



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

Raised Bill No. 5424

LCO No. 1039



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

**AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS AT REGULAR ELECTIONS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-258 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) For municipalities with more than one voting district, the
4 election officials of each polling place shall be electors of the state and
5 shall consist of one moderator, at least one, but not more than two
6 official checkers, two assistant registrars of voters of opposite political
7 parties, each of whom shall be residents of the town, not more than
8 two challengers if the registrars of voters have appointed challengers
9 pursuant to section 9-232, and at least one and not more than two
10 ballot clerks and at least one but not more than two voting tabulator
11 tenders for each voting tabulator in use at the polling place. A known
12 candidate for any office shall not serve as an election official on
13 election day or serve at the polls in any capacity, except that (1) a
14 municipal clerk or a registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same

15 office, may perform his or her official duties, and (2) a deputy registrar
16 of voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters, may
17 perform his or her official duties. If, in the opinion of the registrar of
18 voters, the public convenience of the electors in any voting district so
19 requires, provision shall be made for an additional line or lines of
20 electors at the polling place and, if more than one line of electors is
21 established, at least one but not more than two additional official
22 checkers and at least one but not more than two ballot clerks for each
23 line of electors shall be appointed and, if more than one tabulator is
24 used in a polling place, at least one and not more than two additional
25 voting tabulator tenders shall be appointed for each additional
26 machine so used. Head moderators, central counting moderators and
27 absentee ballot counters appointed pursuant to law shall also be
28 deemed election officials.

29 (b) For municipalities with one voting district, the election officials
30 of such polling place shall be electors of the state and shall consist of
31 one moderator, at least one, but not more than two official checkers,
32 not more than two challengers if the registrars of voters have
33 appointed challengers pursuant to section 9-232, at least one and not
34 more than two voting tabulator tenders for each voting tabulator in
35 use at the polling place and at least one but not more than two ballot
36 clerks. Additionally, such election officials may consist of two
37 registrars of voters of opposite political parties, or two assistant
38 registrars of voters of opposite political parties, as the case may be,
39 subject to the requirements of sections 9-259 and 9-439, provided if the
40 registrars of voters are present in the polling place, they shall appoint
41 at least one designee to be present in their office. A known candidate
42 for any office shall not serve as an election official on election day or
43 serve at the polls in any capacity, except that (1) a municipal clerk or a
44 registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same office, may perform
45 his or her official duties, and (2) a deputy registrar of voters, who is a
46 candidate for the office of registrar of voters, may perform his or her
47 official duties. If, in the opinion of the registrar of voters, the public
48 convenience of the electors in any voting district so requires, provision

49 shall be made for an additional line or lines of electors at the polling
50 place and, if more than one line of electors is established, at least one,
51 but not more than two, additional official checkers for each line of
52 electors shall be appointed and, if more than one tabulator is used in a
53 polling place, at least one and not more than two additional voting
54 tabulator tenders shall be appointed for each additional tabulator so
55 used. Head moderators, central counting moderators and absentee
56 ballot counters appointed pursuant to law shall be deemed to be
57 election officials.

58 (c) No election official shall perform services for any party or
59 candidate on election day nor appear at any political party
60 headquarters prior to eight o'clock p.m. on election day.

61 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 9-236 of the general statutes is
62 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
63 *passage*):

64 (c) No person shall be allowed within any polling place for any
65 purpose other than casting his or her vote, except (1) those permitted
66 or exempt under this section or section 9-236a, [and] (2) primary [or
67 election officials and party checkers appointed under section 9-235
68 shall be allowed within any polling place except for the purpose of
69 casting his vote] officials under section 9-436, (3) election officials
70 under section 9-258, as amended by this act, including (A) a municipal
71 clerk or registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same office,
72 performing his or her official duties, and (B) a deputy registrar of
73 voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters,
74 performing his or her official duties, or (4) party checkers under
75 section 9-235. Representatives of the news media shall be allowed to
76 enter, remain within and leave any polling place or restricted area
77 surrounding any polling place to observe the election, provided any
78 such representative who in any way interferes with the orderly process
79 of voting shall be evicted by the moderator. A number of students in
80 grades four to twelve, inclusive, not to exceed four at any one time in
81 any one polling place, may enter any polling place between twelve

82 o'clock noon and three o'clock p.m. for the purpose of observing the
83 activities taking place in the polling place, provided there is proper
84 parental or teacher supervision present, and provided further, any
85 such student who in any way interferes with the orderly process of
86 voting shall be evicted by the moderator. An elector may be
87 accompanied into any polling place by one or more children who are
88 fifteen years of age or younger and supervised by the elector if the
89 elector is the parent or legal guardian of such children.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-258
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	9-236(c)

Statement of Purpose:

To permit a deputy registrar of voters, who is running for the office of registrar of voters, to perform his or her official duties in a polling place at a regular election.

[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.]