"AN ACT INCREASING VOTER ACCESS."

After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and internal references accordingly:

"Sec. 501. Subdivision (2) of section 9-372 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(2) "Convention" means any meeting of delegates of a political party that may be held for the purpose of designating the candidate or candidates to be endorsed by such party in a primary of such party for state or district office or for the purpose of transacting other business of such party;

Sec. 502. Subdivision (9) of section 9-372 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(9) "Party-endorsed candidate" means (A) in the case of a candidate
for state or district office, a person endorsed by [the] a convention of a political party as a candidate in a primary to be held by such party, and (B) in the case of a candidate for municipal office or for member of a town committee, a person endorsed by the town committee, a caucus or a convention, as the case may be, of a political party as a candidate in a primary to be held by such party;

Sec. 503. Section 9-382 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

[The state or district convention, as the case may be, shall, in a manner conforming with applicable law and with the rules of the party calling such convention, choose a candidate for nomination to each of the state or district offices, as the case may be. No such convention shall choose more than one candidate for nomination to any such office. Candidates] A party shall not be required to hold a state or district convention, as applicable, for the purpose of choosing a candidate for nomination to any state or district office, as applicable, but a party may provide in such party's rules for the holding of any such convention for such purpose. If any convention is held for such purpose, (1) such choice shall be made in a manner conforming with applicable law and with such rules, (2) such convention shall not choose more than one candidate for nomination to any such office, and (3) each candidate so chosen shall run in the primary of such party as the party-endorsed [candidates] candidate, except as provided in section 9-416.

Sec. 504. Section 9-383 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

The time and place of meeting of [a] any state or district convention that may be held shall be fixed by the state central committee or other authority of the party holding such convention, in accordance with the rules of such party; provided [each] any such convention held to endorse candidates for state or district office to be voted upon at a state election shall be convened not earlier than the ninety-eighth day and
closed not later than the seventy-seventh day preceding the day of the primary for such office.

Sec. 505. Section 9-384 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

[Each] Any convention that may be held shall originate by call of the chairman of the state central committee or other authority of the party holding such convention, in accordance with the rules of such party.

Sec. 506. Subsection (b) of section 9-390 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(b) Delegates to [conventions] any convention that may be held shall be selected, in accordance with the rules of such party, by the method prescribed in either subdivision (1) or (3) of subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 507. Subsection (b) of section 9-391 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(b) Each selection of delegates to [a] any state or district convention that may be held shall be made in accordance with the provisions of section 9-390, as amended by this act, not earlier than the one-hundred-fortieth day and not later than the one-hundred-thirty-third day preceding the day of the primary for such state or district office. Such selection shall be certified to the clerk of the municipality by either the chairperson or presiding officer or the secretary of the town committee or caucus, as the case may be, not later than four o'clock p.m. on the one-hundred-thirty-second day preceding the day of such primary. Each such certification shall contain the name and street address of each person so selected, the position as delegate, and the name or number of the political subdivision or district, if any, for which each such person is selected. If such a certificate of a party's selection is not received by the clerk of the municipality by such time,
such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-420, as amended by this act, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any selection of any person for the position of delegate.

Sec. 508. Section 9-393 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

All town committee members and delegates to [conventions] any convention that may be held shall be chosen as provided in sections 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, as amended by this act. Vacancies in town committees, arising from any cause including failure to elect, shall be filled in such manner as the rules of the party prescribe. The chairman of a town committee may be chosen by the town committee from within or without the membership of the town committee as the rules of the party prescribe. Any town committee may, by party rules adopted in accordance with section 9-375 and filed under section 9-374, increase its membership and fill new positions created by such increase in the manner prescribed in the applicable party rules. The rules of a party may provide methods for the filling of vacancies in delegations to conventions, which methods may include prescribing that each delegate selected in conformity with the provisions of sections 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, as amended by this act, may designate an alternate delegate or a proxy to act for him in his absence.

Sec. 509. Section 9-394 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

If the state rules of a party provide that certain delegates to [state conventions] any state convention that may be held shall be chosen from senatorial districts, the party-endorsed candidates for election as such district delegates shall be selected in such manner as is prescribed in such rules; provided such selection shall be made within the time specified in section 9-391, as amended by this act; and provided, upon such selection, the information required in section 9-390, as amended by this act, shall forthwith be certified, in such manner as is prescribed
in such rules, to the clerk of each municipality in such district, and
such certification shall be deemed the certification of the party in such
municipality. Delegates allocated to and selected from towns shall not
be deemed to be district delegates.

Sec. 510. Section 9-394a of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

Any major party in any part of a town which is a component part of
a senatorial or assembly district composed of parts of two towns or of
a town or towns and a part or parts of another town or other towns
may select delegates to [a] any senatorial or assembly district
convention that may be held in such district as provided in this title
and its party rules and may participate in the selection of a candidate
for state senator or state representative in such district in the manner
provided for a town which is a component part of a senatorial district
in a district composed of two or more towns under this title. In
addition to other requirements prescribed by law, the name of a person
on whose behalf a primary petition is filed for nomination to the office
of state senator or state representative for such district and the names
of the signers of any such petition shall appear on the last-completed
enrollment list of such party for such part of a town or for any other
town which is a component part of such district.

Sec. 511. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 9-400 of the general
statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
(Effective from passage):

(a) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a state office
may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon
the last-completed enrollment list of such party in any municipality
within the state and who has either (1) received at least fifteen per cent
of the votes of the [convention] delegates present and voting on any
roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a
candidate for such state office at any convention that may have been
held, whether or not the party-endorsed candidate for such office
received a unanimous vote on the last ballot, or (2) circulated a petition
and obtained the signatures of at least two per cent of the enrolled
members of such party in the state, in accordance with the provisions
of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive. Candidacies described in
subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed by submitting to the
Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth
day following the close of [the] such state convention, a certificate,
signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the chairman or
presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that such
candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that such
candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for
such state office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as
the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
residence address and the title of the office for which the candidacy is
being filed. If such certificate for a state office is not received by the
Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and
such party, for the purposes of sections 9-416, as amended by this act,
and 9-416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of
candidacy for nomination [by a political party for] to such state office.
A single such certificate or petition for state office may be filed on
behalf of two or more candidates for different state offices who consent
to have their names appear on a single row of the primary ballot under
subsection (b) of section 9-437. Candidacies described in subdivision
(2) of this subsection shall be filed by submitting said petition not later
than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-third day preceding the day of the
primary for such office to the registrar of voters of the towns in which
the respective petition pages were circulated. Each registrar shall file
each page of such petition with the Secretary of the State in accordance
with the provisions of section 9-404c. A petition filed by or on behalf of
a candidate for state office shall be invalid for such candidate if such
candidate is certified as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant to
section 9-388 or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention
vote for such office pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in
section 9-416a, upon the expiration of the time period for party
endorsement and circulation and tabulation of petitions and
signatures, if any, if one or more candidacies for such state office have
been filed pursuant to the provisions of this section, the Secretary of
the State shall notify all town clerks and registrars of voters in
accordance with the provisions of section 9-433, as amended by this
act, that a primary for such state office shall be held in each
municipality in accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

(b) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a district
office may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears
upon the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the
district the person seeks to represent that is in the office of the
Secretary of the State at the end of the last day prior to the convention
for the party from which the person seeks nomination and who has
either (1) received at least fifteen per cent of the votes of the
[convention] delegates present and voting on any roll-call vote taken
on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a candidate for such
district office at any convention that may have been held, whether or
not the party-endorsed candidate for such office received a unanimous
vote on the last ballot, or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the
signatures of at least two per cent of the enrolled members of such
party in the district for the district office of representative in Congress,
and at least five per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the
district for the district offices of state senator, state representative and
judge of probate, in accordance with the provisions of sections 9-404a
to 9-404c, inclusive. Candidacies described in subdivision (1) of this
subsection shall be filed by submitting to the Secretary of the State not
later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day following the close of
[the] such district convention, a certificate, signed by such candidate
and attested by either (A) the chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the
secretary of the convention, that such candidate received at least fifteen
per cent of such votes, and that the candidate consents to be a
candidate in a primary of such party for such district office. Such
certificate shall specify the candidate's name as the candidate
authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full residence
address and the title and district of the office for which the candidacy
is being filed. If such certificate for a district office is not received by
the Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid
and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-416, as amended by this
act, and 9-416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of
candidacy for nomination [by a political party for] to such district
office. Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall
be filed by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on
the sixty-third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to
the registrar of voters of the towns in which the respective petition
pages were circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such
petition with the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of section
9-404c. A petition may only be filed by or on behalf of a candidate for
the district office of state senator, state representative or judge of
probate who is not certified as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant
to section 9-388 or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the
convention vote for such office pursuant to this subsection. A petition
filed by or on behalf of a candidate for the district office of
representative in Congress shall be invalid if said candidate is certified
as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388 or as
receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such office
pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a, upon
the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and circulation
and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or more
candidacies for such district office have been filed pursuant to the
provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all
town clerks within the district, in accordance with the provisions of
section 9-433, as amended by this act, that a primary for such district
office shall be held in each municipality and each part of a
municipality within the district in accordance with the provisions of
section 9-415.

Sec. 512. Section 9-416 of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

If, (1) at [a] any state or district convention that may be held, no
person other than a party-endorsed candidate has received at least
fifteen per cent of the votes of the delegates present and voting on any
roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a
candidate for a state or district office, and (2) within the time specified
in section 9-400, as amended by this act, no candidacy for nomination
by a political party to a state or district office has been filed by or on
behalf of a person other than a party-endorsed candidate in conformity
with the provisions of section 9-400, as amended by this act, then no
primary shall be held by such party for such office and the party-
endorsed candidate for such office shall be deemed to have been
lawfully chosen as the nominee of such party for such office.

Sec. 513. Section 9-420 of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

The persons selected by a political party to serve as delegates to [a]
any convention that may be held shall be deemed to have been
lawfully selected as such delegates or district delegates.

Sec. 514. Subsection (a) of section 9-433 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from
passage):

(a) After the deadline set forth in section 9-400, as amended by this
act, for filing candidacies, and upon the completion of the tabulation of
petition signatures, if any, if one or more candidacies for nomination
by a political party to a state or district office have been filed in
accordance with the provisions of section 9-400, as amended by this
act, the Secretary of the State shall notify the clerk of each town within
the state or within the district, as the case may be, that a primary is to
be held by such party for the nomination of such party to such office.
Such notice shall include a list of all the proposed candidates, those
endorsed by [the] any convention that may have been held as well as
those filing candidacies, together with their addresses and the titles of
the office for which they are candidates and, if applicable, a statement
that unaffiliated electors may vote in the primary. The clerk of each
such town shall thereupon cause such notice to be published forthwith
in a newspaper having a general circulation in such town, or towns in
the case of a joint publication under subsection (b) of this section,
together with a statement of the date upon which the primary is to be
held, the hours during which the polls shall be open and the location
of the polls.

Sec. 515. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 9-215 of the general
statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
(Effective from passage):

(d) (1) If such vacancy resulting from the resignation or death of a
member or member-elect of the General Assembly exists in a senatorial
or assembly district composed of a single town or part of a single
town, [such] nominations by political parties to fill any such vacancy
shall be made as the rules of such parties provide, in accordance with
section 9-390, as amended by this act, and filed with the Secretary of
the State; except that (A) if such rules provide for selection by
delegates and the vacancy exists in a senatorial or assembly district
composed of a single town, the delegates to the convention held for the
nomination of a candidate for the office of state senator or state
representative in such town at the last state election shall be the
delegates for the purpose of selecting a [candidate] nominee to fill such
vacancy; (B) if such rules provide for the selection by delegates and the
vacancy exists in a senatorial or assembly district composed of part of
a single town, the delegates to the convention held for the nomination
of a candidate for the office of state senator or state representative in
such district at the last state election shall be the delegates for the
purpose of selecting a [candidate] nominee to fill such vacancy; and
(C) if such rules provide for direct primaries under section 9-390, as
amended by this act, the nomination shall be made by the town
committee of such party in the case of a vacancy in a senatorial or
assembly district composed of a single town and, in a senatorial or
assembly district composed of part of a single town, by the members of
the town committee from such political subdivision or senatorial or
assembly district.
(2) [If such] (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, if a vacancy resulting from the resignation or death of a member or member-elect of the General Assembly exists in a district office, as defined in section 9-372, as amended by this act, nominations by political parties to fill any such vacancy may be made by the delegates to [the] any senatorial or assembly convention that may have been held for the last state election, [shall be the delegates for the purpose of selecting a candidate to fill such vacancy.]

(B) If a vacancy resulting from the resignation or death of a member or member-elect of the General Assembly exists in a district office and no senatorial or assembly convention was held for the last state election, nominations by political parties to fill any such vacancy shall be made by direct primary in accordance with the provisions of sections 9-400, as amended by this act, and 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive, except as provided in section 9-416a.

(3) If a vacancy occurs in the delegation from any town, political subdivision or district, such vacancy may be filled by the town committee of the town in which the delegate resided.

(4) Nominations by political parties pursuant to this section may be made and certified at any time after the resignation or death of the member or member-elect of the General Assembly and not later than the thirty-sixth day before the day of the election. No such nomination shall be effective until the presiding officer or secretary of any district convention, or the head moderator or moderator, as applicable, of any direct primary held, has certified the nomination to the Secretary of the State or, in the case of a vacancy in a senatorial or assembly district composed of a single town or part thereof, until the presiding officer or secretary of the town committee or single town convention, or the head moderator or moderator, as applicable, of any direct primary held, has certified the nomination to the Secretary of the State. If a certificate of a party's nomination to fill a vacancy resulting from the resignation or death of a member or member-elect of the General Assembly is not received by the Secretary of the State on or before the
thirty-sixth day prior to the day of the election, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of section 9-224a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of nomination [by a political party] for such senatorial or assembly office.

(e) [No] Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section and subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of said subsection, no primary shall be held for the nomination of any political party to fill any vacancy in the office of state senator or state representative and the [party-endorsed candidate so selected] candidate selected pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section or subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of said subsection shall be deemed, for the purposes of chapter 153, the person certified by the Secretary of the State under section 9-444 as the nominee of such party.

Sec. 516. Section 9-450 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) Nominations by major parties for any state, district or municipal office to be filled under the provisions of any law relating to elections to fill vacancies, unless otherwise provided therein, shall be made in accordance with the provisions of sections 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive.

(b) (1) (A) [In] Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, in the case of nominations for representatives in Congress and judges of probate in probate districts composed of two or more towns, provided for in sections 9-212 and 9-218, the delegates to [the] convention that may have been held for the last state election shall be the delegates for the purpose of selecting a candidate to fill such vacancy. If a vacancy occurs in the delegation from any town, political subdivision or district, such vacancy may be filled by the town committee of the town in which the delegate resided. Endorsements by political party conventions pursuant to this [subsection] subparagraph may be made and certified at any time after the resignation or death creating such vacancy and not later than the fiftieth day before the day
of the election. No such endorsement shall be effective until the
presiding officer or secretary of any district convention has certified
the endorsement to the Secretary of the State.

(B) In the case of nominations for representatives in Congress and
judges of probate in probate districts composed of two or more towns,
provided for in sections 9-212 and 9-218, and when no convention was
held for such office at the last state election, nominations by political
parties to fill any such vacancy shall be made by direct primary in
accordance with the provisions of sections 9-400, as amended by this
act, 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive, except as provided in section 9-416a.

[(B) If] (2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this
subdivision, if such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred
twenty-fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular
state or municipal election in November of any year, and if a
convention was held as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision
(1) of this subsection, no primary shall be held for the nomination of
any political party and the party-endorsed candidate so selected shall
be deemed, for the purposes of this chapter, the person certified by the
Secretary of the State pursuant to section 9-444 as the nominee of such
party.

(B) If such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-fifth
day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state or
municipal election in November of any year, and when no convention
was held as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this
subsection, nominations by political parties to fill any such vacancy
shall be made by direct primary in accordance with the provisions of
sections 9-400, as amended by this act, 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive,
except as provided in section 9-416a.

[(C)] (3) Except as provided in [subparagraph (B) of this
subdivision] subdivision (2) of this subsection, if a candidacy for
nomination is filed by or on behalf of any person other than a [party-
endorsed] candidate endorsed at any convention that may have been
held not later than fourteen days after [the] such party endorsement and in conformity with the provisions of section 9-400, as amended by this act, a primary shall be held in each municipality of the district and each part of a municipality which is a component part of the district, to determine the nominee of such party for such office, except as provided in section 9-416a. Such primary shall be held on the day that the writs of election issued by the Governor, pursuant to section 9-212, ordered the election to be held, and new writs of election shall be issued by the Governor in accordance with section 9-212.

[(D)] (4) Unless the provisions of [subparagraph (B) of this subdivision] subdivision (2) of this subsection apply, petition forms for candidacies for nomination by a political party pursuant to this subdivision shall be available from the Secretary of the State beginning on the day following the issuance of writs of election by the Governor pursuant to section 9-212, except when a primary has already been held, and the provisions of section 9-404a shall otherwise apply to such petitions.

[(E)] (5) The registry lists used pursuant to this subsection shall be the last-completed lists, as provided in sections 9-172a and 9-172b.

[(2)] (c) In the case of judges of probate in probate districts composed of a single town, the day named for the election shall be not earlier than the one hundred fifteenth day following the day on which the writ of election is issued, and the times specified in sections 9-391, 9-405 and 9-423 shall be applicable.

[(3) (A) In] (d) (1) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, in the case of nominations for senators in Congress, provided for in section 9-211, the delegates to [the] any convention that may have been held for the last state election shall be the delegates for the purpose of selecting a candidate to fill such vacancy. If a vacancy occurs in the delegation from any town or political subdivision, such vacancy may be filled by the town committee of the town in which the delegate resided. Endorsements by political party conventions
pursuant to this [subsection] subparagraph may be made and certified
at any time after the resignation or death creating such vacancy and
not later than the fifty-sixth day before the day of the primary. No such
endorsement shall be effective until the presiding officer or secretary of
any state convention has certified the endorsement to the Secretary of
the State.

(B) In the case of nominations for senators in Congress, provided for
in section 9-211, and when no convention was held for such office at
the last state election, nominations by political parties to fill any such
vacancy shall be made by direct primary in accordance with the
provisions of sections 9-400, as amended by this act, 9-404a to 9-404c,
inclusive, except as provided in section 9-416a.

[(B) If] (2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this
subdivision, if such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred
twenty-fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular
state or municipal election in November of any year, and if a
convention was held as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision
(1) of this subsection, no primary shall be held for the nomination of
any political party and the party-endorsed candidate so selected shall
be deemed, for the purposes of this chapter, the person certified by the
Secretary of the State, pursuant to section 9-444, as the nominee of such
party. In such an event, endorsements by political party conventions
shall be made not later than sixty days prior to the election.

(B) If such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-fifth
day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state or
municipal election in November of any year, and when no convention
was held as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this
subsection, nominations by political parties to fill any such vacancy
shall be made by direct primary in accordance with the provisions of
sections 9-400, as amended by this act, 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive,
except as provided in section 9-416a.

[(C)] (3) Except as provided in [subparagraph (B) of this
subdivision] subdivision (2) of this subsection, if a candidacy for
nomination is filed by or on behalf of any person other than a [party-
endorsed] candidate endorsed at any convention that may have been
held not later than fourteen days after [the] such party endorsement
and in conformity with the provisions of section 9-400, as amended by
this act, a primary shall be held on the fifty-sixth day prior to the day
of the election in each municipality to determine the nominee of such
party for such office, except as provided in section 9-416a.

[(D)] (4) Unless the provisions of [subparagraph (B) of this
subdivision] subdivision (2) of this subsection apply, petition forms for
candidacies for nomination by a political party pursuant to this
subdivision shall be available from the Secretary of the State beginning
on the day following the issuance of writs of election by the Governor,
pursuant to section 9-211, except when a primary has already been
held and the provisions of section 9-404a shall otherwise apply to such
petitions.

[(E)] (5) The registry lists used pursuant to this subsection shall be
the last-completed lists, as provided in sections 9-172a and 9-172b.

[(4)] (e) The times specified in sections 9-391, 9-405 and 9-423 shall
be applicable to any special town election held to fill a vacancy in any
town office under subsection (b) of section 9-164. Except as provided
under subsection (c) of section 9-164, any election held to fill a vacancy
in any municipal office under the provisions of any special act shall be
held not earlier than the one hundred twenty-seventh day following
the day upon which warning of such election is issued, and the times
specified in sections 9-391, 9-405 and 9-423 shall be applicable.

Sec. 517. Subdivision (11) of section 9-700 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from
passage):

(11) "Primary campaign" means the period beginning on (A) the day
following the close of [(A) a] any convention that may have been held
pursuant to section 9-382, as amended by this act, for the purpose of
endorsing a candidate for nomination to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or the district office of state senator or state representative, (B) the last day for on which any such convention may be closed pursuant to section 9-383, as amended by this act, or [(B)] (C) a caucus, convention or town committee meeting held pursuant to section 9-390, as amended by this act, for the purpose of endorsing a candidate for the municipal office of state senator or state representative, whichever is applicable, and ending on the day of a primary held for the purpose of nominating a candidate for such office.

Sec. 518. Subsection (a) of section 9-706 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) (1) A participating candidate for nomination to the office of state senator or state representative in 2008, or thereafter, or the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State or State Treasurer in 2010, or thereafter, may apply to the State Elections Enforcement Commission for a grant from the fund under the Citizens' Election Program for a primary campaign, after the close of [the] any state convention of the candidate's party that [is] may have been called for the purpose of choosing candidates for nomination for the office that the candidate is seeking, if a primary is required under chapter 153, and (A) said party endorses the candidate for the office that the candidate is seeking, (B) the candidate is seeking nomination to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or the district office of state senator or state representative and receives at least fifteen per cent of the votes of the [convention] delegates present and voting on any roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a candidate for the office the candidate is seeking at such convention, or (C) the candidate circulates a petition and obtains the required number of signatures for filing a candidacy for nomination for (i) the office of Governor, Lieutenant...
Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or the district office of state senator or state representative, pursuant to section 9-400, as amended by this act, or (ii) the municipal office of state senator or state representative, pursuant to section 9-406, whichever is applicable. The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall make any such grants to participating candidates in accordance with the provisions of subsections (d) to (g), inclusive, of this section.

(2) A participating candidate for nomination to the office of state senator or state representative in 2008, or thereafter, or the office of Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State or State Treasurer in 2010, or thereafter, may apply to the State Elections Enforcement Commission for a grant from the fund under the Citizens' Election Program for a general election campaign:

(A) After the close of [the] any state or district convention or municipal caucus, convention or town committee meeting that may have been held, whichever is applicable, of the candidate's party that is called for the purpose of choosing candidates for nomination for the office that the candidate is seeking, if (i) said party endorses said candidate for the office that the candidate is seeking and no other candidate of said party files a candidacy with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-400, as amended by this act, or 9-406, whichever is applicable, (ii) the candidate is seeking election to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or the district office of state senator or state representative and receives at least fifteen per cent of the votes of the [convention] delegates present and voting on any roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a candidate for the office the candidate is seeking at such convention, no other candidate for said office at such convention either receives the party endorsement or said percentage of said votes for said endorsement or files a certificate of endorsement with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-388 or a candidacy with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the
provisions of section 9-400, as amended by this act, and no other candidate for said office circulates a petition and obtains the required number of signatures for filing a candidacy for nomination for said office pursuant to section 9-400, as amended by this act, (iii) the candidate is seeking election to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or the district office of state senator or state representative, circulates a petition and obtains the required number of signatures for filing a candidacy for nomination for said office pursuant to section 9-400, as amended by this act, and no other candidate for said office at [the] any such state or district convention either receives the party endorsement or said percentage of said votes for said endorsement or files a certificate of endorsement with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-388 or a candidacy with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-400, as amended by this act, or (iv) the candidate is seeking election to the municipal office of state senator or state representative, circulates a petition and obtains the required number of signatures for filing a candidacy for nomination for the office the candidate is seeking pursuant to section 9-406 and no other candidate for said office at [the] any caucus, convention or town committee meeting that may have been held either receives the party endorsement or files a certification of endorsement with the town clerk in accordance with the provisions of section 9-391, as amended by this act;

(B) After any primary held by such party for nomination for said office, if the Secretary of the State declares that the candidate is the party nominee in accordance with the provisions of section 9-440;

(C) In the case of a minor party candidate, after the nomination of such candidate is certified and filed with the Secretary of the State pursuant to section 9-452; or

(D) In the case of a petitioning party candidate, after approval by the Secretary of the State of such candidate's nominating petition
pursuant to section 9-453o.

(3) A participating candidate for nomination to the office of state senator or state representative at a special election in 2008, or thereafter, may apply to the State Elections Enforcement Commission for a grant from the fund under the Citizens' Election Program for a general election campaign after the close of any district convention or municipal caucus, convention or town committee meeting of the candidate's party that may have been called for the purpose of choosing candidates for nomination for the office that the candidate is seeking.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, no participating candidate for nomination or election who changes the candidate's status as a major party, minor party or petitioning party candidate or becomes a candidate of a different party, after filing the affidavit required under section 9-703, shall be eligible to apply for a grant under the Citizens' Election Program for such candidate's primary campaign for such nomination or general election campaign for such election. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply in the case of a candidate who is nominated by more than one party and does not otherwise change the candidate's status as a major party, minor party or petitioning party candidate.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, no candidate may apply to the State Elections Enforcement Commission for a grant from the fund under the Citizens' Election Program if such candidate has been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, in a court of competent jurisdiction, any (A) criminal offense under this title unless at least eight years have elapsed from the date of the conviction or plea or the completion of any sentence, whichever date is later, without a subsequent conviction of or plea to another such offense, or (B) a felony related to the individual's public office, other than an offense under this title in accordance with subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.
Sec. 519. Subsection (a) of section 9-709 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) For purposes of this section, expenditures made to aid or promote the success of both a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor and a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Lieutenant Governor jointly, shall be considered expenditures made to aid or promote the success of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor. The party-endorsed candidate for nomination or election to the office of Lieutenant Governor, if any, and the party-endorsed candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor, if any, shall be deemed to be aiding or promoting the success of both candidates jointly upon the earliest of the following: (1) The primary, whether held for the office of Governor, the office of Lieutenant Governor, or both; (2) if no primary is held for the office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor, the fourteenth day following the close of [the] any convention that may have been held; or (3) a declaration by [the] such party-endorsed candidates that they will campaign jointly. Any other candidate for nomination or election to the office of Lieutenant Governor shall be deemed to be aiding or promoting the success of such candidacy for the office of Lieutenant Governor and the success of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor jointly upon a declaration by the candidates that they shall campaign jointly."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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