



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Committee Bill No. 25

LCO No. 3422



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

***AN ACT RESTORING ELECTORAL PRIVILEGES TO FELONY
CONVICTS WHO ARE ON PAROLE.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-46a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

3 (a) A person who has been convicted of a felony and committed to
4 confinement in a federal or other state correctional institution or
5 facility or community residence shall have such person's electoral
6 privileges restored upon the payment of all fines in conjunction with
7 the conviction and once such person has been [discharged] released
8 from confinement. [, and, if applicable, parole.]

9 (b) Upon the release from confinement in a correctional institution
10 or facility or a community residence of a person who has been
11 convicted of a felony and committed to the custody of the
12 Commissioner of Correction, [and, if applicable, the discharge of such
13 person from parole,] (1) the person shall have the right to become an
14 elector, (2) the Commissioner of Correction shall give the person a

15 document certifying that the person has been released from such
16 confinement, [and, if applicable, has been discharged from parole,] (3)
17 if the person was an elector at the time of such felony conviction and,
18 after such release, [and any such discharge,] is residing in the same
19 municipality in which the person resided at the time of such felony
20 conviction, the person's electoral privileges shall be restored, and (4) if
21 the person was an elector at the time of such felony conviction and,
22 after such release, [and any such discharge,] is residing in a different
23 municipality or if the person was not an elector at the time of such
24 felony conviction, the person's electoral privileges shall be restored or
25 granted upon submitting to an admitting official satisfactory proof of
26 the person's qualifications to be admitted as an elector. The provisions
27 of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection shall not apply to
28 any person convicted of a felony for a violation of any provision of this
29 title until such person has been discharged from any parole or
30 probation for such felony.

31 (c) The registrars of voters of the municipality in which a person is
32 admitted as an elector pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section,
33 within thirty days after the date on which such person is admitted,
34 shall notify the registrars of voters of the municipality wherein such
35 person resided at the time of such person's conviction that such
36 person's electoral rights have been so restored.

37 (d) The Commissioner of Correction shall establish procedures to
38 inform those persons who have been convicted of a felony and
39 committed to the custody of said commissioner for confinement in a
40 correctional institution or facility or a community residence, and are
41 eligible to have their electoral privileges restored or granted pursuant
42 to subsection (b) of this section, of the right and procedures to have
43 such privileges restored. The Office of Adult Probation shall, within
44 available appropriations, inform such persons who are on probation
45 on January 1, 2002, of their right to become electors and procedures to
46 have their electoral privileges restored, which shall be in accordance
47 with subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

48 (e) The Commissioner of Correction shall, on or before the fifteenth
49 day of each month, transmit to the Secretary of the State a list of all
50 persons convicted of a felony and committed to the custody of said
51 commissioner who, during the preceding calendar month, have been
52 released from confinement in a correctional institution or facility or a
53 community residence, [and, if applicable, discharged from parole.]
54 Such lists shall include the names, birth dates and addresses of such
55 persons, with the dates of their convictions and the crimes of which
56 such persons have been convicted. The Secretary of the State shall
57 transmit such lists to the registrars of the municipalities in which such
58 convicted persons resided at the time of their convictions and to the
59 registrars of any municipalities where the secretary believes such
60 persons may be electors.

61 Sec. 2. Section 9-453e of the general statutes is repealed and the
62 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

63 Each circulator of a nominating petition page shall be a United
64 States citizen, at least eighteen years of age and a resident of a town in
65 this state, [and shall not be on parole for conviction of a felony.] Any
66 individual proposed as a candidate in any nominating petition may
67 serve as circulator of the pages of such nominating petition.

68 Sec. 3. Section 9-453j of the general statutes is repealed and the
69 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

70 Each page of a nominating petition submitted to the town clerk or
71 the Secretary of the State and filed with the Secretary of the State under
72 the provisions of sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, or section 9-216
73 shall contain a statement as to the residency in this state and eligibility
74 of the circulator and authenticity of the signatures thereon, signed
75 under penalties of false statement, by the person who circulated the
76 same. Such statement shall set forth (1) such circulator's residence
77 address, including the town in this state in which such circulator is a
78 resident, (2) the circulator's date of birth and that the circulator is at
79 least eighteen years of age, (3) that the circulator is a United States

80 citizen, [and not on parole for conviction of a felony,] and (4) that each
81 person whose name appears on such page signed the same in person
82 in the presence of such circulator and that either the circulator knows
83 each such signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified himself to
84 the circulator. Any false statement committed with respect to such
85 statement shall be deemed to have been committed in the town in
86 which the petition was circulated.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2019	9-46a
Sec. 2	July 1, 2019	9-453e
Sec. 3	July 1, 2019	9-453j

Statement of Purpose:

To restore the electoral privileges of convicted felons who are on parole.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

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