



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 544

January Session, 2023

Substitute House Bill No. 6908

House of Representatives, April 12, 2023

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. BLUMENTHAL of the 147th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

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

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-464 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

3 On the [last] first Tuesday in April of each year in which the President
4 of the United States is to be elected, each party shall conduct a primary
5 in each town if the names of two or more candidates are to be placed on
6 such party's ballot in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

7 Sec. 2. Section 9-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the
8 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

9 All minor parties nominating candidates for any elective office shall
10 make such nominations and certify and file a list of such nominations [,
11 as required by] in accordance with this section. [, not later than the sixty-
12 second day prior to the day of the election at which such candidates are

13 to be voted for.] A list of nominees in printed or typewritten form that
14 includes each candidate's name as authorized by each candidate to
15 appear on the ballot, the signature of each candidate, the full street
16 address of each candidate and the title and district of the office for which
17 each candidate is nominated shall be certified by the presiding officer of
18 the committee, meeting or other authority making such nomination and
19 shall be filed by such presiding officer (1) with the Secretary of the State,
20 in the case of any state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a
21 state election, not later than the Friday following the second Tuesday in
22 August in the year in which such state election is held, except that, in
23 the case of a complaint brought pursuant to section 9-329a relating to a
24 major party nomination which would affect the making of a nomination
25 under this section, such deadline shall be extended to the seventh day
26 after a final and conclusive resolution of such complaint under
27 subsection (c) of section 9-329a or section 9-325, or (2) with the clerk of
28 the municipality, in the case of any municipal office to be voted upon at
29 a municipal election, not later than the [sixty-second day prior to] fifty-
30 third day preceding the day of [the] such municipal election. The
31 registrars of voters of such municipality shall promptly verify and
32 correct the names on any such list filed with [him] such registrar, or the
33 names of nominees forwarded to the clerk of the municipality by the
34 Secretary of the State, in accordance with the registry list of such
35 municipality and endorse the same as having been so verified and
36 corrected. For purposes of this section, a list of nominations shall be
37 deemed to be filed when [it] such list is received by the Secretary of the
38 State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate. If such certificate of a
39 party's nomination is not received by the Secretary of the State or clerk
40 of the municipality, as appropriate, by such time, such certificate shall
41 be invalid and such party, for purposes of sections 9-460, 9-461 and 9-
42 462, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any nomination
43 of any candidate for such office. A candidacy for nomination by a minor
44 party to a district or municipal office may be filed on behalf of any
45 person whose name appears on the last-completed registry list of the
46 district or municipality represented by such office, as the case may be.
47 A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a state office may be

48 filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed
49 registry list of the state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2023	9-464
Sec. 2	July 1, 2023	9-452

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2, "or section 9-325" was added in Subdiv. (1) for accuracy, and "him" was changed to "[him] such registrar" and "it" was changed to "[it] such list" for clarity.

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

This bill has no fiscal impact. This bill moves up the day of primary elections from the last Tuesday in April to the first Tuesday in April. The bill also moves up the deadlines for minor party filing of candidacy in accordance with the shifted primary date. The bill obligates the state to no further action.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6908*****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 deadlines for minor parties to nominate candidates for general and municipal elections. Under current law, minor parties must certify their list of nominations to the secretary of the state or town clerk, whichever applies, no later than 62 days before the election. For filings with the town clerk, the bill extends the deadline to at least 53 days before the municipal election.

For nominations filed with the secretary of the state in state election years, the bill moves the deadline to no later than the Friday after the second Tuesday in August (i.e., about 88 days before the election). (By law, the primary for state elections is held on the second Tuesday in August (CGS § 9-423).) 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.

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)