order. The names of any electors who
182 cannot be so listed shall be listed alphabetically in the voting district
183 wherein any such elector is a bona fide resident. The registrars of
184 voters may consecutively number the names on the registry list, may
185 include voter identification numbers for the names on the registry list,
186 and may include a mark, as prescribed by the Secretary of the State,
187 next to the name of each first-time registrant on the system who
188 registers to vote on or after January 1, 2003, and does not provide
189 identification with his or her mail-in voter registration application as
190 provided in the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from
191 time to time, provided such list shall comply in all respects with the
192 requirements of law other than for the addition of such numbers and
193 marks. The registrars of voters shall not use Social Security numbers
194 for any such voter identification numbers.

195 (e) In any case in which the registrars of voters have obtained
196 reliable information of an elector's change of address within the
197 municipality, they shall enter the name of such elector on the registry
198 list at the place where the elector then resides, provided, if such
199 reliable information is the National Change of Address System of the
200 United States Postal Service, the [registrar] registrars of voters shall
201 change the registry list and send the elector a notice of the change by
202 forwardable mail and a postage prepaid preaddressed return form by
203 which the elector may verify or correct the address information. If
204 during the canvass the registrars of voters determine that an elector
205 has moved out of town and such elector has not confirmed in writing
206 that the elector has moved out of the town, the registrars of voters
207 shall, not later than May first, send to the elector, by forwardable mail,
208 a notice required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L.
209 103-31, as amended from time to time, together with a postage prepaid
210 preaddressed return card on which the elector may state the elector's
211 current address. In the year of a presidential preference primary, the

212 registrars of voters shall send such notice not earlier than the date of
213 such primary. If the [registrar does] registrars of voters do not receive
214 the return card within thirty days after it is sent, the elector's name,
215 including the name of an elector who has not voted in two consecutive
216 federal elections, shall be placed on the inactive registry list for four
217 years. At the expiration of such period of time on the inactive registry
218 list, such name shall be removed from the registry list. If such elector
219 applies to restore the elector's name to the active registry list or votes
220 during such period, the elector's name shall be restored to the active
221 registry list. Such registrars of voters shall retain a duplicate copy or
222 data entry record of each such [notice] transaction in their office [or, if
223 they do not have a permanent office, in the office space provided
224 under section 9-5a,] and shall [note] record on such duplicate copy or
225 record the date on which such notice was mailed. In each municipality,
226 any elector, upon change of residence within the municipality, may
227 cause the elector's registration to be transferred to the elector's new
228 address by presenting to the registrars of voters a signed request
229 [therefore, stating] for such transfer, such as a voter registration card
230 with a change of address checked off, which states the elector's present
231 address [, the date the elector moved to such address] and the address
232 at which the elector was last registered. The registrars of voters shall
233 thereupon enter the elector's name on the list at the elector's new
234 residence; provided no transfer of registration shall be made on the
235 registry list on election day without the consent of both registrars. On
236 election day, the name of such elector shall be added to the
237 supplemental list after the appropriate paperwork is signed.

238 Sec. 6. Section 9-35a of the general statutes is repealed and the
239 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

240 [Immediately after the close of the session or immediately after the
241 sending of notice of intended removal provided for in section 9-35, the]
242 The registrars of voters shall post at the town hall or municipal
243 building in the municipality in which they serve, in a place readily
244 accessible to the public, a list of the names of the electors whose names

245 were removed from the registry list [at such session or will be removed
246 on the date specified] in accordance with section 9-35, as amended by
247 this act, together with the address of each such elector as it appeared
248 on the registry list at the time the name was so removed. Together with
249 such list, and as a part thereof, such registrars of voters shall also cause
250 to be posted a statement that complete information as to such removal
251 and as to the privileges and remedies of those whose names were
252 removed from the registry list is available from such registrars of
253 voters, specifying when and where such registrars of voters are
254 available for such purpose and [, in the case of registrars of voters
255 having office hours,] specifying such office hours for such registrars of
256 voters.

257 Sec. 7. Section 9-35b of the general statutes is repealed and the
258 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

259 [Except during the period between the last session for the admission
260 of electors prior to an election and the day following that election, any]
261 Any elector of any municipality who desires to relinquish his rights as
262 an elector and to have his name erased from the registry list shall make
263 a signed written request to the registrars of voters of such
264 municipality. Upon receipt of such application, the registrars of voters
265 shall remove the elector's name from the registry list and any
266 enrollment list. Any person whose name has been removed from the
267 registry list pursuant to this section may reapply for admission as an
268 elector at any time, without prejudice on account of such removal. In
269 the event such person is admitted as an elector, the registrar of the
270 municipality shall notify the registrars of voters of the municipality
271 where such person resided at the time of his relinquishment that his
272 electoral privileges have been restored.

273 Sec. 8. Section 9-35c of the general statutes is repealed and the
274 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

275 Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9-238, 9-406 and 9-436
276 and other provisions of the general statutes, the names of electors on

277 the inactive registry list compiled under section 9-35, as amended by
278 this act, shall not be counted for purposes of computing the number of
279 voting [machines] tabulators required and the number of petition
280 signatures required. Each elector on such inactive registry list who, in
281 the determination of the registrars of voters, has signed a petition
282 pursuant to the general statutes, giving the same address as appears on
283 the inactive registry list, shall forthwith be placed on the active registry
284 list compiled under said section 9-35. Each such elector shall be
285 counted for purposes of future computations of the number of voting
286 [machines] tabulators required and the number of signatures required
287 on future petitions issued for other electoral events. The names of
288 electors on the inactive registry list compiled pursuant to section 9-35,
289 as amended by this act, shall not be counted for purposes of
290 computing the minimum percentage of the number of electors
291 required in any charter or special act, if such charter or special act
292 requires approval of a referendum by a minimum percentage of
293 electors qualified on the last-completed registry list or has a similar
294 requirement.

295 Sec. 9. Section 9-36 of the general statutes is repealed and the
296 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

297 The list for which provision is made in section 9-35, as amended by
298 this act, shall be termed the preliminary registry list and such list shall
299 be [completed, certified by such registrars and deposited in the town
300 clerk's office, at least thirty-one days before the regular election, and
301 shall be on file in such office] available in the office of the registrars of
302 voters for public inspection [until the next preliminary registry list has
303 been completed and filed. In each municipality having a population of
304 more than five thousand, a certified copy of such preliminary registry
305 list for each voting district therein shall be completed, reproduced,
306 certified by the registrars and posted in such municipality for public
307 inspection on or before the Saturday of the fifth week before each
308 regular election,] and copies shall be made available for distribution by
309 the registrars of voters. Whenever the registrars of voters are not in

310 their office, such list shall be placed outside of the office for public
311 inspection. The registrars of voters shall, upon request, give to [a] any
312 candidate for election [to the General Assembly] a copy of the
313 preliminary registry list for each voting district [included in the
314 General Assembly district] for which such person is a candidate.

315 Sec. 10. Section 9-37 of the general statutes is repealed and the
316 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

317 [Each registrar shall keep a copy of the preliminary registry list for
318 his use in revision. Such registrars shall give notice in such list of the
319 times and places at which they will hold one or more sessions during
320 the period between the Saturday of the fifth week before the regular
321 election and the Saturday of the fourth week before the regular
322 election, for the revision and correction of such list which, when
323 completed, shall be termed the "final registry list" for such election. In
324 each municipality having a population of more than five thousand,
325 they shall also give notice of such times and places by publication in a
326 newspaper circulating in such municipality and by posting the same
327 on the signpost therein, if any, and at the office of the town clerk at
328 least five days before the first of such sessions. The number of sessions
329 shall be fixed by the registrars of each municipality. The registrars
330 shall also hold sessions, of which no public notice need be given, for
331 the purpose of correcting such preliminary list, and for the purpose of
332 adding to such list the names of persons entitled to be registered
333 thereon, on each day they are in session for the admission of electors
334 pursuant to section 9-17, and they may also hold sessions for revision
335 and correction of the registry list on any other day, except during the
336 period of six days preceding any regular election. On the fourteenth
337 day before a primary, the registrars shall hold an additional session to
338 hear such requests for adding names to the registry list, in accordance
339 with the procedure provided in this section, and the registrars shall
340 publish notice of such sessions in a newspaper having general
341 circulation in such municipality at least five days before such sessions.
342 Nothing in this section shall require that such publication be in the

343 form of a legal advertisement.] The registrars of voters shall be
344 available before all elections for revisions and corrections of the
345 preliminary list which, when completed, shall be termed "the final
346 registry list" for such election. In each municipality, availability of the
347 registrars of voters shall be the posted office hours in such
348 municipality for the registrars of voters.

349 Sec. 11. Section 9-38 of the general statutes is repealed and the
350 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

351 The registrars of voters in all towns shall [, on the second Friday
352 preceding a regular election, deposit in the town clerk's office the final
353 registry list arranged as provided in section 9-35 and certified by them
354 to be correct, and shall retain a sufficient number of copies to be used
355 by them at such election for the purpose of checking the names of
356 those who vote. They shall place on such final list, in the order
357 provided in section 9-35, the names of all persons who have been
358 admitted as electors. In each municipality said registrars shall also
359 cause to be prepared and printed and deposited in the town clerk's
360 office a supplementary or updated list containing the names and
361 addresses of electors to be transferred, restored or added to such list
362 prior to the fourth day before such election, provided in municipalities
363 having a population of less than twenty-five thousand, such additional
364 names may be inserted in writing in such final list. Such final registry
365 list and supplementary or updated list deposited in the town clerk's
366 office shall be on file in such office for public inspection for a period of
367 two years, and any elector may make copies thereof] produce a final
368 registry list arranged in accordance with the provisions of section 9-35,
369 as amended by this act, and certified by the registrars of voters to be
370 correct. Such final registry list and supplementary or updated list shall
371 be on file in the municipal clerk's office not later than the day before
372 election day and shall be available in the registrars of voters' office for
373 public inspection. Whenever the registrars of voters are not in their
374 office, such list shall be placed outside of the office for public
375 inspection. Any elector may request copies of such list.

376 Sec. 12. Section 9-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the
377 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

378 The registrars of voters of each municipality shall, upon request,
379 print copies of the final registry list for distribution in such
380 municipality and in all the voting districts located therein. [provided
381 nothing in sections 9-12 to 9-45, inclusive, shall require the printing of
382 more than one final registry list for any voting district in any one year.
383 With each printing such registrars shall retain at least two copies of
384 such lists and such copies shall be available for public use in the office
385 of the registrars for a period of two years.] The registrars shall, upon
386 request, give to [a] any candidate for election [to the General
387 Assembly] a copy of the final registry list for each voting district
388 [included in the General Assembly district] for which such person is a
389 candidate and shall maintain such list, either on paper or in electronic
390 format, for a period of two years.

391 Sec. 13. Section 9-50a of the general statutes is repealed and the
392 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

393 The registrars of voters of each town shall [, on a monthly basis,]
394 compile a list of (1) all persons whose names were added, restored,
395 removed or erased from the active and inactive registry lists, [during
396 the preceding month,] (2) all electors who changed either their names
397 or addresses, [during such period] and (3) all persons sent notices
398 required under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-
399 31, as amended from time to time, and all persons who have replied to
400 such notices. Such list shall include, but not be limited to, each such
401 person's or elector's (A) name, (B) former name, [if changed during
402 such period,] (C) address, [including zip code,] (D) former address,
403 [including zip code, if changed during such period,] (E) voting district,
404 and (F) party affiliation, if any. The registrars shall make each such list
405 available to the public [in accordance with the provisions of section 1-
406 210] upon such request.

407 Sec. 14. Section 9-55 of the general statutes is repealed and the

408 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

409 (a) The registrars of voters shall cause to be printed [at least once
410 during the calendar year a sufficient number of copies of complete,
411 corrected enrollment lists certified by them as correct, provided a
412 supplementary or updated list shall be printed within one week after a
413 session held on the fourteenth day before a primary] a complete
414 enrollment list and shall make such list available to the public upon
415 request.

416 (b) If a political party authorizes unaffiliated electors to vote in a
417 primary, under section 9-431, and a notice of primary is published, the
418 registrars shall cause a list of all unaffiliated electors eligible to vote in
419 the primary to be printed [within one week after the session held on
420 the fourteenth day] before such primary. If unaffiliated electors are
421 authorized to vote in only one party's primary and are authorized to
422 vote for all offices to be contested at the primary, the registrars may
423 print the list of unaffiliated electors in combination with such party's
424 enrollment list, indicating party affiliation where applicable.

425 (c) If the legislative body of the municipality votes to eliminate
426 separate enrollment lists under section 9-54 and:

427 (1) Notices of primaries are published for two parties to be held on
428 the same day, the registrars of voters shall print complete separate
429 enrollment lists [within one week after the enrollment session held on
430 the fourteenth day before the primary] and, if unaffiliated electors are
431 authorized to vote in the primary, the registrars of voters shall print a
432 separate list of unaffiliated electors as provided in subsection (b) of this
433 section; or

434 (2) A notice of primary is published for one party in which
435 unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote for some but not all offices
436 to be contested at the primary, the registrars of voters shall print a
437 complete separate enrollment list and a separate list of unaffiliated
438 electors as provided in subsection (b) of this section; or

439 (3) A notice of primary is published for only one party and (A)
440 unaffiliated electors are not authorized to vote, or (B) unaffiliated
441 electors are authorized to vote for all offices to be contested at the
442 primary, a registry list may be used as a checklist at the primary and
443 the registrars of voters shall [, within one week after the session held
444 on the fourteenth day before such primary,] print a supplementary or
445 updated list indicating those electors who have become eligible to vote
446 in the primary since the printing of the registry list.

447 (d) Whenever a list is required by this section to be printed, [within
448 one week after the session held on the fourteenth day before the
449 primary,] a supplement to such list shall be compiled by the registrars
450 of voters of persons who after such date and prior to twelve o'clock
451 noon of the last business day before the primary become eligible to
452 vote in such primary. The registrars of voters may combine such
453 separate compilation with the foregoing printed list [either by inserting
454 the names in writing or] by reprinting the list or incorporating the
455 supplementary [or updated list into a single printed] list.

456 (e) The registrars of voters shall [file one copy of each such list with
457 the town clerk which copy shall be] make available for public use such
458 list in the office of the [town clerk] registrars of voters until the
459 printing of the next completed [, corrected] enrollment list; and they
460 shall deliver to the chairman of the town committee of each political
461 party [five] copies of each such list for each voting district in the town.
462 Whenever the registrars of voters are not in their office, such list shall
463 be placed outside of the office for public inspection. Upon request the
464 registrars of voters shall give one complete set of such lists to each
465 candidate for nomination for any office or for election as a town
466 committee member. They shall deliver a sufficient number of copies
467 thereof to the moderator of each primary. [With each printing the
468 registrars shall retain at least six copies of each such list and such
469 copies shall be available for public use in the office of the registrars
470 until the printing of the next complete, corrected enrollment list.] No
471 petition brought under the provisions of section 9-63 shall operate to

472 delay the completion and printing of such lists. If the petition of any
473 elector is granted after any such list has been completed, the [registrar
474 or assistant registrar] registrars of voters or assistant registrars of
475 voters, as the case may be, shall issue to such elector a certificate
476 showing that the elector is entitled to the privileges accompanying
477 enrollment in the political party named in the elector's petition.

478 Sec. 15. Section 9-169g of the general statutes is repealed and the
479 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

480 (a) The [town clerk] registrars of voters of any municipality (1)
481 which is divided between two or more assembly districts, two or more
482 senatorial districts or two or more congressional districts, or (2) which
483 is not divided between any such districts but is divided into two or
484 more voting districts for General Assembly or congressional elections,
485 shall submit to the Secretary of the State a street map of the
486 municipality which indicates the boundary lines of the voting districts
487 established by the municipality in accordance with sections 9-169, as
488 amended by this act, 9-169a and 9-169d. The [town clerk] registrars of
489 voters shall submit such map to the [secretary] Secretary of the State
490 (A) not later than July 30, 1997, if any such division is in effect on July
491 1, 1997, or, if no such division is in effect on July 1, 1997, not later than
492 thirty days after any such division first takes effect, and (B) not later
493 than thirty days after any change in any such division takes effect.

494 (b) The Secretary of the State shall make such maps available to the
495 General Assembly, for use by the General Assembly in carrying out its
496 responsibilities under (1) Article XXVI of the Amendments to the
497 Constitution of Connecticut, or any subsequent corresponding state
498 constitutional provision, with regard to the redistricting of assembly,
499 senatorial and congressional districts, and (2) Public Law 94-171,
500 concerning the establishment of a plan identifying the geographic
501 areas for which specific tabulations of population are desired in the
502 decennial census of the United States.

503 Sec. 16. Section 9-172b of the general statutes is repealed and the

504 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

505 [(a)] In each municipality or political subdivision in which a special
506 election or referendum is to be held, the registrars of voters shall
507 prepare a supplementary or updated list of the names and addresses of
508 those persons who acquired voting privileges after the completion of
509 the revised registry list and prior to the day of such special election or
510 referendum. In each such municipality or political subdivision, not
511 later than the day before such special election or referendum, such
512 registrars of voters shall cause to be completed and printed [and
513 deposited in the town clerk's office] such list arranged as provided in
514 section 9-35, as amended by this act, and certified by them to be
515 correct, and shall retain a sufficient number of copies to be used by
516 them at such election or referendum for the purpose of checking the
517 names of those who vote, provided the names of any persons who
518 acquired such voting privileges [within thirty days before such special
519 election or referendum] may be inserted on [such printed list in
520 writing] the supplemental list.

521 [(b)] In the case of a special election or referendum, no person
522 admitted as an elector on the day of the special election or referendum
523 shall be entitled to vote in that election.]

524 Sec. 17. Section 9-238a of the general statutes is repealed and the
525 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

526 During the first week of [February] January in each year, the [town
527 clerk] registrars of voters of each town shall notify the Secretary of the
528 State, on a form provided by said secretary, of the total number of
529 names on the active registry list and on each enrollment list and the
530 total number of unaffiliated electors, in such town, and of the total
531 number of voting [machines] tabulators therein and, in towns divided
532 into voting districts, in addition, the same information for each voting
533 district. If the number of [machines] tabulators listed in such
534 notification is less than the number required under section 9-238, the
535 [town clerk] registrars of voters shall include in such notification an

536 explanation of the discrepancy. [Each such clerk shall also file a
537 duplicate copy of such notification with the officials who are required
538 to provide voting machines in his municipality under section 9-238.]

539 Sec. 18. Section 9-31a of the general statutes is repealed and the
540 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

541 [(a) As used in this section and section 9-31b, "permanently
542 physically disabled person" means a person who, by reason of a major
543 defect or infirmity of body, whether congenital or acquired by
544 accident, injury or disease, is permanently physically incapacitated to a
545 degree that prevents him and will continue to prevent him from
546 appearing in person at the office of the town clerk or registrars of the
547 town where he temporarily or permanently resides.

548 (b) Any permanently physically disabled person may, in the manner
549 prescribed under this section and upon a form as prescribed under
550 section 9-31b, apply to the town clerk or either registrar of voters of
551 such town for examination and admission as an elector of any
552 Connecticut town. (1) In the case of a permanently physically disabled
553 person whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in such
554 town are attained on or before the last session for admission of electors
555 prior to an election to be held in the town, the application shall be
556 submitted so that it will be received by such town clerk or either
557 registrar of voters not later than such last session. Upon receipt of the
558 application, the town clerk or either registrar of voters shall notify the
559 applicant of the day, and the hour, such day to be within ten days of
560 the receipt of the application, at which an admitting official shall meet
561 with the applicant at the temporary or permanent residence of the
562 applicant. (2) In the case of a permanently physically disabled person
563 whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in such town
564 are attained after the last session for admission of electors prior to an
565 election to be held in the town, the application shall be submitted so
566 that it will be received by such town clerk or either registrar of voters
567 not later than the opening of the limited session for the admission of

568 electors held, under section 9-17, on the last weekday prior to the
569 election. Upon receipt of the application, the town clerk or either
570 registrar of voters shall notify the applicant of the day, and the hour,
571 such day and hour to be not later than 5:00 p.m. on the last weekday
572 before the election, at which an admitting official shall meet with the
573 applicant at the temporary or permanent residence of the applicant.

574 (c) Such admitting official shall meet at the appointed time with the
575 applicant for the purpose of examining his qualifications as an elector
576 and for the purpose of admitting him as an elector if the applicant is
577 found qualified. Such official shall make available to the applicant at
578 such time, upon request, a copy of the statement that specifies each
579 eligibility requirement and contains an attestation that the applicant
580 meets each such requirement (1) in video form in accordance with
581 procedures established by the registrars of voters and (2) in braille,
582 large print and audio form. Such official shall provide the applicant
583 with a written notice of approval or disapproval at that time, except as
584 otherwise provided in section 9-19e. Any person making application
585 for registration under this section shall be entitled to the privileges of
586 an elector and party enrollment, if applicable, from the time such
587 application for admission as an elector is approved by the town clerk
588 or registrars of voters of his voting residence.]

589 (a) Any disabled person who cannot register to vote by mail or in
590 person at the office of the registrars of voters may request of the
591 registrars of voters that an admitting official be sent to the person's
592 residence to assist the applicant with the application for admission as
593 an elector. The registrars of voters shall act promptly on any such
594 request. If election-related materials in alternative formats are
595 requested by such person, the registrars of voters shall provide such
596 materials in accordance with any applicable state or federal law.

597 (b) In the case of a disabled person whose qualifications as to age,
598 citizenship or residence in such town are attained after the last session
599 for admission of electors prior to an election to be held in the town, the

600 person shall be admitted by either registrar of voters not later than five
601 o'clock p.m. on the last weekday before the election. An admitting
602 official shall meet with the applicant at the temporary or permanent
603 residence of the applicant at such time of admission.

604 (c) Any person that makes application for admission as an elector
605 pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be entitled to the
606 privileges of an elector and party enrollment, if applicable, from the
607 time such application for admission as an elector is approved by the
608 registrars of voters.

609 Sec. 19. Subsection (a) of section 9-264 of the general statutes is
610 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
611 *October 1, 2008*):

612 (a) An elector who requires assistance to vote, by reason of
613 blindness, disability or inability to write or to read the ballot, may be
614 given assistance by a person of the elector's choice, other than (1) the
615 elector's employer, (2) an agent of such employer, [or] (3) an officer or
616 agent of the elector's union, or (4) a candidate on the ballot. The
617 registrars of voters or the assistant registrars of voters, as the case may
618 be, shall request the name of the person providing assistance. If the
619 elector refuses to provide the name of the person providing assistance,
620 such refusal shall be recorded but shall not deny the elector the right to
621 vote. The person assisting the elector may accompany the elector into
622 the voting [machine] booth. Such person shall register such elector's
623 vote upon the [machine] ballot as such elector directs. Any person
624 accompanying an elector into the voting [machine] booth who deceives
625 any elector in registering [his] the elector's vote under this section or
626 seeks to influence any elector while in the act of voting, or who
627 registers any vote for any elector or on any question other than as
628 requested by such elector, or who gives information to any person as
629 to what person or persons such elector voted for, or how [he] the
630 elector voted on any question, shall be fined not more than one
631 thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

632 Sec. 20. Section 9-297 of the general statutes is repealed and the
633 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

634 No official or other person at any election shall, in the [enclosure
635 where the ballot box and stub box are placed, or in any room or booth
636 herein mentioned,] polling place, suggest to any elector the name of
637 any political party or candidate for any office. No person shall assist or
638 offer to assist any elector in the preparation of [his] the ballot, [to be
639 used in voting, unless appointed for that purpose by the moderator of
640 the election.] No elector shall receive [such] assistance unless [he is
641 physically incapable of preparing his ballot, and the moderator shall be
642 the sole judge of such physical disability] the elector requests
643 assistance. In such case, [of such physical disability, the moderator] the
644 elector shall [, upon the request of the elector, appoint two electors of
645 different parties, and such persons shall render such assistance as the
646 elector requires in the preparation of his ballot] choose whom the
647 elector would like to have assist him or her in casting the ballot.

648 Sec. 21. Section 9-17a of the general statutes is repealed and the
649 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

650 As used in sections 9-17, 9-19b, 9-19c(a), 9-20, as amended by this
651 act, 9-23a, 9-24, 9-31a, as amended by this act, [9-31b] and 9-31l, unless
652 otherwise provided, the term "admitting official" means a town clerk,
653 assistant town clerk, registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters,
654 assistant registrar of voters, special assistant registrar of voters or the
655 board for admission of electors.

656 Sec. 22. Subsection (b) of section 9-20 of the general statutes is
657 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
658 *October 1, 2008*):

659 (b) The applicant's statement shall be delivered to the registrars
660 immediately and shall be kept by the registrars as a public record in a
661 safe depository, except that no Social Security number obtained by the
662 registrars prior to January 1, 2000, may be disclosed to the public or to

663 any governmental agency. Any such statement of an elector whose
664 name has been removed from the registry list for a period of at least
665 five years may be placed on microfilm, destroyed or otherwise
666 disposed of by such registrars, in the manner provided in section 7-
667 109. Upon the request of any elector, or if the applicant does not
668 present a birth certificate, drivers' license or Social Security card as
669 required by subsection (a) of this section, at the time an application is
670 made in person to an admitting official or prior to the approval of such
671 an application, any admitting official shall require the applicant to
672 prove his identity, place of birth, age and bona fide residence by the
673 testimony under oath of at least one elector or by the presentation of
674 proof satisfactory to such admitting official. Each person found
675 qualified shall thereupon be admitted as an elector, except as provided
676 in sections 9-12, 9-19e, 9-19g and 9-30. The registrars may request an
677 elector whose date of birth is missing from their records to voluntarily
678 furnish his date of birth. Any admitting official may administer oaths
679 in any matter coming before him under section 9-12, 9-17, 9-19b,
680 subsection (a) of section 9-19c, section 9-19e, 9-19g, 9-23, 9-23a, 9-25, 9-
681 31a, as amended by this act, [9-31b,] 9-31l, 9-40a or this section. Said
682 admitting official shall prohibit any activity which interferes with the
683 orderly process of admission of electors.

684 Sec. 23. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than February 1,
685 2009, the Secretary of the State shall adopt regulations, in accordance
686 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, that provide
687 for the automatic mailing of an absentee ballot prior to an election to
688 any person who is permanently disabled, provided such person files
689 an initial application for an absentee ballot along with a certification
690 from a physician indicating that such person is permanently disabled.
691 Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to, the form and
692 content of such certification, a schedule for the mailing of such
693 absentee ballots and procedures for the protection of the medical
694 privacy of any such applicant.

695 Sec. 24. Section 9-42 of the general statutes is repealed and the

696 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

697 (a) If it appears at any time that the name of an elector who was
698 formerly admitted or registered as an elector in a town and who is a
699 bona fide resident of such town has been omitted from the active
700 registry list compiled under section 9-35 by clerical error, the registrars
701 of voters shall add such name to such list; provided no name shall be
702 added to the active registry list on election day [, under the authority
703 conferred by this section,] without the consent of both registrars of
704 voters.

705 (b) If it appears at any time that the name of an elector who was
706 formerly admitted or registered as an elector in a town and who is a
707 bona fide resident of such town has been omitted from the active
708 registry list, the registrars of voters shall, upon a [written request] new
709 registration card signed by the elector under penalties of false
710 statement to the registrar of voters stating that such elector is [still] a
711 bona fide resident of such town. [and is not an elector of any other
712 town,] The assistant registrar of voters shall add such name to [such]
713 the supplemental list, provided no name shall be added to the active
714 registry list on election day [, pursuant to this section,] without the
715 consent of both registrars of voters.

716 (c) The registrars of voters shall cause the inactive registry list
717 compiled under section 9-35 to be completed and printed and
718 [deposited in the town clerk's office and] available to the public. The
719 registrars of voters shall provide [a sufficient number of] copies for use
720 in the polling place on election day. If on election day the name of an
721 elector appears on such inactive registry list, including the name of an
722 elector who has not responded to a confirmation of voting residence
723 notice under subsection (e) of section 9-35 and has not voted in two
724 consecutive federal elections, such name shall be added to the [active
725 registry] supplemental list upon [written affirmation] a new voter
726 registration card signed by the elector, under penalties of false
727 statement, before an election official at the polling place, that such

728 elector is [still] a bona fide resident of such town, and upon the consent
 729 of both registrars of voters or assistant registrars of voters, as the case
 730 may be, in the polls.

731 (d) The name of no elector shall be added to the active registry list
 732 under the provisions of this section, unless [his] the elector's name [or
 733 some name intended for his name] was on the active registry list for at
 734 least one of the four years previous, [or on one of the preliminary
 735 active registry lists for the year in which the registrars are in session.]

736 Sec. 25. Sections 9-31b, 9-31d, 9-58 and 9-195 of the general statutes
 737 are repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2008*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-158j
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-168
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-168a
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-169
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-35
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-35a
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-35b
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-35c
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-36
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-37
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-38
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-39
Sec. 13	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-50a
Sec. 14	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-55
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-169g
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-172b
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-238a
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-31a
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-264(a)
Sec. 20	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-297
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-17a
Sec. 22	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	9-20(b)
Sec. 23	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Sec. 24	<i>from passage</i>	9-42
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	Repealer section

Statement of Purpose:

To implement certain recommendations of the registrars of voters concerning the state's election laws.

[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.]