
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6908 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARIES AND DEADLINES FOR MINOR PARTY NOMINATIONS.

SUMMARY

This bill changes the date of Connecticut's presidential preference primary from the last Tuesday in April (i.e., April 30 for 2024) to the first Tuesday in April (i.e., April 2 for 2024). A presidential preference primary is an election for state voters to indicate a preference for a political party's presidential nominee. Existing law, unchanged by the bill, sets various deadlines in relation to the primary (e.g., the secretary of the state must publicly announce the list of candidates whose names will appear on the ballot 74 days before the primary (CGS § 9-466)).

The bill also changes the deadline for minor parties to file with the secretary of the state their certified list of nominations for offices to be voted on at state elections. Under current law, minor parties must do so no later than 62 days before the election. Under the bill, they must do so no later than the Friday after the fourth Tuesday in August (i.e., about 74 days before the election).

The bill also extends this deadline to seven days beyond the final and conclusive resolution of a primary complaint for a major party nomination if the resolution would affect the minor party's nomination.

The bill also makes technical changes.

*House Amendment "A" removes provisions modifying the date for filing with the town clerk for municipal elections and moves the date for filing with the secretary from the Friday after the second Tuesday in August to the Friday after the fourth Tuesday.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023, except the provision changing the

presidential preference primary date is effective October 1, 2023.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/24/2023)