



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Committee Bill No. 353

LCO No. 3559



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 9-164 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
3 *1, 2022*):

4 (a) (1) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, there shall be
5 held in each municipality, biennially, a municipal election [on the first
6 Monday of May or the Tuesday after the first Monday of November, of
7 the odd-numbered years, whichever date the legislative body of such
8 municipality determines, provided, if no action is taken by the
9 legislative body to so designate the date of such election, such election
10 shall be held] on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November of the
11 odd-numbered years, except that such municipal election may be held
12 on the first Monday of May of the odd-numbered years if the legislative
13 body of such municipality so determines by a two-thirds vote.

14 (2) After January 1, 2022, in any municipality where such municipal
15 election is held on the first Monday of May of the odd-numbered years,

16 in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection,
17 the legislative body of such municipality may determine by a majority
18 vote to hold such municipal election on the Tuesday after the first
19 Monday of November of the odd-numbered years.

20 (3) In any municipality where the term of any elected official would
21 expire prior to the next regular election held under the provisions of this
22 section, the term of such official shall be extended to the date of such
23 election.

24 Sec. 2. Section 9-164a of the general statutes is repealed and the
25 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

26 Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, in any municipality
27 in which the date of the municipal election has been, or will be, changed
28 under section 9-164, as amended by this act, and in which the terms of
29 office of one or more elected municipal officers had not, or will have not,
30 expired at the time of the holding of the first municipal election in
31 accordance with such changed date under said section, the legislative
32 body of such municipality shall, prior to ~~[July 25, 1969]~~ January 1, 2022,
33 provide for a reasonable method of transition for such offices which may
34 include reasonable extension of such terms and provision for interim
35 terms. Except as provided in sections 9-164b to 9-164f, inclusive, as
36 amended by this act, 9-187 and 9-187a, in the absence of such action by
37 such legislative body, the terms of any such officers which do not
38 terminate within three months after such first or a subsequent municipal
39 election held under ~~[said]~~ section 9-164, as amended by this act, shall be
40 extended to the municipal election next held after the expiration of such
41 terms, or to such date, within seventy days after such election, on which
42 the terms of municipal officers generally begin in such municipality, at
43 which election successors shall be elected for the terms provided for by
44 law or for such other transitional terms as are necessary to provide the
45 rotation required by law. The clerk of the municipality, in preparing the
46 list provided for under section 9-254, shall set forth such terms or
47 transitional terms therein.

48 Sec. 3. Section 9-164b of the general statutes is repealed and the
49 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

50 As to any board or commission of a municipality with a rotating
51 membership, some of the members of which, prior to [the] any change
52 [to a uniform] in a municipal election date for such municipality under
53 section 9-164, as amended by this act, were elected for terms beginning
54 approximately one year after the date of their election, the legislative
55 body of such municipality may provide for such conforming changes in
56 the beginning date of the terms of office as are designed to continue the
57 rotation with regard to such office as it existed prior to such change, and
58 in the absence of such action by such legislative body, the beginning
59 date of the terms of such office shall be so changed by the clerk of the
60 municipality in preparing the list provided for under section 9-254. With
61 respect to any board or commission of a municipality with a rotating
62 membership established under sections 8-1, 8-4a, 8-5 and 8-19, the
63 authority empowered to prescribe the term of office of the members of
64 such board or commission, if it is authorized under said sections to
65 provide for an odd-numbered year term, may further provide for
66 deferred terms by prescribing which terms are to begin approximately
67 one year from the date on which the terms of municipal officers
68 generally begin in such municipality.

69 Sec. 4. Section 9-164c of the general statutes is repealed and the
70 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

71 [After January 1, 1970] On or after January 1, 2022, any municipality
72 may [by charter, or by vote of the legislative body approved at a
73 referendum of the electors to be held within thirty days thereafter,]
74 change the date of its municipal election [by designating the alternate
75 date specified in] in accordance with the provisions of section 9-164, as
76 amended by this act, [as the date of the municipal election, provided (1)
77 no such charter provision adopted, nor such vote of such legislative
78 body so approved, within six months prior to any municipal election
79 may be effective with respect thereto, and (2)] provided in changing

80 from the November municipal election date specified in section 9-164,
 81 as amended by this act, to the May municipal election date therein
 82 specified, the terms of incumbent municipal elected officials shall be
 83 diminished to conform to such change but for a period of not more than
 84 nine months. [and (3)] In the case of a municipality described in
 85 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-164, as amended by this act,
 86 in changing from the May municipal election date specified in said
 87 section [9-164] to the November date therein specified, the terms of
 88 incumbent municipal elected officials shall be extended to conform to
 89 such change but for a period of not more than nine months.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2022</i>	9-164(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	9-164a
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	9-164b
Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2022</i>	9-164c

Statement of Purpose:

To require each municipality to hold its biennial municipal election in November, unless a two-thirds vote of such municipality's legislative body decides that such election shall be held in May.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. MARONEY, 14th Dist.

S.B. 353