



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 441

LCO No. 2263



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

**AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC OR MANUAL CHECK-IN OF
VOTERS, THE PROCESS OF VOTING AND ELECTRONIC FILING OF
OFFICIAL CHECK LISTS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-234 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

3 Each registrar of voters shall be present during the taking of the
4 vote at any regular or special state or municipal election in the
5 registrar's of voters town or district. The [assistants] official checkers
6 in their respective districts shall, when requested by [either registrar]
7 the registrars of voters, be present at the taking of any such vote and
8 discharge the duties of registrars of voters. [Each registrar] The
9 registrars of voters shall appoint some suitable person an official
10 checker to check the list manually on paper or electronically in each
11 district, unless the registrars of voters have established two shifts for
12 election officials under the provisions of section 9-258a, in which case
13 [each such registrar] the registrars of voters shall appoint [one such

14 person] an official checker for each district for each shift. Each [such
15 person, who is so appointed] official checker [,] shall check the name of
16 each elector [thereon] on the list when the elector offers the elector's
17 vote, and no voting tabulator tender shall permit any vote to be cast
18 upon the voting tabulator until the name has been so checked.

19 Sec. 2. Section 9-261 of the general statutes is repealed and the
20 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

21 (a) In each primary, election or referendum, when an elector has
22 entered the polling place, the elector shall announce the elector's street
23 address [, if any,] and the elector's name to the official [checkers]
24 checker in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all the election
25 officials present to hear the same. Each elector who registered to vote
26 by mail for the first time on or after January 1, 2003, and has a "mark"
27 next to the elector's name on the official registry list, as required by
28 section 9-23r, shall present to the official [checkers] checker, before the
29 elector votes, either a current and valid photo identification that shows
30 the elector's name and address or a copy of a current utility bill, bank
31 statement, government check, paycheck or other government
32 document that shows the name and address of the elector. Each other
33 elector shall (1) present to the official [checkers] checker the elector's
34 Social Security card or any other preprinted form of identification
35 which shows the elector's name and either the elector's address,
36 signature or photograph, or (2) on a form prescribed by the Secretary
37 of the State, write the elector's residential address and date of birth,
38 print the elector's name and sign a statement under penalty of false
39 statement that the elector is the elector whose name appears on the
40 official checklist. Such form shall clearly state the penalty of false
41 statement. A separate [such] form shall be used for each elector. If the
42 elector presents a preprinted form of identification under subdivision
43 (1) of this subsection, the official [checkers] checker shall check the
44 name of such elector on the official checklist, manually on paper or
45 electronically. If the elector completes the form under subdivision (2)
46 of this subsection, the registrar of voters or the assistant [registrar]

47 registrars of voters, as the case may be, shall examine the information
48 on such form and either instruct the official [checkers] checker to check
49 the name of such elector on the official checklist, manually on paper or
50 electronically, or notify the elector that the form is incomplete or
51 inaccurate.

52 (b) In the event that an elector is present at the polling place but is
53 unable to gain access to the polling place due to a temporary
54 incapacity, the elector may request that the ballot be brought to him or
55 her. The registrars of voters or the assistant registrars of voters, as the
56 case may be, shall take such ballot, along with a privacy sleeve to such
57 elector. The elector shall show identification, in accordance with the
58 provisions of this section. The elector shall forthwith mark the ballot in
59 the presence of the election officials in such manner that the election
60 officials shall not know how the ballot is marked. The elector shall
61 place the ballot in the privacy sleeve. The election officials shall mark
62 the elector's name on the official voter list, manually on paper or
63 electronically, as having voted in person and deliver such ballot and
64 privacy sleeve to the voting tabulator where such ballot shall be placed
65 into the tabulator, by the election official, for counting. The moderator
66 shall record such activity in the moderator's diary, but not record such
67 elector's name.

68 (c) In each polling place in which two or more parties are holding
69 primaries in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote,
70 pursuant to section 9-431, an unaffiliated elector shall also announce to
71 the separate table of the official [checkers] checker for unaffiliated
72 electors the party in whose primary the elector chooses to vote and the
73 official [checkers] checker shall note such party when checking such
74 elector's name on the checklist of unaffiliated electors, manually on
75 paper or electronically, provided such choice shall not alter the
76 elector's unaffiliated status.

77 (d) In each polling place in which two or more parties are holding
78 primaries in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote or in

79 which one party is holding a primary in which unaffiliated electors are
80 authorized to vote for some but not all offices to be contested at the
81 primary, the official [checkers] checker shall give to each elector
82 checked, manually on paper or electronically, a receipt provided by the
83 [registrar] registrars of voters, in a form prescribed by the Secretary of
84 the State, specifying either (1) the party with which [he] the elector is
85 enrolled, if any, or (2) in the case of an unaffiliated elector, the party in
86 whose primary [he] the elector has so chosen to vote, and whether [he]
87 the elector is authorized to vote for only a partial ballot.

88 (e) If not challenged by anyone lawfully present in the polling place,
89 the elector shall be permitted to pass to the separated area to receive
90 the ballot. The elector shall give any receipt the elector has received to
91 a ballot clerk who shall give the elector a ballot to vote only in the
92 primary of the party specified by the receipt. The elector shall be
93 permitted into the voting booth area, and shall then register his or her
94 vote in secret. Having voted, the elector shall immediately exit the
95 voting booth area and deposit the ballot in the voting tabulator and
96 leave the room. No elector shall remain within the voting booth longer
97 than the time necessary to complete the ballot, and, if the elector
98 refuses to leave such booth after completing the ballot, the elector shall
99 at once be removed by the election officials upon order of the
100 moderator. Not more than one elector at a time shall be permitted to be
101 within the enclosed space which the elector occupies while the elector
102 completes his or her ballot, provided an elector may be accompanied
103 within such enclosed space by one or more children who are fifteen
104 years of age or younger and supervised by the elector, if the elector is
105 the parent or legal guardian of such children. [At least two additional
106 electors, whose next turn it is to vote shall be permitted in the polling
107 area for the purpose of receiving a ballot.] If any elector, after entering
108 the voting booth area, asks for further instruction concerning the
109 manner of voting, the election officials shall give such instructions or
110 directions to the elector; but no election official instructing or assisting
111 an elector, except as provided in section 9-264, shall look at the ballot

112 in such a way as to see the elector's markings or in any manner seek to
113 influence any such elector in the casting of the elector's vote.

114 Sec. 3. Section 9-307 of the general statutes is repealed and the
115 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

116 Immediately after the polls are closed, the official [checkers]
117 checker, appointed under the provisions of section 9-234, as amended
118 by this act, shall make and deliver to the moderator a certificate, [in
119 duplicate,] stating the whole number of names on the registry list or
120 enrollment list including, if applicable, unaffiliated electors authorized
121 under section 9-431 to vote in the primary, and the number checked as
122 having voted in that election or primary. For the purpose of computing
123 the whole number of names on the registry list, the lists of persons
124 who have applied for [presidential or] overseas ballots prepared in
125 accordance with section 9-158h shall be included. [Thereupon the
126 registrars or assistant registrars, as the case may be, acting at the
127 respective polls, shall write and sign with ink, on the list or lists so
128 used and checked,] The registrars of voters and head moderator shall
129 file a certificate of the whole number of names registered [thereon] on
130 the list eligible to vote in the election or primary and the number
131 checked as having voted in that election or primary, and deposit [it]
132 the certificate in the office of the municipal clerk of their town on or
133 before the following day. The municipal clerk shall carefully preserve
134 [the same on file, with the marks on it without alteration, for public
135 inspection,] the certificate and shall immediately enter a certified copy
136 of such certificate on the town records. Subject to the provisions of
137 section 7-109, [the municipal clerk may] if a paper checklist is used,
138 registrars of voters shall, based on the information contained on such
139 list, enter any such information required pursuant to section 9-50b into
140 the state-wide centralized voter registration system and shall destroy
141 any voting check list [four years] twenty-two months after the date
142 upon which it was used. [The moderator shall place one of the
143 duplicate certificates which the moderator received from the official
144 checkers with the voted ballots from the polling place and the

145 moderator's return provided for in sections 9-259 and 9-310 and shall
146 then lock the tabulator as provided in section 9-310, and the moderator
147 shall deposit the other of such duplicate certificates in the office of the
148 municipal clerk on or before the following day.] The registrars of
149 voters shall make available for public inspection in the registrars'
150 office, any such information after such information is entered into the
151 system.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	9-234
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	9-261
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	9-307

Statement of Purpose:

To allow for electronic check-in of voters, make minor changes concerning the process of voting and make changes concerning the filing of the certificate of the official check lists, including how such information is publicly available.

[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.]