



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 95

January Session, 2009

House Bill No. 5226

House of Representatives, March 19, 2009

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. SPALLONE of the 36th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF POLLING PLACES FOR A PRIMARY.

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-438 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

3 In each municipality or voting district, the number and location of
4 polling places for primaries held under sections 9-382 to 9-450,
5 inclusive, shall be [the same as those used for the election to be held]
6 determined by the registrars of voters. When unaffiliated electors are
7 authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary of either of two
8 parties, both parties shall hold their primaries in the same room of
9 each such polling place. On the day of the primary, the polls shall
10 remain open for voting from six o'clock a.m. until eight o'clock p.m.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	9-438
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GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Impact
Various Municipalities	Potential

Explanation

This bill may result in a potential impact to various municipalities who choose to change the number of polling locations, allowing the registrar of voters in individual towns to determine the number and location of polling places for primaries. It encompasses primaries for municipal and state elections and includes candidates for municipal, district, state, and federal office.

Potential savings that could be realized through the elimination of polling locations include: personnel, possible renting costs, the transportation of materials to each polling location, and the installation of phone lines for each polling location. Potential costs are possible for municipalities who choose to increase the number of polling locations.

There is also a potential minimal cost for any municipality that chooses to change polling locations. These costs would be associated with notification of voters about the change in location. This notification can be implemented through mailings or other forms of town-wide outreach.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

Source: Public Hearing Testimony, 2/18/09

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5226*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF POLLING PLACES FOR A PRIMARY.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows registrars of voters to determine the number and location of polling places for primaries within their municipality or district. Under current law, the polling places must be the same as for the corresponding election. The bill covers primaries for municipal and state elections and includes candidates for municipal, district, state, and federal office.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2009

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 15 Nay 0 (03/06/2009)