



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 675

January Session, 2019

House Bill No. 5817

House of Representatives, April 17, 2019

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. FOX of the 148th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL CHECKERS IN POLLING PLACES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 9-261 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2019*):

4 (a) In each primary, election or referendum, when an elector has
5 entered the polling place, the elector shall announce the elector's street
6 address, if any, and the elector's name to the official checker or
7 checkers in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all the
8 election officials present to hear the same. Each elector who registered
9 to vote by mail for the first time on or after January 1, 2003, and has a
10 "mark" next to the elector's name on the official registry list, as
11 required by section 9-23r, shall present to the official checker or
12 checkers, before the elector votes, either a current and valid photo
13 identification that shows the elector's name and address or a copy of a

14 current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or
 15 other government document that shows the name and address of the
 16 elector. Each other elector shall (1) present to the official checker or
 17 checkers the elector's Social Security card or any other preprinted form
 18 of identification which shows the elector's name and either the elector's
 19 address, signature or photograph, or (2) on a form prescribed by the
 20 Secretary of the State, write the elector's residential address and date of
 21 birth, print the elector's name and sign a statement under penalty of
 22 false statement that the elector is the elector whose name appears on
 23 the official checklist. Such form shall clearly state the penalty of false
 24 statement. A separate form shall be used for each elector. If the elector
 25 presents a preprinted form of identification under subdivision (1) of
 26 this subsection, the official checker or checkers shall check the name of
 27 such elector on the official checklist, manually on paper or
 28 electronically. If the elector completes the form under subdivision (2)
 29 of this subsection, the registrar of voters or the assistant registrar of
 30 voters, as the case may be, shall examine the information on such form
 31 and either instruct the official checker or checkers to check the name of
 32 such elector on the official checklist, manually on paper or
 33 electronically, or notify the elector that the form is incomplete or
 34 inaccurate. The official checker shall, upon checking the name of an
 35 elector on the official checklist, announce such elector's voter
 36 identification number in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable
 37 any unofficial checkers to hear the same.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2019	9-261(a)

GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill requires official checkers to loudly and clearly announce an elector's voter identification number after checking said name on the official checklist, so any unofficial checker may hear. The bill has no fiscal impact to the State or municipalities as it is concerning procedural changes to the polling place process.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5817*****AN ACT CONCERNING OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL CHECKERS
IN POLLING PLACES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires official checkers to loudly and clearly announce an elector's voter identification number after checking his or her name on the official checklist, so that any unofficial checker may hear it.

By law, for each regular and special state or municipal election, official checkers must verify the names of electors on the official checklist (i.e., list of active voters) before they may receive their ballot and vote. Unofficial checkers report the names of those who vote to their respective political parties (CGS §§ 9-234 & 9-235).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2019

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/29/2019)