



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 7160**

January Session, 2019



**AN ACT INCREASING VOTER ACCESS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1,  
2 2020, the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the  
3 Secretary of the State, local or regional education officials designated  
4 by said commissioner and local election officials designated by the  
5 Secretary, shall develop standards for awarding academic credit to any  
6 student of a secondary school for the performance of volunteer service  
7 in the preparation for and conduct of any election or primary. Such  
8 standards shall include, but not be limited to, (1) amount of credit to be  
9 awarded, (2) documentation required to obtain such credit, (3)  
10 curriculum or other performance measures, (4) procedures for  
11 application to local election officials for the performance of such  
12 volunteer service, (5) period during which such volunteer service may  
13 be performed, and (6) minimum hours of such volunteer service to  
14 qualify for such credit, provided such student shall (A) be appointed  
15 pursuant to section 9-235d or 9-258 of the general statutes or  
16 subsection (c) of section 9-436 of the general statutes, and (B) perform  
17 such volunteer service for at least eight hours on the day of such  
18 election or primary. On and after March 1, 2020, any such student who  
19 performs such volunteer service in accordance with such standards  
20 shall be eligible to receive such credit by the local board of education

21 or regional board of education maintaining such secondary school.

22 (b) Not later than January 1, 2020, the President of the Connecticut  
23 State Colleges and Universities, in consultation with the Secretary of  
24 the State, a representative of The University of Connecticut, a  
25 representative of the Office of Higher Education and local election  
26 officials designated by the Secretary, shall develop standards for  
27 awarding academic credit to any student of an institution of higher  
28 education for the performance of volunteer service in the preparation  
29 for and conduct of any election or primary. Such standards shall  
30 include, but not be limited to, (1) amount of credit to be awarded, (2)  
31 documentation required to obtain such credit, (3) curriculum or other  
32 performance measures, (4) procedures for application to local election  
33 officials for the performance of such volunteer service, (5) period  
34 during which such volunteer service may be performed, and (6)  
35 minimum hours of such volunteer service to qualify for such credit,  
36 provided such student shall (A) be appointed pursuant to section 9-  
37 235d or 9-258 of the general statutes or subsection (c) of section 9-436 of  
38 the general statutes, and (B) perform such volunteer service for at least  
39 eight hours on the day of such election or primary. On and after March  
40 1, 2020, any such student who performs such volunteer service in  
41 accordance with such standards shall be eligible to receive such credit  
42 by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or the Board of Trustees  
43 of The University of Connecticut, as applicable.

44 Sec. 2. Section 1-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
45 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

46 In each year the first day of January (known as New Year's Day), the  
47 fifteenth day of January of each year prior to 1986, and commencing on  
48 the twentieth day of January in 1986, the first Monday occurring on or  
49 after January fifteenth (known as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day), [the  
50 twelfth day of February (known as Lincoln Day),] the third Monday in  
51 February (known as [Washington's Birthday] Presidents' Day), the last  
52 Monday in May (known as Memorial Day or Decoration Day), the  
53 fourth day of July (known as Independence Day), the first Monday in

54 September (known as Labor Day), the second Monday in October  
55 (known as Columbus Day), the Tuesday after the first Monday in  
56 November (known as Election Day), the eleventh day of November  
57 (known as Veterans' Day) and the twenty-fifth day of December  
58 (known as Christmas) and any day appointed or recommended by the  
59 Governor of this state or the President of the United States as a day of  
60 thanksgiving, fasting or religious observance, shall each be a legal  
61 holiday, except that whenever any of such days which are not  
62 designated to occur on Monday, occurs upon a Sunday, the Monday  
63 next following such day shall be a legal holiday and whenever any of  
64 such days occurs upon a Saturday, the Friday immediately preceding  
65 such day shall be a legal holiday. When any such holiday, except  
66 holidays in January and December, occurs on a school day, each local  
67 and regional board of education may close the public schools under its  
68 jurisdiction for such day or hold a session of the public schools on such  
69 day, provided, if a session is held, the board shall require each school  
70 to hold a suitable nonsectarian educational program in observance of  
71 such holiday. If a holiday in January or December occurs on a school  
72 day, there shall be no session of the public schools on such day.

73 Sec. 3. Section 9-174 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
74 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

75 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general statute, special  
76 act or municipal charter to the contrary, at any regular election, or at  
77 any special election held to fill a vacancy in a state, district or  
78 municipal office, the polls shall remain open for voting from six o'clock  
79 a.m. until eight o'clock p.m. No elector shall be permitted to cast his  
80 vote after the hour prescribed for the closing of the polls in any  
81 election unless such elector is in line at eight o'clock p.m. An election  
82 official or a police official of the municipality, who is designated by the  
83 moderator, shall be placed at the end of the line at eight o'clock p.m.  
84 Such official shall not allow any electors who were not in such line at  
85 eight o'clock p.m. to enter such line.

86 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general statute, special

87 act or municipal charter to the contrary, at any regular election, the  
88 location designated for election day registration pursuant to  
89 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-19j, as amended by this  
90 act, shall remain open for election day registration and voting from six  
91 o'clock a.m. until eight o'clock p.m. No applicant for election day  
92 registration shall be admitted as an elector or permitted to cast such  
93 applicant's vote after the hour prescribed for the closing of the location  
94 designated for such purposes in any regular election unless such  
95 applicant is in line at eight o'clock p.m. An election official or a police  
96 official of the municipality, who is appointed by the registrars of  
97 voters, shall be placed at the end of the line at eight o'clock p.m. Such  
98 official shall not allow any applicants for election day registration who  
99 were not in such line at eight o'clock p.m. to enter such line.

100 Sec. 4. Section 9-19j of the general statutes is repealed and the  
101 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

102 (a) As used in this subsection and subsections (b) to (i), inclusive, of  
103 this section, "election day" means the day on which a regular election,  
104 as defined in section 9-1, is held.

105 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person who (1)  
106 is (A) not an elector, or (B) an elector registered in a municipality who  
107 wishes to change his or her registration to another municipality  
108 pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this  
109 section, and (2) meets the eligibility requirements under subsection (a)  
110 of section 9-12, may apply for admission as an elector on election day  
111 pursuant to the provisions of subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this  
112 section.

113 (c) (1) (A) The registrars of voters shall designate a location for the  
114 completion and processing of election day registration applications on  
115 election day, provided the registrars of voters have access to the state-  
116 wide centralized voter registration system from such location.

117 (B) The registrars of voters may apply to the Secretary of the State,

118 in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, to designate any  
119 additional location for the completion and processing of election day  
120 registration applications on election day, provided the registrars of  
121 voters shall so apply not later than ninety days before election day.  
122 Upon approval of any such application by the Secretary, the registrars  
123 of voters may so designate any such additional location.

124 (2) The registrars of voters may appoint one or more election  
125 officials to serve at any such location and may delegate to such election  
126 officials any of the responsibilities assigned to the registrars of voters.  
127 The registrars of voters shall supervise such election officials and train  
128 such election officials to be election day registration election officials.

129 (d) Any person applying to register on election day under the  
130 provisions of subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section shall make  
131 application in accordance with the provisions of section 9-20, provided  
132 (1) on election day, the applicant shall appear in person [at the] not  
133 later than eight o'clock p.m., in accordance with subsection (b) of  
134 section 9-174, as amended by this act, at any location designated by the  
135 registrars of voters for election day registration, (2) an applicant who is  
136 a student enrolled at an institution of higher education may submit a  
137 current photo identification card issued by [said] such institution in  
138 lieu of the identification required by section 9-20, and (3) the applicant  
139 shall declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in  
140 the election. If the information that the applicant is required to provide  
141 under section 9-20 and subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section  
142 does not include proof of the applicant's residential address, the  
143 applicant shall also submit identification that shows the applicant's  
144 bona fide residence address, including, but not limited to, a learner's  
145 permit issued under section 14-36 or a utility bill that has the  
146 applicant's name and current address and that has a due date that is  
147 not later than thirty days after the election or, in the case of a student  
148 enrolled at an institution of higher education, a registration or fee  
149 statement from such institution that has the applicant's name and  
150 current address.

151 (e) If the registrars of voters determine that an applicant satisfies the  
152 application requirements set forth in subsection (d) of this section, the  
153 registrars of voters shall check the state-wide centralized voter  
154 registration system before admitting such applicant as an elector.

155 (1) If the registrars of voters determine that the applicant is not  
156 already an elector, the registrars of voters shall admit the applicant as  
157 an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.

158 (2) If the registrars of voters determine that such applicant is an  
159 elector in another municipality and such applicant states that he or she  
160 wants to change the municipality in which the applicant is an elector,  
161 notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-21, the registrars of voters  
162 of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register shall  
163 immediately notify the registrars of voters in such other municipality  
164 that such elector is changing the municipality in which the applicant is  
165 an elector. The registrars of voters in such other municipality shall  
166 notify the election officials in such municipality to remove such elector  
167 from the official voter list of such municipality. Such election officials  
168 shall cross through the elector's name on such official voter list and  
169 mark "off" next to such elector's name on such official voter list.

170 (A) If it is reported that such applicant already voted in such other  
171 municipality, the registrars of voters of such other municipality shall  
172 immediately notify the registrars of voters of the municipality in which  
173 such elector now seeks to register. In such event, such elector shall not  
174 receive an election day registration ballot from the registrars of voters  
175 of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. For any  
176 such elector, the election day registration process shall cease in the  
177 municipality in which such elector now seeks to register and such  
178 matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters in the municipality  
179 in which such elector now seeks to register. After completion of such  
180 review, if a resolution of the matter can not be made, such matter shall  
181 be reported to the State Elections Enforcement Commission which  
182 shall conduct an investigation of the matter.

183 (B) If there is no such report that such applicant already voted in the  
184 other municipality, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which  
185 the applicant seeks to register shall admit the applicant as an elector  
186 and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.

187 (f) If the applicant is admitted as an elector, the registrars of voters  
188 shall provide the elector with an election day registration ballot and  
189 election day registration envelope and shall make a record of such  
190 issuance. The elector shall complete an affirmation imprinted upon the  
191 back of the envelope for an election day registration ballot and shall  
192 declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the  
193 election. The affirmation shall be in the form substantially as follows  
194 and signed by the voter:

195 AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty  
196 of false statement, (perjury) that:

197 1. I am the person admitted here as an elector in the town indicated.

198 2. I am eligible to vote in the election indicated for today in the town  
199 indicated.

200 3. The information on my voter registration card is correct and  
201 complete.

202 4. I reside at the address that I have given to the registrars of voters.

203 5. If previously registered at another location, I have provided such  
204 address to the registrars of voters and hereby request cancellation of  
205 such prior registration.

206 6. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not  
207 vote otherwise than by this ballot at this election.

208 7. I completed an application for an election day registration ballot  
209 and received an election day registration ballot.

210 .... (Signature of voter)

211 (g) The elector shall forthwith mark the election day registration  
212 ballot in the presence of the registrars of voters in such a manner that  
213 the registrars of voters shall not know how the election day  
214 registration ballot is marked. The elector shall place the election day  
215 registration ballot in the election day registration ballot envelope  
216 provided, and deposit such envelope in a secured election day  
217 registration ballot depository receptacle. At the time designated by the  
218 registrars of voters and noticed to election officials, the registrars of  
219 voters shall transport such receptacle containing the election day  
220 registration ballots to the central location or polling place, pursuant to  
221 subsection (b) of section 9-147a, where absentee ballots are counted  
222 and such election day registration ballots shall be counted by the  
223 election officials present at such central location or polling place. A  
224 section of the head moderator's return shall show the number of  
225 election day registration ballots received from electors. The registrars  
226 of voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for election day registration  
227 ballots in a depository envelope with the election day registration  
228 ballots and store such election day registration depository envelope  
229 with the other election results materials. The election day registration  
230 depository envelope shall be preserved by the registrars of voters for  
231 the period of time required to preserve counted ballots for elections.

232 (h) The provisions of the general statutes and regulations  
233 concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of  
234 absentee ballots shall apply as nearly as possible, to the custody,  
235 control and counting of election day registration ballots under  
236 subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section.

237 (i) After the acceptance of an election day registration, the registrars  
238 of voters shall forthwith send a registration confirmation notice to the  
239 residential address of each applicant who is admitted as an elector on  
240 election day under subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section. Such  
241 confirmation shall be sent by first class mail with instructions on the  
242 envelope that it be returned if not deliverable at the address shown on  
243 the envelope. If a confirmation notice is returned undelivered, the



244 registrars shall forthwith take the necessary action in accordance with  
245 section 9-35 or 9-43, as applicable, notwithstanding the May first  
246 deadline in section 9-35.

247 (j) No person shall solicit in behalf of or in opposition to the  
248 candidacy of another or himself or herself or in behalf of or in  
249 opposition to any question being submitted at the election, or loiter or  
250 peddle or offer any advertising matter, ballot or circular to another  
251 person within a radius of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in  
252 use as an entry to any location designated by the [registrars'] registrars  
253 of voters [designated location] for election day registration balloting or  
254 in any corridor, passageway or other approach leading from any such  
255 outside entrance to any such [registrars' of voters designated] location  
256 or in any room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or  
257 approach.

258 Sec. 5. Section 9-211 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
259 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

260 (a) In case of a vacancy in the office of senator in Congress, the  
261 Governor, except as otherwise provided by federal or state law, shall,  
262 not more than ten days after the occurrence of such vacancy, issue  
263 writs of election directed to the town clerks or assistant town clerks  
264 ordering an election to be held on the one hundred fiftieth day after  
265 the issue of such writs [on a day, other than a Saturday or Sunday,] to  
266 fill such vacancy for the remaining portion of the term vacated,  
267 provided (1) except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this  
268 subsection, if such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-  
269 fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state or  
270 municipal election in November of any year, the Governor shall so  
271 issue such writs that order an election to be held on the day of such  
272 regular election, (2) except as provided in subdivision (3) of this  
273 subsection, if such vacancy occurs after the municipal election in the  
274 year preceding the last year of the term of a senator or in the last year  
275 of the term of a senator, the Governor shall nominate a person to fill  
276 such vacancy and such nomination shall be filed with both the clerk of

277 the Senate and the clerk of the House of Representatives. Approval of  
278 such nomination shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the  
279 membership of each chamber of the General Assembly, or (3) if such a  
280 vacancy occurs in the year of a state election and not more than sixty-  
281 two days prior to such election, and the office of senator in Congress  
282 for which the vacancy exists will be on the ballot during such election,  
283 the Governor shall not issue such writs and no election shall be held  
284 under this section. If the position vacated is that of member-elect, the  
285 Governor shall so issue writs and an election shall be held as provided  
286 in this section.

287 (b) The Governor shall cause writs of election issued pursuant to  
288 subsection (a) of this section to be (1) conveyed to a state marshal, who  
289 shall forthwith transmit an attested copy thereof to such clerks or  
290 assistant clerks, or (2) delivered electronically to such clerks or  
291 assistant clerks. Such clerks or assistant clerks, on receiving such writs,  
292 shall warn elections to be held on the day appointed therein in the  
293 same manner as state elections are warned, which elections shall be  
294 organized and conducted as are state elections, and the vote shall be  
295 declared, certified, directed, deposited, returned and transmitted in the  
296 same manner as at a state election.

297 Sec. 6. Section 9-212 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
298 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

299 (a) In case of a vacancy in the office of representative in Congress  
300 from any district, the Governor, except as otherwise provided by law,  
301 shall not more than ten days after the occurrence of such vacancy issue  
302 writs of election directed to the town clerks or assistant town clerks, in  
303 such district, ordering an election to be held on the sixtieth day after  
304 the issue of such writs [on a day, other than a Saturday or Sunday,] to  
305 fill such vacancy, provided (1) if such a vacancy occurs between the  
306 one hundred twenty-fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of  
307 a regular state or municipal election in November of any year, the  
308 Governor shall so issue such writs on the sixtieth day before the day of  
309 such regular election, ordering an election to be held on the day of

310 such regular election, (2) if such a vacancy occurs after the sixty-third  
311 day before the day of a regular state election but before the regular  
312 state election, the Governor shall not issue such writs and no election  
313 shall be held under this section, unless the position vacated is that of  
314 member-elect, in which case the Governor shall issue such writs and  
315 an election shall be held as provided in this section, and (3) if a  
316 primary for such office occurs pursuant to subparagraph (C) of  
317 subdivision (1) of section 9-450, the Governor shall, within ten days  
318 following the filing of a candidacy for nomination by a person other  
319 than the party-endorsed candidate, issue new writs of election, in place  
320 of those first issued pursuant to this section.

321 (b) The Governor shall cause writs of election issued pursuant to  
322 subsection (a) of this section to be (1) conveyed to a state marshal, who  
323 shall forthwith transmit an attested copy thereof to such clerks or  
324 assistant clerks, or (2) delivered electronically to such clerks or  
325 assistant clerks. Such clerks or assistant clerks, on receiving such writs,  
326 shall warn elections to be held on the day appointed therein in the  
327 same manner as state elections are warned, which elections shall be  
328 organized and conducted as are state elections, and the vote shall be  
329 declared, certified, directed, deposited, returned and transmitted in the  
330 same manner as at a state election.

331 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 9-215 of the general statutes is  
332 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
333 *passage*):

334 (b) When any such vacancy occurs, except as provided in this  
335 section, the Governor shall, within ten days after its occurrence, issue  
336 writs of election, directed to the town clerks or assistant town clerks in  
337 the several towns in the district in which the vacancy exists, ordering  
338 an election to be held therein on the forty-sixth day after the issue of  
339 such writs to fill such vacancy, and cause them to be (1) conveyed to  
340 such town clerks or assistant town clerks, [ No such election shall be  
341 held on a Saturday or Sunday] or (2) delivered electronically or by any  
342 other means the Governor deems necessary to ensure such writs are

343 received by such town clerks or assistant town clerks on the day such  
344 writs are issued. If such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred  
345 twenty-fifth day and the forty-ninth day before the day of a regular  
346 state or municipal election in November of any year, the Governor  
347 shall so issue such writs on the forty-sixth day before the day of such  
348 regular election, ordering an election to be held on the day of such  
349 regular election. If such a vacancy occurs after the forty-ninth day  
350 before the day of a regular state election but before the Wednesday  
351 following the first Monday of January of the next-succeeding year, the  
352 Governor shall not issue such writs and no election shall be held under  
353 this section, unless the position vacated is that of member-elect, in  
354 which case the Governor shall issue such writs and an election shall be  
355 held as provided in this section.

356 Sec. 8. Section 9-218 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
357 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

358 When there is no election of probate judge in any district by reason  
359 of two or more having an equal and the highest number of votes, or  
360 when a new probate district is created and no provision made for the  
361 election of a judge thereof, or whenever it is shown to the Governor  
362 that a vacancy is about to exist in said office by reason of the  
363 resignation of the incumbent to take effect at a future time or by reason  
364 of constitutional limitation, or when there is a vacancy in said office,  
365 the Governor may issue writs of election directed to the town clerk or  
366 clerks or assistant town clerk or clerks within such district [,] ordering  
367 an election to be held on a day named therein [, other than a Saturday  
368 or Sunday,] to fill such vacancy or impending vacancy, and (1)  
369 transmit the same to a state marshal [. Such state marshal] who shall  
370 forthwith transmit them to such clerk or clerks, [who] or (2) deliver  
371 electronically the same to such clerk or clerks. Such clerk or clerks, on  
372 receiving the same, shall warn elections to be held on the day  
373 appointed in such writs, in the same manner as state elections are  
374 warned. Such elections shall be organized and conducted, and the vote  
375 shall be declared and returns made, certified, directed, deposited and

376 transmitted, in the same manner as at a state election. The Secretary of  
377 the State, Treasurer and Comptroller shall, within thirty days after any  
378 such election, count and declare the votes so returned, and notice shall  
379 be given to the person declared elected, in the same manner as is  
380 provided in the election of probate judges at state elections. The  
381 Secretary of the State shall enter the returns in tabular form in books  
382 kept by him for that purpose and present a copy of the same, with the  
383 name of, and the total number of votes received by, each of the  
384 candidates for said office, to the Governor within ten days thereafter.  
385 The Probate Court Administrator shall cite a probate judge to act as a  
386 judge in the district during any vacancy in said office in accordance  
387 with section 45a-120.

388 Sec. 9. Section 9-19h of the general statutes is repealed and the  
389 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

390 (a) The Department of Social Services, the Labor Department and  
391 the Department of Motor Vehicles shall make voter registration  
392 information and materials available to the public. Such information  
393 and materials shall be placed in public areas of the offices of such  
394 departments. The State Library and the libraries of the state's public  
395 institutions of higher education shall also make such information and  
396 materials available to users of the libraries. The Secretary of the State  
397 shall provide such departments, such libraries and any libraries open  
398 to the public with suitable nonpartisan literature, materials and voter  
399 registration application forms authorized under sections 9-23g and 9-  
400 23h. [The secretary shall also provide to the Department of Social  
401 Services, the Labor Department and the Department of Motor Vehicles  
402 any furniture needed to display such literature, materials and forms.]

403 (b) (1) In addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this  
404 section, and except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection,  
405 the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, not later than January 1, 1994,  
406 shall include an application for the admission of an elector with each  
407 application form provided for a motor vehicle operator's license and a  
408 motor vehicle operator's license renewal, which are issued under

409 subpart (B) of part III of chapter 246, and with each application form  
410 provided for an identity card issued under section 1-1h. Such  
411 application form for the admission of an elector [(1)] (A) shall be  
412 subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, [(2)] (B) shall not  
413 include any provisions for the witnessing of the application, and [(3)]  
414 (C) shall contain a statement, except as provided in subdivision (2) of  
415 this subsection, that [(A)] (i) specifies each eligibility requirement, [(B)]  
416 (ii) contains an attestation that the applicant meets each such  
417 requirement, and [(C)] (iii) requires the signature of the applicant  
418 under penalty of perjury. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall  
419 accept any such completed application for admission which is  
420 submitted in person, [or by mail. The] by mail or through an electronic  
421 system pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. Except as  
422 provided in said subdivision, the applicant shall state on such form,  
423 under penalty of perjury, the applicant's name, bona fide residence  
424 address, date of birth, whether the applicant is a United States citizen,  
425 party enrollment, if any, prior voting address, if registered previously,  
426 and that the applicant's privileges as an elector are not forfeited by  
427 reason of conviction of a felony. No Social Security number on any  
428 such application form for the admission of an elector filed prior to  
429 January 1, 2000, may be disclosed to the public or to any governmental  
430 agency. The commissioner shall indicate on each such form the date of  
431 receipt of such application to ensure that any eligible applicant is  
432 registered to vote in an election if it is received by the Commissioner of  
433 Motor Vehicles by the last day for registration to vote in an election.  
434 The commissioner shall provide the applicant with an application  
435 receipt, on a form approved by the Secretary of the State and on which  
436 the commissioner shall record the date that the commissioner received  
437 the application, using an official date stamp bearing the words  
438 "Department of Motor Vehicles". The commissioner shall provide such  
439 receipt whether the application was submitted in person, [or] by mail  
440 or through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2) of this  
441 subsection. The commissioner shall forthwith transmit the application  
442 to the registrars of voters of the applicant's town of residence. If a  
443 registration application is accepted within five days before the last day

444 for registration to vote in a regular election, the application shall be  
445 transmitted to the registrars of voters of the town of voting residence  
446 of the applicant not later than five days after the date of acceptance.  
447 The procedures in subsections (c), (d), (f) and (g) of section 9-23g  
448 which are not inconsistent with the National Voter Registration Act of  
449 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, shall apply to  
450 applications made under this section. The commissioner is not an  
451 admitting official and may not restore, under the provisions of section  
452 9-46a, electoral privileges of persons convicted of a felony.

453 (2) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may use an electronic  
454 system, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to  
455 effectuate the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection regarding  
456 admission of applicants to be electors, except that the condition that an  
457 applicant state and attest to meeting each eligibility requirement may  
458 be waived for any such eligibility requirement verified independently  
459 by said commissioner. Such electronic system may include a means by  
460 which an applicant's signature, on file with said commissioner, may be  
461 transmitted to the Secretary. The use of any such electronic system  
462 shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L.  
463 103-31, as amended from time to time.

464 Sec. 10. Section 9-19i of the general statutes is repealed and the  
465 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

466 (a) Any change of address form submitted by a person in  
467 accordance with law for purposes of a motor vehicle operator's license  
468 shall serve as notification of change of address for voter registration for  
469 the person unless the person states on the form that the change of  
470 address is not for voter registration purposes. The Commissioner of  
471 Motor Vehicles shall forthwith transmit such change of address  
472 information to the registrars of voters of the town of the former  
473 address of the person. If the name of the person appears on the registry  
474 list of the town, and if the new address is also within such town, the  
475 registrars shall enter the name of such elector on the registry list at the  
476 place where he then resides. If the name of the person appears on the

477 registry list of the town and if the new address is outside such town,  
478 the registrars shall remove the name of such elector from the registry  
479 list and send the elector the notice, information and application  
480 required by subsection (c) of section 9-35, except that if the  
481 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is using an electronic system  
482 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary of the State may  
483 prescribe alternative procedures for sending such notice and  
484 information and may waive the requirement to send such application.

485 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may use an electronic  
486 system, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to  
487 effectuate the purposes of subsection (a) of this section regarding  
488 notifications of change of address for voter registration. The use of any  
489 such electronic system shall comply with the National Voter  
490 Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.

491 Sec. 11. Section 9-19k of the general statutes is repealed and the  
492 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

493 (a) The Secretary of the State shall establish and maintain a system  
494 for online voter registration. Such system shall also permit a registered  
495 elector to apply for changes to such elector's registration. An applicant  
496 may register to vote through this system, provided the applicant's (1)  
497 registration information is verifiable in the manner described in  
498 subsection (b) of this section, and (2) (A) signature is in a database  
499 described in said subsection (b) and such signature may be imported  
500 into such system for online voter registration, or (B) signature has been  
501 electronically submitted by the applicant directly to the Secretary in a  
502 form and manner prescribed by the Secretary and such signature may  
503 be used with such system.

504 (b) A state agency, upon the request of the Secretary of the State,  
505 shall provide any information to the Secretary that the Secretary deems  
506 necessary to maintain the system for online voter registration. The  
507 Secretary may cross reference the information input into the system by  
508 applicants with data or information contained in any state agency's



509 database or a database administered by the federal government, or any  
510 voter registration database of another state, in order to verify the  
511 information submitted by applicants. The Secretary shall not use the  
512 information obtained from any such database except to verify  
513 information submitted by the applicant, provided the applicant's  
514 signature, if part of data contained in the state agency's database, shall  
515 be included as part of the applicant's information contained in the  
516 system for online voter registration.

517 (c) The submission of an online application shall contain all of the  
518 information that is required for an application under section 9-23h,  
519 except that a signature shall be obtained (1) from another state  
520 agency's database pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or (2)  
521 electronically from the applicant directly in a form and manner  
522 prescribed by the Secretary of the State.

523 (d) In order for an applicant's registration or change in registration  
524 to be approved, the applicant shall mark the box associated with the  
525 following statement included as part of the online application:

526 "By clicking on the box below, I swear or affirm all of the following  
527 under penalty of perjury:

528 (1) I am the person whose name and identifying information is  
529 provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote in the State of  
530 Connecticut.

531 (2) All of the information I have provided on this form is true and  
532 correct as of the date I am submitting this form.

533 (3) If I have not submitted my signature electronically to the  
534 Connecticut Secretary of the State, I authorize the Department of  
535 Motor Vehicles or any other Connecticut state agency to transmit to the  
536 [Connecticut] Secretary of the State or my town's registrars of voters  
537 my signature that is on file with such agency, and I understand that  
538 such signature will be used by the Secretary of the State or my town's  
539 registrars of voters on this online application for admission as an

540 elector as if I had signed this form personally."

541 (e) Upon approval of such application, the registrars of voters shall  
542 send a notice of approval pursuant to section 9-19b to the applicant.

543 (f) If an applicant registers to vote pursuant to the provisions of this  
544 section after the seventh day before an election or after the fifth day  
545 before a primary, the privileges of an elector shall not attach until the  
546 day after such election or primary, as the case may be. In such event,  
547 the registrars of voters may contact such applicant, either by telephone  
548 or mail, in order to inform such applicant of the effect of such late  
549 received application and any applicable deadline for applying for  
550 admission in person.

551 (g) Nothing in this section shall prevent the registrars of voters or  
552 any election official appointed by such registrars of voters to admit any  
553 applicant as an elector from utilizing the online voter registration  
554 system established pursuant to this section for the purpose of  
555 admitting such applicant on election day pursuant to section 9-19j, as  
556 amended by this act.

557 (h) The Secretary of the State shall develop and implement a system  
558 through which the Secretary may permit any person to submit an  
559 electronic signature for the purpose of signing any form or application  
560 to be filed pursuant to chapters 141 to 154, inclusive. The Secretary  
561 may include in, or exclude from, such system any such form or  
562 application. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any such  
563 form or application on which any such electronic signature appears  
564 shall be deemed to have been signed in the original.

565 Sec. 12. Subsection (b) of section 9-23n of the general statutes is  
566 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
567 *passage*):

568 (b) [Voter registration agencies shall] (1) Except as provided in  
569 subdivision (2) of this subsection, each voter registration agency shall  
570 (A) distribute mail voter registration application forms, [(2)] (B) assist

571 applicants for [such] service or assistance [or services] provided by the  
572 agency in completing voter registration application forms, except for  
573 applicants who refuse [such] assistance in completing such forms, [(3)]  
574 (C) accept completed voter registration application forms and provide  
575 each applicant with an application receipt, on which the agency shall  
576 record the date that the agency received the application, using an  
577 official date stamp bearing the name of the agency, and [(4)] (D)  
578 immediately transmit all such applications to the registrars of voters of  
579 the town of voting residence of the applicants. The agency shall  
580 provide such receipt whether the application was submitted in person,  
581 [or by mail] by mail or through an electronic system pursuant to  
582 subdivision (2) of this subsection. If a registration application is  
583 accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in  
584 a regular election, the application shall be transmitted to the registrars  
585 of voters of the town of voting residence of the applicant not later than  
586 five days after the date of acceptance. [The] Except as provided in  
587 subdivision (2) of this subsection, the voter registration agency shall  
588 indicate on the completed mail voter registration application form,  
589 without indicating the identity of the voter registration agency, the  
590 date of its acceptance by such agency, to ensure that any eligible  
591 applicant is registered to vote in an election if it is received by the  
592 registration agency by the last day for registration to vote in an  
593 election. If a state-funded program primarily engaged in providing  
594 services to persons with disabilities provides services to a person with  
595 a disability at the person's home, the agency shall provide such voter  
596 registration services at the person's home. The procedures in  
597 subsections (c), (d), (f) and (g) of section 9-23g that are not inconsistent  
598 with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as  
599 amended from time to time, shall apply to applications made under  
600 this section. Officials and employees of such voter registration agencies  
601 are not admitting officials, as defined in section 9-17a, and may not  
602 restore, under the provisions of section 9-46a, electoral privileges of  
603 persons convicted of a felony.

604 (2) Each voter registration agency may use an electronic system,

605 subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to effectuate the  
606 purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection regarding applications  
607 for voter registration. The use of any such electronic system shall  
608 comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31,  
609 as amended from time to time.

610 Sec. 13. Section 9-23o of the general statutes is repealed and the  
611 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

612 A voter registration agency, as defined in section 9-23n, as amended  
613 by this act, shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of  
614 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, and shall (1)  
615 distribute with each application for service or assistance provided by  
616 the agency, and with each recertification, renewal or change of address  
617 form relating to such service or assistance, a mail voter registration  
618 application form approved by the Secretary of the State, or (2) provide,  
619 during each application for such service or assistance and each  
620 recertification, renewal or change of address relating thereto, an  
621 opportunity to apply for voter registration through an electronic  
622 system pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of said section,  
623 unless the applicant declines to register to vote pursuant to the  
624 provisions of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31,  
625 as amended from time to time. Such declination shall be in writing,  
626 except in the case of an application for service or assistance provided  
627 by a library, or a recertification, renewal or change of address form  
628 relating to such library service or assistance. Such voter registration  
629 agency shall provide each applicant to register to vote the same degree  
630 of assistance with regard to the completion of the registration  
631 application form as is provided by the agency with regard to the  
632 completion of its own forms, unless the applicant refuses such  
633 assistance.

634 Sec. 14. Section 9-23p of the general statutes is repealed and the  
635 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

636 Each public institution of higher education shall (1) distribute mail

637 voter registration application forms, (2) provide opportunities for voter  
638 registration through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2)  
639 of subsection (b) of section 9-23n, as amended by this act, and [(2)] (3)  
640 assist applicants who request assistance in completing such voter  
641 registration application forms or registering through such electronic  
642 system.

643 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) (1) Not later than May first  
644 in any year in which a federal decennial census has been taken and in  
645 which the United States Census Bureau counted any incarcerated  
646 individual as a resident of the town in which such incarcerated  
647 individual's respective correctional facility is located, the Department  
648 of Correction shall deliver to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
649 Management in such form as the secretary shall prescribe:

650 (A) A unique identifier for each incarcerated individual subject to  
651 the jurisdiction of the department on the date for which the decennial  
652 census reports population;

653 (B) The street address of the correctional facility in which such  
654 individual was incarcerated at the time of such report;

655 (C) The residential or other address of such individual prior to  
656 incarceration, if known;

657 (D) An indication of whether such individual has attained the age of  
658 eighteen years;

659 (E) Such individual's race and whether such individual is of  
660 Hispanic or Latino origin, if known; and

661 (F) Any additional information the secretary may request pursuant  
662 to law.

663 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the  
664 information required to be provided under this subsection shall not  
665 include the name of any incarcerated individual or in any other way

666 allow for the identification of any such individual from such  
667 information. Such information shall be confidential and not otherwise  
668 disclosed, except to the secretary for the purposes of subsection (c) of  
669 this section, or as aggregated by census block for the purposes of  
670 subsection (d) of this section.

671 (b) Not later than May first in any year in which the federal  
672 decennial census has been taken and in which the United States  
673 Census Bureau counted any incarcerated individual as a resident of the  
674 town in which such incarcerated individual's respective correctional  
675 facility is located, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management  
676 shall request each agency that operates a federal correctional facility in  
677 this state to provide the secretary with a report including the  
678 information listed in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.

679 (c) (1) For each individual included in a report received under  
680 subsection (a) or (b) of this section, the Secretary of the Office of Policy  
681 and Management shall determine the geographic units for which  
682 population counts are reported in the federal decennial census, which  
683 units contain the address of the facility in which such individual was  
684 incarcerated, and such individual's residential or other address as  
685 listed in such report.

686 (2) For each individual included in a report received under  
687 subsection (a) or (b) of this section, if such individual's residential or  
688 other address is known and in this state, the secretary shall adjust such  
689 information to:

690 (A) Ensure that all relevant population counts reported in the  
691 census are as if such individual resided at such address on the date for  
692 which the census reports population; and

693 (B) Ensure that such individual is not represented in any applicable  
694 population count reported in the federal decennial census for the  
695 geographic units that include the facility in which such individual was  
696 incarcerated on the date for which the census reports population.

697 (3) For each individual included in a report received under  
698 subsection (a) or (b) of this section whose residential or other address  
699 is unknown or not in this state, and for each individual reported in the  
700 census as residing in a federal correctional facility for whom a report  
701 was not provided, the secretary shall adjust such information to:

702 (A) Ensure that such individual is not represented in any applicable  
703 population count reported in the federal decennial census for the  
704 geographic units that include the facility in which such individual was  
705 incarcerated on the date for which the census reports population; and

706 (B) Ensure that such individual is counted as part of a state unit not  
707 tied to a specific geographical location, in the same manner that an  
708 individual with an unknown state of residency is counted, including,  
709 but not limited to, military and federal government personnel  
710 stationed abroad.

711 (d) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall  
712 prepare and publish such information adjusted pursuant to subsection  
713 (c) of this section not later than thirty days after the publication of the  
714 redistricting data for this state by the United States Census Bureau in  
715 the year following the taking of the federal decennial census, and such  
716 adjusted information shall be the basis for determining state assembly  
717 and senatorial districts, as well as municipal voting districts. No  
718 residence at an unknown geographical location within the state under  
719 subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section may be used to  
720 determine the average population of any set of districts. The secretary  
721 shall notify each municipality that such information shall be used for  
722 the purposes of determining municipal voting districts.

723 (e) The Department of Correction shall determine the residential or  
724 other address of each individual committed to the custody of the  
725 department on or after January 1, 2020, and maintain an electronic  
726 record of such address. Such record shall contain, at a minimum, the  
727 last-known residential or other address of each individual prior to  
728 incarceration.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	1-4
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	9-174
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	9-19j
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	9-211
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	9-212
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	9-215(b)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	9-218
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	9-19h
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	9-19i
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	9-19k
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	9-23n(b)
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	9-23o
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	9-23p
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 1, "subsection (d) of section 9-436" was changed to "subsection (c) of section 9-436" for accuracy; and in Section 12(b)(1), "voter agency" was changed to "voter registration agency" for accuracy and consistency.

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*