



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

**Raised Bill No. 433**

LCO No. 2117

\*02117 \_\_\_\_\_ GAE\*

Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A CONNECTICUT DEMOCRACY INDEX.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Secretary of the State  
2 shall develop a Connecticut Democracy Index for the evaluation of  
3 elections held on or after January 1, 2014, for federal, state and  
4 municipal offices. In preparation of the index, the Secretary shall  
5 establish and operate a data collection system to collect and measure  
6 data, as described in subsection (c) of this section. The Secretary shall  
7 update such index after each election and make such index available to  
8 the public through the Internet.

9 (b) The Secretary of the State shall design the index in a manner that  
10 (1) provides assistance to the Secretary and the municipalities in the  
11 administration of elections for federal, state and municipal offices, and  
12 (2) presents data on a town-by-town basis, in a manner designed to  
13 demonstrate administration practices that (A) ensure the right of  
14 individuals to vote, (B) improve the quality of voter access to polls and

15 the quality of voter services, and (C) secure the accuracy and integrity  
16 of elections.

17 (c) The Secretary of the State shall determine which data to collect  
18 for the Connecticut Democracy Index. The Secretary shall analyze such  
19 data, using results-based accountability principles, to determine the  
20 effectiveness of the administration of elections for federal, state or  
21 municipal offices.

22 (d) Not later than nine months following an election day in 2014 and  
23 in any year thereafter, the Secretary of the State shall report to the joint  
24 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
25 matters relating to elections and appropriations and the budgets of  
26 state agencies in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
27 general statutes, and to the chief elected officials and registrars of  
28 voters of each municipality. Such report shall include any  
29 recommendations for (1) improving the types of election data that are  
30 collected and included in the Connecticut Democracy Index, and (2)  
31 legislation or administrative action to improve state and municipal  
32 performance in the administration of elections for federal, state and  
33 municipal offices, as determined based on a town-by-town comparison  
34 of such election data.

35 (e) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations in accordance  
36 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes to implement  
37 the provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the Secretary of the State to develop a Connecticut Democracy Index for the evaluation of elections.

*[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.]*