



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 239

LCO No. 1770



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

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

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-261 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

3 (a) In each primary, election or referendum, when an elector has
4 entered the polling place, the elector shall announce the elector's street
5 address, if any, and the elector's name to the official checker or checkers
6 in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all the election officials
7 present to hear the same. Each elector who registered to vote by mail for
8 the first time on or after January 1, 2003, and has a "mark" next to the
9 elector's name on the official registry list, as required by section 9-23r,
10 as amended by this act, shall present to the official checker or checkers,
11 before the elector votes, either a current and valid photo identification
12 that shows the elector's name and address or a copy of a current utility
13 bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government
14 document that shows the name and address of the elector. Each other

15 elector shall (1) present to the official checker or checkers the elector's
16 Social Security card or any other preprinted form of identification which
17 shows the elector's name and either the elector's address, signature or
18 photograph, or (2) on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State,
19 write the elector's residential address and date of birth, print the
20 elector's name and sign a statement under penalty of false statement that
21 the elector is the elector whose name appears on the official checklist.
22 Such form shall clearly state the penalty of false statement. A separate
23 form shall be used for each elector. If the elector presents a preprinted
24 form of identification under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the
25 official checker or checkers shall check the name of such elector on the
26 official checklist, manually on paper or electronically. If the elector
27 completes the form under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the registrar
28 of voters or the assistant registrar of voters, as the case may be, shall
29 examine the information on such form and either instruct the official
30 checker or checkers to check the name of such elector on the official
31 checklist, manually on paper or electronically, or notify the elector that
32 the form is incomplete or inaccurate. Such registrar or assistant registrar
33 shall maintain a log of (A) each elector who completes the form under
34 subdivision (2) of this subsection, and (B) each such elector for whom
35 such form is incomplete or inaccurate.

36 (b) In the event that an elector is present at the polling place but is
37 unable to gain access to the polling place due to a temporary incapacity,
38 the elector may request that the ballot be brought to him or her. The
39 registrars of voters or the assistant registrars of voters, as the case may
40 be, shall take such ballot, along with a privacy sleeve to such elector.
41 The elector shall show identification, in accordance with the provisions
42 of this section. The elector shall forthwith mark the ballot in the presence
43 of the election officials in such manner that the election officials shall not
44 know how the ballot is marked. The elector shall place the ballot in the
45 privacy sleeve. The election officials shall mark the elector's name on the
46 official voter list, manually on paper or electronically, as having voted
47 in person and deliver such ballot and privacy sleeve to the voting
48 tabulator where such ballot shall be placed into the tabulator, by the

49 election official, for counting. The moderator shall record such activity
50 in the moderator's diary.

51 (c) In each polling place in which two or more parties are holding
52 primaries in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote, pursuant
53 to section 9-431, an unaffiliated elector shall also announce to the
54 separate table of the official checker or checkers for unaffiliated electors
55 the party in whose primary the elector chooses to vote and the official
56 checker or checkers shall note such party when checking such elector's
57 name on the checklist of unaffiliated electors, manually on paper or
58 electronically, provided such choice shall not alter the elector's
59 unaffiliated status.

60 (d) In each polling place in which two or more parties are holding
61 primaries in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote or in
62 which one party is holding a primary in which unaffiliated electors are
63 authorized to vote for some but not all offices to be contested at the
64 primary, the official checker or checkers shall give to each elector
65 checked manually on paper or electronically, a receipt provided by the
66 registrars of voters, in a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State,
67 specifying either (1) the party with which the elector is enrolled, if any,
68 or (2) in the case of an unaffiliated elector, the party in whose primary
69 the elector has so chosen to vote, and whether the elector is authorized
70 to vote for only a partial ballot.

71 (e) If not challenged by anyone lawfully present in the polling place,
72 the elector shall be permitted to pass to the separated area to receive the
73 ballot. The elector shall give any receipt the elector has received to a
74 ballot clerk who shall give the elector a ballot to vote only in the primary
75 of the party specified by the receipt. The elector shall be permitted into
76 the voting booth area, and shall then register his or her vote in secret.
77 Having voted, the elector shall immediately exit the voting booth area
78 and deposit the ballot in the voting tabulator and leave the room. No
79 elector shall remain within the voting booth longer than the time
80 necessary to complete the ballot, and, if the elector refuses to leave such
81 booth after completing the ballot, the elector shall at once be removed

82 by the election officials upon order of the moderator. Not more than one
 83 elector at a time shall be permitted to be within the enclosed space which
 84 the elector occupies while the elector completes his or her ballot,
 85 provided an elector may be accompanied within such enclosed space by
 86 one or more children who are fifteen years of age or younger and
 87 supervised by the elector, if the elector is the parent or legal guardian of
 88 such children. If any elector, after entering the voting booth area, asks
 89 for further instruction concerning the manner of voting, the election
 90 officials shall give such instructions or directions to the elector; but no
 91 election official instructing or assisting an elector, except as provided in
 92 section 9-264, shall look at the ballot in such a way as to see the elector's
 93 markings or in any manner seek to influence any such elector in the
 94 casting of the elector's vote.

95 (f) Not later than ninety days after each primary, election or
 96 referendum, the registrars of voters of each town shall (1) compile a
 97 report of (A) the number of electors who completed the form under
 98 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, and (B) the number of
 99 such electors for whom such form was incomplete or inaccurate, and (2)
 100 submit such report to the Secretary of the State.

101 Sec. 2. Subdivision (4) of subsection (d) of section 9-23g of the general
 102 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
 103 (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

104 (4) If on the day of an election or primary, the name of an applicant
 105 does not appear on the official check list, such applicant may present to
 106 the moderator at the polls either a notice of acceptance received through
 107 the mail or an application receipt that was previously provided to the
 108 applicant pursuant to section 9-19e, subsection (b) of section 9-19h,
 109 subsection (b) of this section or section 9-23n. If an applicant presents
 110 said notice or receipt, and either the registrars of voters find the original
 111 application or the applicant submits a new application at the polls, the
 112 registrar, or assistant registrar upon notice to and approval by the
 113 registrar, shall add such person's name and address to the official check
 114 list on such day and the person shall be allowed to vote if otherwise

115 eligible to vote and the person presents to the checkers at the polling
116 place a preprinted form of identification pursuant to [subparagraph (A)
117 of subdivision (2)] subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 9-261, as
118 amended by this act.

119 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 9-23r of the general statutes is
120 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
121 *1, 2020*):

122 (b) If an individual submits such information pursuant to this section
123 as part of the individual's voter registration application and, with
124 respect to subdivision (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of this section, the
125 registrars of voters are able to match the information submitted with an
126 existing Connecticut identification record bearing the same number,
127 name and date of birth as provided, such individual shall not be
128 required to produce identification when voting in person or by absentee
129 ballot and may sign a statement as described in [subparagraph (B) of]
130 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-261, as amended by this act,
131 in lieu of presenting identification when voting in person.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	9-261
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	9-23g(d)(4)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	9-23r(b)

Statement of Purpose:

To require certain election officials to (1) maintain information about electors who sign statements in lieu of presenting certain identification at the polls when voting in person, and (2) compile a report of such information for submission to the Secretary of the State.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]