



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 6670

LCO No. 4817



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING SUPERVISED ABSENTEE VOTING,
APPLICATIONS FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS AND DUTIES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED TO MODERATORS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 9-159q of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) As used in this section and section 9-159r, as amended by this
5 act:

6 (1) "Institution" means a veterans' health care facility, residential
7 care home, health care facility for the handicapped, nursing home, rest
8 home, mental health facility that is not operated by the state, alcohol or
9 drug treatment facility, an infirmary operated by an educational
10 institution for the care of its students, faculty and employees or an
11 assisted living facility; and

12 (2) "Designee" means an elector of the same town and political party

13 as the appointing registrar of voters which elector is not an employee
14 of the institution at which supervised voting is conducted.

15 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 9-159r of the general statutes is
16 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
17 *passage*):

18 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, [to the
19 contrary,] if twenty or more of the patients in any institution in the
20 state are electors, absentee ballots voted by such electors shall be voted
21 under the supervision of the registrars of voters or their designees of
22 the town in which the institution is located, in accordance with the
23 provisions of this section. [As used in this section, the term
24 "institution" shall be construed as defined in section 9-159q.]

25 (b) Application for an absentee ballot for any such patient shall be
26 made to the clerk of the town in which such patient is eligible to vote.
27 The application procedure set forth in section 9-140, as amended by
28 this act, shall apply, except that the clerk shall deliver the absentee
29 voting set for any such application to the clerk of the town in which
30 the institution is located, who shall deliver all such voting sets he
31 receives to the registrars of such town, on the date when the
32 supervision of absentee balloting is to occur. The ballots and envelopes
33 shall be prepared for delivery to the applicant as provided in sections
34 9-137 to 9-140a, inclusive. The registrars or their designees shall
35 furnish the town clerk a written receipt for such ballots. The registrars
36 of the town in which an institution is located and the administrator of
37 the institution shall mutually agree on a date and time for such
38 supervision of absentee balloting, which shall be not later than the last
39 business day before the election or primary.

40 (c) The supervision of absentee balloting under this section shall be
41 carried out in accordance with the provisions of subsections (g), (h), (i)
42 and (k) of section 9-159q.

43 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 9-140 of the general statutes is

44 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
45 *October 1, 2013*):

46 (a) Application for an absentee ballot shall be made to the clerk of
47 the municipality in which the applicant is eligible to vote or has
48 applied for such eligibility. Any person who assists another person in
49 the completion of an application shall, in the space provided, sign the
50 application and print or type his name, residence address and
51 telephone number. Such signature shall be made under the penalties of
52 false statement in absentee balloting. The municipal clerk shall not
53 invalidate the application solely because it does not contain the name
54 of a person who assisted the applicant in the completion of the
55 application. The municipal clerk shall not distribute with an absentee
56 ballot application any material which promotes the success or defeat of
57 any candidate or referendum question. The municipal clerk shall
58 maintain a log of all absentee ballot applications provided under this
59 subsection, including the name and address of each person to whom
60 applications are provided and the number of applications provided to
61 each such person. Each absentee ballot application provided by the
62 municipal clerk shall [be consecutively numbered and] be stamped or
63 marked with the name of the municipality issuing the application and
64 the municipal clerk shall assign a unique number to the person to
65 whom the applications are provided. The application shall be signed
66 by the applicant under the penalties of false statement in absentee
67 balloting on (1) the form prescribed by the Secretary of the State
68 pursuant to section 9-139a, (2) a form provided by any federal
69 department or agency if applicable pursuant to section 9-153a, or (3)
70 any of the special forms of application prescribed pursuant to section
71 9-150c, 9-153a, 9-153b, 9-153d, 9-153e, 9-153f or 9-158d, if applicable.
72 Any such absentee ballot applicant who is unable to write may cause
73 the application to be completed by an authorized agent who shall, in
74 the spaces provided for the date and signature, write the date and
75 name of the absentee ballot applicant followed by the word "by" and
76 his own signature. If the ballot is to be mailed to the applicant, the

77 applicant shall list the bona fide personal mailing address of the
78 applicant in the appropriate space on the application.

79 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Any duty or responsibility
80 assigned to a moderator under title 9 of the general statutes shall be
81 carried out by the moderator or the moderator's designee, if applicable.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | 9-159q(a) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | 9-159r(a) |
| Sec. 3 | <i>October 1, 2013</i> | 9-140(a) |
| Sec. 4 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |

Statement of Purpose:

To permit individuals who reside in a state operated mental health facility to vote absentee without supervision of the registrars of voters, to provide that a unique number be assigned to the person requesting absentee ballot applications, to clarify that any duty or responsibility assigned to an elections moderator shall be carried out by the moderator and to make technical changes.

[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.]