



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 6947

HB0669206947HDO

Offered by:
REP. SPALLONE, 36th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6692 File No. 621 Cal. No. 421

"AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT TOWN CLERKS."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 9-17 of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

5 (a) For the purposes of this section, "primary day" means the day
6 that a primary for state, district and municipal offices is being held in
7 accordance with section 9-423, and "election day" means the day of
8 each regular election. (1) The registrars of voters of each town shall
9 hold sessions to examine the qualifications of electors and admit those
10 found qualified on the dates and at the times set forth in this section.
11 Such sessions shall be held on the following days during the hours
12 indicated, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this 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	Seventh day	
T8	before election day	9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

13 The session of the registrars of voters on the seventh day before
 14 election day shall be the last regular session for the admission of
 15 electors prior to an election, as defined in subsection (y) of section 9-1.
 16 (2) No town having a population of less than twenty-five thousand
 17 persons shall be required to hold sessions for admission of electors on
 18 the fourteenth day before primary day.

19 [(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
 20 the registrars of voters shall hold a limited session on the last week day
 21 before each regular election from nine o'clock a.m. to twelve o'clock
 22 noon for the purpose of admitting only those persons whose
 23 qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in the municipality
 24 were attained after the last session for the admission of electors prior
 25 to an election. The registrars shall enter the names of those electors
 26 admitted at such limited session on the proper list, with their
 27 residences by street and numbers, if any, before one o'clock p.m. of
 28 such last week day before the election.]

29 [(c)] (b) In addition to the sessions held pursuant to [subsections (a)
 30 and (b)] subsection (a) of this section, the registrars of voters in each
 31 town shall hold one session each year, between the first of January and
 32 the last day of the school year, at each public high school in such town,
 33 for the admission of persons who are eligible for admission under
 34 subsection (a) or (b) of section 9-12, provided, in the case of a public
 35 high school in a regional school district, such session shall be held on a
 36 rotating basis by the registrars of voters for each town which is a
 37 member of the regional school district. The registrars of voters need
 38 not give notice of this session by publication in a newspaper.

39 Sec. 502. Section 9-19b of the general statutes is repealed and the
40 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

41 (a) Except during the period between the last session for the
42 admission of electors and prior to [an election and the day following
43 that election, the town clerk or assistant town clerk] election day the
44 registrars of voters shall, during office hours and at the office of such
45 official, may examine the qualifications of any person applying in
46 person to be admitted as an elector and approve such application.

47 (b) Except during the period between the last session for the
48 admission of electors and prior to [an election and the day following
49 that election] election day registration, either registrar of voters, or a
50 deputy registrar of voters, assistant registrar of voters or special
51 assistant registrar of voters appointed in accordance with the
52 provisions of section 9-192, may examine the qualifications of any
53 person applying to be admitted as an elector in the town and [, except
54 for applications submitted pursuant to subdivision (4) of this
55 subsection,] approve such application submitted in person (1) at the
56 office of such official; (2) at any enrollment session of the registrars of
57 voters; (3) at any public place; (4) at any time and at any place in the
58 town, other than a public place; or (5) at any public office of the
59 Department of Motor Vehicles, Labor Department or Department of
60 Social Services which is located in the town in which the registrar of
61 voters, deputy registrar of voters, assistant registrar of voters or special
62 assistant registrar of voters serves, if written notice of the date and
63 time is given seven days in advance thereof to the commissioner of
64 such department. Upon receipt of a written notice under subdivision
65 (5) of this subsection, the commissioner of the department may
66 designate a portion of the public office which shall be used for the
67 admission of electors. The other registrar of voters, or any deputy
68 registrar of voters, assistant registrar of voters or special assistant
69 registrar of voters, shall be permitted to be present during the
70 admission of any person pursuant to subdivisions (4) and (5) of this
71 subsection. Applications accepted and examined prior to the last
72 session for admission of electors prior to an election pursuant to

73 subdivision (4) of this subsection may be approved after such last
74 session. The admission of any person pursuant to subdivision (4) shall
75 be effective on the date when both registrars of voters approve such
76 application. The registrar of voters who receives such application from
77 the applicant shall give written notice to the other registrar of voters
78 within one business day after such receipt and the registrars of voters
79 shall forthwith act on such applications. No rejection of any
80 application under subdivision (4) of this subsection shall be effective
81 until the registrar of voters has mailed to the other registrar and the
82 applicant a notice stating the reasons for the rejection. Any applicant
83 whose application is rejected may appeal under the provisions of
84 section 9-31l.

85 (c) Such registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters, assistant
86 registrar of voters or special assistant registrar of voters accepting
87 applications in accordance with subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this
88 section shall provide the applicant with a receipt. Upon approval or
89 disapproval of the application, the registrars of voters shall send a
90 notice thereof by first-class mail with instructions on the envelope that
91 it be returned if not deliverable at the address shown thereon. If such
92 notice of approval is returned undeliverable, the registrars of voters
93 shall take the necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43.

94 (d) During the period between the last session for the admission of
95 electors and prior to [an election and the opening of the limited session
96 for the admission of electors held on the last weekday before such
97 election under section 9-17, the town clerk or assistant town clerk
98 during office hours and at the office of such official and] the opening of
99 election day registration, either registrar of voters or a deputy registrar
100 of voters or assistant registrar of votes at the office of such official may
101 examine the qualifications of any person applying in person to be
102 admitted in such town and approve the application of such person
103 whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in the
104 municipality were attained after such last session, [and on or before
105 the last weekday prior to such election.]

106 Sec. 503. Section 9-19e of the general statutes is repealed and the
107 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

108 Except during the period between the last session for the admission
109 of electors prior to an election and the day following that election, an
110 admitting official of any town, as defined in section 9-17a, may, at the
111 times and places prescribed by law, accept applications for admission
112 as an elector from persons who reside in any Connecticut town and
113 examine their qualifications. Each such application for admission shall
114 be made on a form prescribed by the secretary of the state and shall
115 provide a space for application for enrollment in a political party as
116 provided in section 9-23a. Such admitting official shall hand a receipt
117 to the applicant and immediately mail the application to the [town
118 clerk or] registrars of voters of the town of residence of the applicant.
119 The [town clerk or] registrars of voters of the town of residence of such
120 applicant shall act upon such application, upon its receipt, and shall
121 note on such copy [his or] their action and the date thereof, and if
122 disapproved, [his or] their reasons therefor. [If the town clerk acts on
123 the application, he shall deliver such copy to] When the registrars of
124 voters as provided in section 9-20 [and whoever acts] act upon the
125 application, the registrars of voters shall immediately send written
126 notification to the applicant, and if the application is disapproved, [he
127 or they] the registrars of voters shall send such notification by certified
128 mail. No person shall be admitted as an elector under this section
129 unless [his] such person's application has been approved by the [town
130 clerk or] registrars of voters of [his] such person's town of residence.
131 Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit an admitting
132 official to approve applications for admission as an elector in places
133 located outside the boundaries of the municipality or district of which
134 [he] the registrar of voters is an official. Appeals may be taken from the
135 action of such [town clerk or] registrars of voters under this section in
136 accordance with section 9-31l. Any person making application for
137 registration under this section shall be entitled to the privileges of an
138 elector and party enrollment, if applicable, from the time such
139 application for admission as an elector is approved by the [town clerk

140 or] registrars of voters of [his] such person's voting residence. [,
141 provided if such application is made after twelve o'clock noon on the
142 last business day before a primary, such applicant shall be entitled to
143 the privileges of party enrollment immediately after the primary and
144 provided if such application is made on the day of a caucus or
145 convention, such applicant shall be entitled to the privileges of party
146 enrollment immediately after the caucus or convention.]

147 Sec. 504. Section 9-25 of the general statutes is repealed and the
148 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

149 [The town clerk or assistant town clerk or either] Either registrar of
150 voters or deputy registrar of voters or assistant registrar of voters, on
151 any week day and at any time [before five o'clock p.m. on the last week
152 day before any regular election,] when requested in writing by any
153 member of the armed forces desiring to be made an elector, or by any
154 former member of the armed forces discharged therefrom within the
155 calendar year immediately preceding such request, may forthwith
156 examine the qualifications of such person and admit [him to the
157 elector's oath] such person as an elector if [he] such person is qualified.

158 Sec. 505. Section 9-26 of the general statutes is repealed and the
159 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

160 Any person who, because of service in the armed forces,
161 membership in the United States Merchant Marine, membership in a
162 religious or welfare group or agency attached to and serving with the
163 armed forces or civilian employment with the United States or because
164 he is a spouse or dependent of any such person, and any person who
165 because of temporary residence outside the territorial limits of the
166 several states of the United States and the District of Columbia, may, at
167 any time, in the manner and upon a form prescribed by the Secretary
168 of the State, make application, in person or by mail, to the [town clerk]
169 registrars of voters of such town for such examination and for
170 admission as an elector. Upon such form, signed by the applicant, [he]
171 the applicant shall state under penalties of perjury, [his] the applicant's

172 name, bona fide residence by street and number, if any, in such town
173 and date of birth, and that [he] the applicant is, at the time of making
174 such application, a citizen of the United States. [He] The applicant shall
175 also state that [he] the applicant is (1) a member of the armed forces, of
176 the merchant marine or of a religious or welfare group or agency
177 attached to and serving with the armed forces, (2) a civilian employee
178 of the United States, (3) a spouse or dependent of any person described
179 in subdivision (1) or (2), or (4) a person temporarily residing outside
180 the territorial limits of the several states of the United States and the
181 District of Columbia. The [person] applicant shall also state the date of
182 [his] such applicant's induction into such armed forces or the date of
183 his joining the merchant marine or such religious or welfare group or
184 agency or of his entering United States employment or moving
185 temporarily outside the territorial limits of the several states of the
186 United States and the District of Columbia; whether [his] such
187 applicant's privileges as an elector are forfeited by reason of conviction
188 of crime; and whether [he] such applicant is, at the time of making
189 such application, registered as an elector in any other town in this or
190 any other state. The application form shall provide for application for
191 enrollment in any political party and shall indicate that such
192 enrollment is optional. No Social Security number on any such form
193 filed prior to January 1, 2000, may be disclosed to the public or to any
194 governmental agency. The [town clerk] registrars of voters may accept
195 such fully completed form as evidence of the qualifications of the
196 applicant to be admitted as an elector. The application for admission as
197 an elector shall include a statement that (A) specifies each eligibility
198 requirement, (B) contains an attestation that the applicant meets each
199 such requirement, and (C) requires the signature of the applicant
200 under penalty of perjury. In lieu of the application form prescribed by
201 the secretary under this section, any such person may apply for
202 registration and enrollment on the federal postcard application form
203 provided pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee
204 Voting Act, 100 Stat. 924, 42 USC 1973ff et seq., as amended from time
205 to time, or any other applicable law.

206 Sec. 506. Section 9-30 of the general statutes is repealed and the
207 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

208 All such applications shall be examined by the [town clerk]
209 registrars of voters and, after such examination, [he] the registrars of
210 voters shall decide upon the right of the applicant to be admitted as an
211 elector. If the [town clerk] registrars of voters decides that such
212 applicant possesses all the qualifications required by law of applicants
213 for admission as electors, [he] the registrars of voters shall so certify, in
214 writing, upon the form submitted by such applicant, who shall
215 thereupon be an elector and shall be so advised in writing by the
216 [clerk] registrars of voters. Said [clerk] registrars of voters shall
217 forthwith notify, by mail, any person whose application to be admitted
218 as an elector under the provisions of sections 9-26 to 9-29, inclusive, is
219 denied, with [his] the reasons therefor. The applicant may appeal the
220 rejection of [his] the application under section 9-31l.

221 Sec. 507. Section 9-31a of the general statutes is repealed and the
222 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

223 (a) As used in this section and section 9-31b, "permanently
224 physically disabled person" means a person who, by reason of a major
225 defect or infirmity of body, whether congenital or acquired by
226 accident, injury or disease, is permanently physically incapacitated to a
227 degree that prevents [him] the applicant and will continue to prevent
228 [him] the applicant from appearing in person at the office of the [town
229 clerk or] registrars of voters of the town where [he] the applicant
230 temporarily or permanently resides.

231 (b) Any permanently physically disabled person may, in the manner
232 prescribed under this section and upon a form as prescribed under
233 section 9-31b, apply to the [town clerk or either] registrar of voters of
234 such town for examination and admission as an elector of any
235 Connecticut town. (1) In the case of a permanently physically disabled
236 person whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in such
237 town are attained on or before [the last session for admission of

238 electors prior to] an election to be held in the town, the application
239 shall be submitted so that it will be received by [such town clerk or]
240 either registrar of voters not later than such last session. Upon receipt
241 of the application, [the town clerk or] either registrar of voters shall
242 notify the applicant of the day, and the hour, such day to be [within
243 ten days of] immediately upon the receipt of the application, at which
244 an admitting official shall meet with the applicant at the temporary or
245 permanent residence of the applicant. (2) In the case of a permanently
246 physically disabled person whose qualifications as to age, citizenship
247 or residence in such town are attained after the last session for
248 admission of electors prior to an election to be held in the town, the
249 application shall be submitted so that it will be received by [such town
250 clerk or] either registrar of voters not later than [the opening of the
251 limited session for the admission of electors held, under section 9-17,
252 on the last weekday prior to the] election day. Upon receipt of the
253 application, [the town clerk or] either registrar of voters shall notify the
254 applicant of the day [, and the hour, such day and hour to be not later
255 than 5:00 p.m. on the last weekday before the election, at] on which an
256 admitting official shall meet with the applicant at the temporary or
257 permanent residence of the applicant.

258 (c) Such admitting official shall meet at the appointed time with the
259 applicant for the purpose of examining [his] the applicant's
260 qualifications as an elector and for the purpose of admitting [him] the
261 applicant as an elector if the applicant is found qualified. Such official
262 shall make available to the applicant at such time, upon request, a copy
263 of the statement that specifies each eligibility requirement and contains
264 an attestation that the applicant meets each such requirement (1) in
265 video form in accordance with procedures established by the registrars
266 of voters, and (2) in braille, large print and audio form. Such official
267 shall provide the applicant with a written notice of approval or
268 disapproval at that time, except as otherwise provided in section 9-19e.
269 Any person making application for registration under this section shall
270 be entitled to the privileges of an elector and party enrollment, if
271 applicable, from the time such application for admission as an elector

272 is approved by the [town clerk or] registrars of voters of [his] the
273 applicant's voting residence.

274 Sec. 508. Section 9-56 of the general statutes is repealed and the
275 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

276 Except as otherwise provided in the case of an elector whose name
277 has not been placed on or has been removed from the enrollment list
278 under section 9-59, 9-60, 9-61 or 9-62, any elector not enrolled on any
279 enrollment list may at any time make a written and signed application
280 for enrollment to the registrars of voters on an application form for
281 admission as an elector, in accordance with the requirements of this
282 section. The application shall be effective as of the date it is filed with
283 the registrars of voters of the town of residence of the applicant and
284 any person making application for enrollment in such manner shall
285 immediately be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment unless the
286 application for enrollment [(1) is filed in person by the applicant with
287 the registrars of voters after twelve o'clock noon on the last business
288 day before a primary, in which case he shall be entitled to the
289 privileges of party enrollment immediately after the primary, (2) is
290 otherwise filed with the registrar] is mailed after the fifth day before
291 the primary, in which case [he] the applicant may appear in person on
292 the day of the primary or the applicant shall be entitled to the
293 privileges of party enrollment immediately after the primary, except as
294 provided in section 9-23a. [, or (3) is filed with the registrars of voters
295 after 5:00 p.m. on the last business day before a caucus or convention,
296 in which case he shall be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment
297 immediately after the caucus or convention.] The application shall be
298 signed or initialed by the registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters,
299 assistant registrar of voters or [registrar's] registrars of voters' clerk
300 receiving it, or by such other personnel as such registrar of voters or
301 deputy registrar of voters may appoint for the purpose, showing the
302 date when such application is received and, in the case of an applicant
303 not immediately eligible under section 9-59, 9-60, 9-61 or 9-62 to the
304 privileges accompanying enrollment in the party named in [his] the
305 applicant's application, the date upon which such applicant becomes

306 so eligible. [In municipalities divided into voting districts in which an
307 enrollment session is held in each district thereof under section 9-51,
308 application for enrollment shall be made to the registrar or assistant
309 registrar, as the case may be, in the voting district in which such elector
310 is entitled to vote at the time of making such application.] If any
311 registrar of voters or assistant registrar of voters fails to add any name
312 to any such list on written application or adds any name to any such
313 list except as herein provided, [he] such election official shall be fined
314 not more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty
315 days or both.

316 Sec. 509. Section 9-57 of the general statutes is repealed and the
317 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

318 Notwithstanding the provisions of any special act or charter to the
319 contrary, whenever any person makes application for admission as an
320 elector in person to an admitting official, [he] such person may, on an
321 application for admission as an elector, make application for
322 enrollment on the list of the political party of [his] such person's
323 preference. Any such elector who has so applied for enrollment shall,
324 upon acquisition of electoral privileges, immediately be entitled to all
325 the privileges of enrollment in the party named in [his] such person's
326 application, unless (1) [he] such person ceases to be an elector in the
327 town or voting district in which [he] such person is entitled to vote, as
328 the case may be, or (2) [he] such person makes application for erasure
329 or transfer or enrollment on the list of another party in accordance
330 with the provisions of section 9-59. [, (3) he files his application for
331 enrollment with the registrars of voters of his town of residence after
332 twelve o'clock noon on the last business day before a primary, in
333 which case he shall be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment
334 immediately after the primary, or (4) he files his application for
335 enrollment with the registrars of voters of his town of residence on the
336 day of a caucus or convention, in which case he shall be entitled to the
337 privileges of party enrollment immediately after the caucus or
338 convention.] The registrars of voters or assistant registrars of voters
339 shall add the names of all persons making such application to the

340 enrollment list or supplementary enrollment list of the political party
341 of each such applicant's preference, provided, if a caucus or convention
342 is to be held, such registrars of voters or assistant registrars of voters
343 shall prepare separate lists of such names according to party, on the
344 day [before] of the primary or the day of such caucus or convention.

345 Sec. 510. Section 9-59 of the general statutes is repealed and the
346 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

347 Any elector whose name appears on any enrollment list or who has
348 made application for enrollment may, at any time, make a written
349 application, on an application form for admission as an elector, which
350 shall be signed by such elector, to either registrar of voters for erasure
351 of [his] such elector's name from such list or for transfer of [his] such
352 elector's name to the enrollment list of another party. If an elector
353 makes an application for erasure, [his] such elector's name shall be
354 erased from said enrollment list and, if a municipality is having a
355 primary in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote, under
356 section 9-431, such elector's name shall be placed on the list of
357 unaffiliated electors together with the date [he] such elector is eligible
358 to vote in a primary. If an elector makes an application for transfer,
359 [his] such elector's name shall be transferred to the enrollment list of
360 another party, together with the effective date of such transfer. Any
361 elector whose name has been transferred from one enrollment list to
362 another or who has applied for erasure or transfer of his name from an
363 enrollment list shall not be entitled to participate or vote in a caucus or
364 primary of any party, participate in the appointment of members to
365 any board or commission that is political in nature, be appointed as a
366 member of any board or commission that is political in nature or be
367 entitled to the privileges accompanying enrollment in any party for a
368 period of three months from the date of the filing of [his] such elector's
369 application for transfer or for erasure. Any elector who removes [his]
370 such elector's name from the registry list and from an enrollment list in
371 accordance with the provisions of section 9-35b shall not be entitled to
372 enroll in any political party or vote in any primary for three months
373 after such removal. The registrars of voters shall state, on the notice of

374 acceptance sent under sections 9-23g, 9-19b and 9-19e, the date
375 enrollment privileges take effect, if delayed.

376 Sec. 511. Section 9-431 of the general statutes is repealed and the
377 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

378 (a) No person shall be permitted to vote at a primary of a party
379 unless (1) [he] such person's name is on the last-completed enrollment
380 list of such party [in the municipality or voting district, as the case may
381 be,] or such person appears in person on the day of the primary for
382 election day registration, or (2) if authorized by the state rules of such
383 party filed pursuant to section 9-374, [he] such person is an unaffiliated
384 elector in the municipality or voting district, as the case may be,
385 provided if two or more such parties are holding primaries on the
386 same day in such municipality or voting district, whether for the same
387 offices or different offices, such unaffiliated elector may vote in the
388 primary of only one such party. Such state party rules may authorize
389 unaffiliated electors to vote for some or all offices to be contested at its
390 primaries.

391 (b) Any such person offering to vote and being challenged as to [his]
392 such person's identity or residence shall, before [he] such person votes,
393 prove by the testimony, under oath, of at least one other elector
394 qualified to vote in such primary or by such other evidence acceptable
395 to the moderator either of the following which are applicable: (1) [His]
396 Such person's identity with the person on whose name [he] such
397 person offers to vote, or (2) [his] such person's bona fide residence in
398 the municipality or political subdivision holding the primary, as the
399 case may be. The rules of each party in each municipality shall
400 prescribe whether members of the town committee shall be elected
401 from the municipality at large, in which case any person who submits
402 an application in person for election day registration or who is on the
403 last-completed enrollment list of such party in such municipality shall
404 be eligible to vote in a primary for the election of such committee
405 members, or whether such committee members shall be elected from
406 political subdivisions of such municipality, in which case only persons

407 on the last-completed list of such party in such a political subdivision
408 or any person who submits an application in person for election day
409 registration shall be eligible to vote in a primary for the election of
410 such committee members from such political subdivision; provided no
411 town committee in any municipality shall be elected both at large and
412 from political subdivisions.

413 Sec. 512. Section 9-431a of the general statutes is repealed and the
414 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

415 A person whose name does not appear on the registry list of any
416 town or district shall not be eligible to vote in any caucus, primary or
417 town convention within such town unless such person submits an
418 application, in person, for election day registration and is admitted as
419 an elector by the registrars of voters.

420 Sec. 513. Sections 9-19g and 9-23a of the general statutes are
421 repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2009*)"