OLR Bill Analysis
sSB 267

AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITING OF SIGNED STATEMENTS OF ELECTORS PRIOR TO VOTING.

SUMMARY

By law, in order to vote, electors must present an acceptable form of identification or, alternatively, sign a form attesting to their identity under penalty of false statement (see BACKGROUND). If an elector completes the form, the registrar of voters or assistant registrar must examine the information on the form and either (1) instruct the official checker to check the elector’s name on the official checklist (i.e., admit him or her to vote) or (2) notify the elector that the form is incomplete or inaccurate.

This bill requires registrars of voters or assistant registrars to maintain a log listing each elector who completed the form and, of those, each elector whose form is incomplete or inaccurate. Within 90 days after each primary, election, and referendum, each town’s registrar of voters must (1) compile a report of the number of electors who completed the form and the number of such electors whose form was incomplete or inaccurate and (2) submit it to the secretary of the state.

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2019

BACKGROUND

Acceptable Forms of Identification

In general, acceptable forms of identification are (1) a Social Security card or (2) any preprinted identification card that has the elector’s name and one of the following: his or her address, signature, or photograph.
False Statement

By law, the crime of making a false statement is a class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in prison, up to a $2,000 fine, or both (CGS §53a-157b).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

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