Government Administration and Elections Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6671
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING REMOVAL FROM VOTER REGISTRY LISTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES.
Vote Date: 4/1/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/25/2019

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee
Rep. Mike France, 42nd District

REASONS FOR BILL:

The purpose of HB 6671 is to protect those who submit any change of address form to the Department of Motor Vehicles. This bill intends to prohibit the Department of Motor Vehicles from sending information to the registrars of voters. This restriction will prevent the registrars of voters from removing electors from the town registry lists.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Denise W. Merrill, Secretary of the State: Secretary of the State, Denise Merrill, is in opposition of H.B. 6671. She expresses her concern for “widespread voter confusion” with the Department of Motor Vehicles and the registrars of voters if they are not allowed to exchange such information. The possibility of H.B 6671 violating federal law was also a highlighted concern.

State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles: The State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicle is in opposition of H.B. 6671. This bill will violate federal law and “will make a streamlined process more difficult for voters who are moving to a new address.”

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:
Sue W. Larsen, President, ROVAC & South Windsor Registrar of Voters: She is concerned of unintended consequences from passage of this bill. She stated this bill would make work more difficult for DMV workers. With this bill, instead of receiving said information from the DMV, “the voter must now agree that the address change can be used for voting purposes. If they miss it, the voter will have to register again which could have been so much easier through the DMV.”

Reported by: Nicholas Rogers
Committee Clerk

Date: 4/4/19