



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 477**

February Session, 2010

Substitute Senate Bill No. 425

*Senate, April 12, 2010*

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 NONPARTISAN MEMBERSHIP ON BOARDS OF EDUCATION.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 7-192a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

3 (a) No provision of this chapter shall be deemed to empower any  
4 municipality to levy or collect any tax not authorized by the general  
5 statutes or to adopt a charter, charter amendments or home rule  
6 ordinance amendments which shall affect matters concerning  
7 qualification and admission of electors; duties and responsibilities of  
8 registrars of voters; duties and responsibilities of town clerks with  
9 respect to electors, voting and elections; forfeiture of electoral rights  
10 and restoration of the same; absentee voting; conduct of and  
11 procedures at elections; hours of voting; canvass of electors;  
12 preliminary, final and supplementary registry lists; warning of  
13 elections; election officials and their duties and responsibilities;

14 election canvass and returns; election contests; corrupt practices;  
 15 prohibited acts with respect to elections; nomination of candidates;  
 16 adoption and amendment of party rules; primaries; and political  
 17 parties and enrollment therein.

18 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any  
 19 special act, municipal charter or home rule ordinance, a municipality  
 20 may, by ordinance adopted by its legislative body, enact provisions  
 21 authorizing the nomination of nonpartisan candidates to the local or  
 22 regional board of education for such municipality's school district. In  
 23 the case of a board for a regional school district, authorization for the  
 24 nomination of such candidates shall take effect if each member  
 25 municipality of such district adopts such ordinance.

|   |              |        |
|---|--------------|--------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |              |        |
| Section 1   | July 1, 2010 | 7-192a |

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

Clarified language in subsection (b) concerning regional districts.

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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.

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

The bill, which authorizes municipalities to adopt an ordinance to allow for the nomination of nonpartisan candidates to boards of education, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

***The Out Years***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 425*****AN ACT CONCERNING NONPARTISAN MEMBERSHIP ON  
BOARDS OF EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes municipalities to adopt an ordinance to allow nomination of nonpartisan candidates to their boards of education. For regional school districts, nonpartisan candidates may not be nominated unless all participating municipalities adopt an ordinance authorizing the practice. The bill's provisions apply regardless of any statute, special act, municipal charter, or home rule ordinance. Under existing law, most municipal boards of education are required to have representation from more than one political party, and generally no party may hold more than two-thirds of the seats on a board. This requirement does not apply to boards of education for regional school districts.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2010

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 12      Nay 3      (03/22/2010)