



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5611

February Session, 2016

* _____HB05611GAE____032116_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE HOLDING OF PUBLIC HEARINGS PRIOR TO THE DETERMINATION OF POLLING PLACES BY MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or
4 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time,
5 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of
6 voters of any municipality taking such action shall provide a suitable
7 polling place in each district but, if the registrars fail to agree as to the
8 location of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall
9 determine the location thereof in accordance with subsection (b) of this
10 section. Polling places to be used in an election shall be determined at
11 least thirty-one days before such election, and such polling places shall
12 not be changed within said period of thirty-one days, except that, if the
13 municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously
14 find that any such polling place within such municipality has been
15 rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith designate
16 another polling place to be used in place of the one so rendered
17 unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling place has
18 been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate lists of the

19 electors residing in each district, [and] shall appoint for each district a
20 moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229 and such
21 other election officials as are required by law [,] and shall designate
22 one of the moderators so appointed or any other elector of such town
23 to be the head moderator for the purpose of declaring the results of
24 elections in the whole municipality. The registrars may also designate
25 a deputy head moderator to assist the head moderator in the
26 performance of his duties, provided the deputy head moderator and
27 the head moderator shall not be enrolled in the same major party, as
28 defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372. The selectmen, town clerk,
29 registrars of voters and all other officers of the municipality shall
30 perform the duties required of them by law with respect to elections in
31 each voting district established in accordance with this section. Voting
32 district lines shall not be drawn by a municipality so as to conflict with
33 the lines of congressional districts, [senate] senatorial districts or
34 assembly districts as established by law, except (1) as provided in
35 section 9-169d, and (2) that as to municipal elections, any part of a split
36 voting district containing less than two hundred electors may be
37 combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from which all
38 and the same officers are elected at such municipal election. Any
39 change in the boundaries of voting districts made [within] less than
40 ninety days prior to any election or primary shall not apply with
41 respect to such election or primary. The provisions of this section shall
42 prevail over any contrary provision of any charter or special act.

43 (b) If the legislative body of any municipality is required to
44 determine the location of any polling place pursuant to subsection (a)
45 of this section, the legislative body shall conduct a public hearing in
46 such municipality on any proposed location of such polling place prior
47 to the final determination of such location. The legislative body shall
48 cause notice of the time, place and subject of such public hearing to be
49 published, not more than ten days and not less than three days prior to
50 such public hearing, in a newspaper having a circulation in the
51 municipality.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-169
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Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec. (a), a comma was inserted before "except that" in the third sentence for proper grammar, "senate" was bracketed and "senatorial" was inserted in its place for consistency and other technical and conforming changes were made.

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*