



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

**Raised Bill No. 5420**

LCO No. 1998



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT  
ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

**AN ACT REQUIRING ADDITIONAL POLLING PLACES AT  
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION DURING STATE  
ELECTIONS.**

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 Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the  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. Polling places to be used in an election  
10 shall be determined at least thirty-one days before such election, and  
11 such polling places shall not be changed within said period of thirty-  
12 one days except that, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a  
13 municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such  
14 municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they

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

41 (b) In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this  
42 section, (1) the legislative body of any town, consolidated town and  
43 city or consolidated town and borough within which an institution of  
44 higher education is located shall divide such municipality so as to  
45 provide at each state election a separate voting district containing such  
46 institution, provided such institution shall have (A) reported to the  
47 United States Department of Education, in the year prior to such state  
48 election, a twelve-month, full-time equivalent enrollment in excess of

49 three thousand at any campus of such institution, and (B) notified, not  
50 later than January first of the year of such state election, the registrars  
51 of voters of such municipality in which any such campus is located,  
52 and (2) the registrars of voters of any municipality described in  
53 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall provide a suitable polling place  
54 at, or not more than five hundred feet from, such institution but, if the  
55 registrars fail to agree as to the location of such polling place, the  
56 legislative body shall determine the location thereof.

57 (c) The provisions of this section shall prevail over any contrary  
58 provision of any charter or special act.

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|---|---------------------|-------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                     |       |
| Section 1   | <i>from passage</i> | 9-169 |

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable*