



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

**Raised Bill No. 5404**

LCO No. 2331



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE AND  
RANKED-CHOICE VOTING.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force  
2 to study the implementation for federal, state or municipal elections of  
3 a method known as ranked-choice voting, or the casting and tabulating  
4 of votes in which (1) voters rank candidates in order of preference, (2)  
5 tabulation proceeds in sequential rounds in which last-place candidates  
6 are defeated and until one candidate receives over fifty per cent of the  
7 votes cast, and (3) the candidate receiving over fifty per cent of the votes  
8 cast is deemed to have been elected to such office. Such study shall  
9 include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the feasibility of  
10 implementing such method in the state, what current election  
11 administration processes would need to be changed to effectuate such a  
12 method, any potential costs, issues and benefits relating to such method  
13 and any recommended statutory changes necessary to implement such  
14 method.

15 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

16 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
17 one of whom is a representative of an organization that advocates the  
18 adoption of ranked-choice voting, and one of whom is a representative  
19 of the Center for Voting Technology Research at The University of  
20 Connecticut;

21 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of  
22 whom is a registrar of voters;

23 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
24 Representatives, who is a town clerk;

25 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who has been  
26 involved with the implementation of ranked-choice voting in a  
27 jurisdiction outside of this state;

28 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
29 Representatives;

30 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who is a  
31 registrar of voters;

32 (7) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee; and

33 (8) Two appointed by the Secretary, one of whom is admitted to the  
34 practice of law in this state and has expertise in election administration,  
35 and one of whom is an information technology professional and has  
36 expertise in election technology.

37 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (2),  
38 (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the  
39 General Assembly.

40 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than  
41 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be

42 filled by the appointing authority.

43 (e) The Secretary, or the Secretary's designee, shall be the chairperson  
44 of the task force and shall schedule the first meeting of the task force,  
45 which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of  
46 this section.

47 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
48 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections  
49 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

50 (g) Not later than March 1, 2021, the task force shall submit a report  
51 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of  
52 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
53 elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
54 general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it  
55 submits such report or March 1, 2021, whichever is earlier.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a task force to study the implementation of ranked-choice voting.