OLR Bill Analysis
sHB 6063

AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE PROCESS OF VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.

SUMMARY

This bill eliminates the requirement that after electronically submitting a completed absentee ballot application, electors also mail the original to their town clerk. It similarly lifts the current prohibition on counting such an elector’s absentee ballot unless the town clerk receives the original application by the time the polls close on the day of a primary, election, or referendum.

The bill also requires the secretary of the state or her designee, in consultation with up to two designees each from the Connecticut Town Clerks Association and the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut, to study the absentee voting process. The study must examine (1) additional ways that absentee ballot applicants may return absentee ballots to town clerks, including through inter-departmental mail for municipal employees; (2) ways to reduce the number of rejected absentee ballots at elections, primaries, and referenda; and (3) opportunities to make the absentee voting process easier overall.

By January 1, 2020, the secretary must submit a report to the Government Administration and Elections Committee with the study’s findings and recommendations for legislation necessary to address its concerns.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 16  Nay 0  (03/29/2019)