

**Proposed Substitute  
Bill No. 253**

LCO No. 3371

**AN ACT CONCERNING POLLING PLACES FOR PRIMARIES.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-438 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 [In] (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this  
4 section, in each municipality or voting district, the polling place or  
5 places for [primaries] a primary held under sections 9-382 to 9-450,  
6 inclusive, shall be the same as those used for the election to be held.

7 (b) (1) The number of polling places required under subsection (a) of  
8 this section may be reduced by the registrars of voters of a  
9 municipality in accordance with this subsection.

10 (2) If the registrars of voters of any such municipality agree to  
11 reduce the number of polling places, the registrars of voters shall, not  
12 later than sixty days prior to a primary held under sections 9-382 to 9-  
13 450, inclusive, designate the polling place or places for such primary.  
14 Such polling place or places may be the same as or different than the  
15 polling places used for the election to be held.

16 (3) Not earlier than sixty days, but not later than forty-five days,  
17 prior to such primary, the registrars of voters of any such municipality

18 shall notify the Secretary of the State and the candidates seeking  
19 nomination to an office in such primary of the change in the polling  
20 place or places. If a candidate petitions for nomination to an office after  
21 the registrars of voters have notified candidates of such change, the  
22 registrars of voters shall immediately notify the petitioning candidate  
23 of such change. If any candidate objects to a change in the polling place  
24 or places, the candidate shall notify the Secretary of such objection not  
25 later than four o'clock p.m. on the thirtieth day prior to the primary.  
26 Such notification from the candidate shall be in the form of a written  
27 letter, signed by the candidate, and shall be held confidential by the  
28 Secretary. The Secretary shall promptly notify such registrars of voters  
29 and each candidate seeking nomination to an office in such primary  
30 that the Secretary has received a letter of objection. Such notification  
31 shall not identify the candidate who objected. If such a candidate so  
32 objects, the polling place or places shall be the same as those used for  
33 the election to be held.

34 (4) Not later than twenty-five days prior to such primary, the  
35 registrars of voters of any such municipality shall send notification of  
36 the polling place for the primary, by mail, to each elector whose  
37 polling place for the primary will be different than the elector's polling  
38 place for the election. The registrars of voters shall not be required to  
39 so notify an elector for any subsequent primary if the primary polling  
40 place for such elector remains the same as that provided in the initial  
41 notification.

42 (5) If any polling place that would otherwise be open pursuant to  
43 subsection (a) of this section is closed for a primary pursuant to this  
44 subsection, the registrars of voters of any such municipality shall  
45 ensure that a sign is posted at such polling place providing electors  
46 with information to redirect such electors to the open polling place or  
47 places for the primary.

48 (6) Notwithstanding any provision of this title or title 7, any special  
49 act, charter or ordinance, if the number of polling places for a primary  
50 is reduced pursuant to this subsection, the number of moderators

51 required for such primary may be reduced, if the registrars of voters of  
52 such municipality so agree, provided at least one certified moderator  
53 serves each polling place.

54 (c) When unaffiliated electors are authorized under section 9-431 to  
55 vote in the primary of [either of two parties, both] any one of multiple  
56 parties, all such parties shall hold their primaries in the same room of  
57 each [such] polling place. On the day of the primary, the polls shall  
58 remain open for voting from six o'clock a.m. until eight o'clock p.m.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-438