OLR Bill Analysis
HB 6059

AN ACT CONCERNING ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES TO ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION.

SUMMARY

Current law requires registrars of voters to designate a location within each municipality for completing and processing Election Day registration (EDR) applications. This bill requires the registrars’ chosen location to be certified in writing to the secretary of the state at least 31 days before the election. (Presumably, the registrars must submit the written certification.) It also establishes required contents for the written certification and authorizes the secretary of the state, upon reviewing the certification, to require the registrars to make certain changes at the EDR location.

The bill allows registrars of voters to apply to the secretary of state, on a form she prescribes, for permission to designate additional EDR locations, as long as they apply at least 90 days before the election. Additional EDR locations are also subject to (1) the bill’s written certification requirements and (2) changes ordered by the secretary of the state upon reviewing the certification.

By law, a designated EDR location must be where (1) registrars of voters have access to the statewide centralized voter registration system and (2) eligible electors may register to vote.

The bill also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

WRITTEN CERTIFICATION

Required Contents

The bill requires the written certification to contain the following information:
1. the location’s name, street address, and relevant contact information;

2. the name and address of each election official appointed to serve there;

3. a description of the location’s design; and

4. a plan for effectively completing and processing EDR applications.

Certification Review

The bill allows the secretary of the state, after reviewing the written certification, to require registrars to (1) appoint one or more additional election officials or (2) alter the location design or application completion and processing plan.

BACKGROUND

EDR

Under EDR, a person may register to vote and cast a ballot on the day of a regular state or municipal election if he or she meets the eligibility requirements for voting in Connecticut and is (1) not already an elector or (2) registered in one municipality, but wants to change his or her registration because he or she currently resides in another municipality (CGS § 9-19j).

Related Bills

SB 1049, reported favorably by the Government Administration and Elections Committee, also requires that EDR locations be certified to the secretary of the state at least 31 days before the election.

sHB 7160, reported favorably by the Government Administration and Elections Committee, also authorizes registrars of voters to apply to the secretary of state to designate additional EDR locations.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee
Joint Favorable
Yea  16  Nay  0   (04/01/2019)