



Election Division
Election Administrators
Registrars of Voters

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*Chairman Senator Slosseberg, Representative Morin, members of G A & E Committee
My name is Judith Beaudreau, Registrar of Voters from Vernon. I am here today to testify
mostly in favor of all bills presented today.*

RSB 212

AAC PROVISIONAL BALLOTS FOR STATE AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

This bill will get rid of the need for challenged ballots. Maybe some where in this bill should be written that Challenged ballots can be repealed and provisional ballots shall take the place of these.

I would like to suggest that it be slightly worded different. We want to make sure that the provisional Ballots are done by the Assist Registrar of Voters and not just a poll worker. Assistant Registrars do them now and are trained to do these types of ballots.

So in Line 56 - 58 New Language

(c) If a poll worker denies an individual the opportunity to cast a ballot for any reason for which a provisional ballot may be issued, such poll worker shall HAVE ~~offer~~ such individual OFFERED a provisional ballot.

RSB 213

AAC INTERNET ACCESS FOR REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

It is sad that in the year 2012 that some of my colleagues do not have internet access in their offices. Registrars of Voters have been treated and thought about as that saying of "STEP CHILDREN". Everyone else in their respective town halls have internet and yet you have to mandate to the towns in CT that the Registrars of Voters must have internet access. This is amazing. Most of the Registrars of Voters information coming from DMV and other sources comes by way of the internet and these registrars have to get their information at home and bring to the office to do their work. This is really shameful that Registrars who run Elections are under such inadequate tools to do their jobs. Thank you for raising this bill and bringing this important issue to light...

RSB 214

AAC PERMANENT ABSENTEE BALLOT STATUS FOR THE PERMANENTLY DISABLED.

This was a request that the Registrars of voters suggested last year and still support this concept. Registrars of Voters want to make sure that our disability communities are able to get absentee ballots and vote. There must not be any undo burden on these electors in casting their ballot. I would like to suggest a slight language change.

That on line # 4 to remove WITH A CERTIFICATE FROM A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER. It really doesn't make since that a disabled voter must prove his disability in 2012. The Electors word must count for something. Electors are able to fill out absentee applications now and do not have to prove their disability. This seems to be an undo burden especially for the disabled.

When one is stating they are out of town no proof is needed why than must a disabled elector have proof of his disability?

(a) Any elector who is permanently physically disabled and who files an application for an absentee ballot [~~with a certification from a primary care provider,~~] indicating that such elector is permanently physically disabled and unable to appear in person at such elector's designated polling location, shall be eligible for permanent absentee ballot status and shall receive [an application for] an absentee ballot for each election, primary or referendum conducted in such elector's municipality for which such elector is eligible to vote. Such elector's permanent absentee ballot status shall remain in effect until such elector: (1) Is removed from the official registry list of the municipality, (2) is removed from permanent absentee ballot status pursuant to the provisions of this section, or (3) requests that he or she no longer receive such permanent absentee ballot status.

RSB 217

AAC CHALLENGERS AS POLLING PLACE OFFICIALS

I am so glad that we are cleaning up some of these antiquated laws. Registrars of voters have not used challengers for years in the polling place. Years ago when communities were smaller, I would assume that the job was needed. Now with all of the postal system technology and automation that is in existence we generally know when a person has moved.

I have a couple of language changes to submit for your consideration. Most everywhere in the statutes when we are changing a statute we try to also update the names of the positions.

In lines 17 & 27 & 111 - it should be instead of checker - it is OFFICIAL CHECKER and the position of BALLOT CLERK is a relatively new position that came with the tabulators but has not been fully integrated into out laws.

Lines 102 & 107 & 112 & 130 - should be REGISTRAR OF VOTERS.

Lines 125 & 130 - should be OFFICIAL CHECKERS

Than in SEC 4 line # 94 & 95 it seems that the whole portion on challengers should come out not just the name challenger.

of one moderator, at least one, but not more than two official checkers, ~~[not more than two }[challengers] [if he deems it necessary]~~, and at least one and not more

RSB 218

AAC POLLING PLACES FOR PRIMARIES

This is a great suggestion to saving money in primaries. Today we have fewer registrations for enrollments and it really is a waste of tax payer's funds to hold primaries in the same places as Elections. The percentage of enrolled members in a primary that actually come out to vote is very small.

For instance in Vernon: 30 Thousand Population 6 polling places

	Registered	in person	abs	%voting
2000 Dem	4262	1125	34	27.2%
Rep	3056	1313	48	44.5
2004 Dem	4112	504	23	12.8
2006 Dem	4318	1963	79	47.3
2008 Dem	4645	2479	105	55.6
Rep	2808	1041	62	39.3
2010 Dem	4867	1187	88	26.2
Rep	2830	915	65	34.6

If you look at the percentages it looks great but let's look at how many are enrolled registered electors and divide that by 6 polling places. Hardly worth the money to open all of the polling places for such little turn out. This coming Republican Primary on the 24th of April and our August Primaries will bring similar stats. It is time we looked at doing business better for less money. I hope that you will consider this and also raise the population level so that municipalities such as myself can also join in this if it passes. Population is always the potential but true to fact is the enrollment stats and they are considerably much lower. I would suggest a population of 50 or 60 thousand.

(b) In each municipality having a population of twenty thousand

RHB 5250

AAC THE APPOINTMENT OF PRIMARY POLLING OFFICIALS

This will bring the primaries statutes in line with our election statutes. Registrars of Voters are looking for consistency. To have all elections - primaries etc run the same no matter if it is a municipal - state or federal process. The hiring of poll workers has got to be decided on the training given to them and the capability of poll workers to demonstrate the integrity of elections and that their political preferences should not or will not be tolerated in the polling place. That poll workers are election officials and that they do not work for the political parties - candidates - or committees. They work for the Election Office and the Voters of the municipality holding the process. Their political preferences can only be demonstrated in casting their secret vote. Would like to have the sentence added on line 70 (see below)

Substitute language

Lines 4, 9, 21, 27, 40, 45, 47, 48, 50, 53, 63, 67, 68, 71, 74, 76

Registrar = REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Lines 25, 28, 40, 45, checkers = OFFICIAL CHECKERS

Lines 26, 29, assistant registrars = ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Line 28 add BALLOT CLERK

Line 8, 9, 26 Delete references to Challengers

68 the above-mentioned proportion. The registrar OF VOTERS shall notify all such
69 candidates and contestants of their right to submit a list of designees
70 under this section.

**ALL PROSPECTIVE PRIMARY POLL WORKERS MUST BE PROPERLY
TRAINED BY THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS IN THE APPRIOATE POSITIONS
IN ORDER TO SERVE AS POLL WORKERS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this
71 section, the registrar OF VOTERS shall appoint as moderators only persons who are

RHB 5251

AAC TRANSFER ON VOTER REGISTRATION LISTS.

I thought that this was ROVAC bill to replace the Transfer Form with a Registration Card as we did last year for the restoration form to a voter registration Card. But this is dealing mainly with Canvass and not transfer of names on our list on election - primary days.

RHB 5254

AAC PRIMARIES FOR MUNICIPAL OR STATE OFFICE.

24 [shall] of voters may separately furnish one voting boothS for [each five
25 hundred or fraction of five hundred enrolled party members and one
26 voting booth for each five hundred or fraction of five hundred]
27 unaffiliated electors authorized to vote at such primary in such district

50 voting districts] at least one, [and] but not more than two assistant
51 registrars OF VOTERS

77 registrar of voters shall appoint two additional OFFICIAL checkers to check the
78 list of unaffiliated electors who are authorized to vote on the separate

103 registrar of voters not later than ten TWENTY-ONE days before the primary, except

108 above-mentioned proportion. The registrar of voters shall notify all
109 such candidates and contestants of their right to submit a list of
110 [designees] qualified poll workers under this section.

**ALL PROSPECTIVE PRIMARY POLL WORKERS MUST BE PROPERLY
TRAINED BY THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS IN THE APPRIOATE POSITIONS
IN ORDER TO SERVE AS POLL WORKERS. Notwithstanding**
111 any other provision of this section, the registrar of voters shall appoint

