



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 9160



Offered by:
SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 5

File No. 570

Cal. No. 338

(As Amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A")

"AN ACT CONCERNING INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR ABSENTEE VOTING, SAFE AND SECURE IN-PERSON VOTING, VOTER REGISTRATION AND CERTAIN OTHER CHANGES REGARDING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION."

1 Strike section 21 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
2 thereof:

3 "Sec. 21. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 9-140b of the
4 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
5 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

6 (a) An absentee ballot shall be cast at a primary, election or
7 referendum only if: (1) It is mailed by (A) the ballot applicant, (B) a
8 designee of a person who applies for an absentee ballot because of
9 illness or physical disability, or (C) a member of the immediate family
10 of an applicant who is a student, so that it is received by the clerk of the
11 municipality in which the applicant is qualified to vote not later than the
12 close of the polls; (2) it is returned by the applicant in person to the clerk

13 by the day before a regular election, special election or primary or prior
14 to the opening of the polls on the day of a referendum; (3) it is returned
15 by a designee of an ill or physically disabled ballot applicant, in person,
16 to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of the election,
17 primary or referendum; (4) it is returned by a member of the immediate
18 family of the absentee voter, in person, to said clerk not later than the
19 close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or referendum; (5)
20 in the case of a presidential or overseas ballot, it is mailed or otherwise
21 returned pursuant to the provisions of section 9-158g; or (6) it is returned
22 with the proper identification as required by the Help America Vote Act,
23 P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time, if applicable, inserted in the
24 outer envelope so such identification can be viewed without opening
25 the inner envelope. A person returning an absentee ballot to the
26 municipal clerk pursuant to subdivision (3) or (4) of this subsection shall
27 present identification and, on the outer envelope of the absentee ballot,
28 sign his name in the presence of the municipal clerk, and indicate his
29 address, his relationship to the voter or his position, and the date and
30 time of such return. As used in this section, "immediate family" means
31 a dependent relative who resides in the individual's household or any
32 spouse, child, [or] parent or sibling of the individual.

33 (b) As used in this section and section 9-150c, "designee" means (1) a
34 person who is caring for the applicant because of the applicant's illness
35 or physical disability, including but not limited to, a licensed physician
36 or a registered or practical nurse, (2) a member of the applicant's family,
37 who is designated by an absentee ballot applicant and who consents to
38 such designation, or (3) [if no such person consents or is available, then]
39 a police officer, registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters or assistant
40 registrar of voters in the municipality in which the applicant resides.

41 (c) (1) For purposes of this section, "mailed" means (A) sent by the
42 United States Postal Service or any commercial carrier, courier or
43 messenger service recognized and approved by the Secretary of the
44 State, or (B) for the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or
45 referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to
46 November 3, 2021, deposited in a secure drop box designated by the

47 municipal clerk for such purpose, in accordance with instructions
48 prescribed by the Secretary.

49 (2) In the case of absentee ballots mailed under subparagraph (B) of
50 subdivision (1) of this subsection, beginning on the twenty-ninth day
51 before the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or
52 referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to
53 November 3, 2021, and on each weekday thereafter until the close of the
54 polls at such election, primary or referendum, the municipal clerk shall
55 [(A)] retrieve from the secure drop box described in said subparagraph
56 each such ballot deposited in such drop box. [, and (B) if the drop box is
57 located outside a building other than the building where the clerk's
58 office is located, arrange for the clerk or the clerk's designee to be
59 escorted by a police officer during such retrieval.] "

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 21	<i>from passage</i>	9-140b(a) to (c)