
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 257

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATION OF AND CASTING OF BALLOTS BY PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

SUMMARY

This bill designates the secretary of the state as the state official responsible for certifying presidential electors under the federal Electoral Count Reform Act of 2022. As the designated official under the bill and the act, she must issue the elector certification and then immediately transmit the certificate to the Archivist of the United States.

Additionally, the bill requires the presidential electors to meet on the Tuesday (rather than the Monday) after the second Wednesday in December. Under existing law, when a voter casts a ballot for a presidential candidate, the ballot is cast for a slate of presidential electors who have pledged to vote for that candidate when all state electors convene to choose the president and vice president of the United States (CGS § 9-175).

The bill also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

Electoral Count Reform Act

Under the federal Electoral Count Reform Act of 2022 (P.L. 117-328, Division P, § 104), the executive of a state (by default, the governor) must certify the slate of electors being sent to choose the presidential candidates after a general election. However, the act also allows a state to designate someone other than the governor to serve in this role.

Related Bill

sHB 5310, § 1, favorably reported by the Government Administration

and Elections Committee, has identical provisions on changing the day presidential electors meet.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/15/2024)