



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 262

LCO No. 1335



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE FILINGS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-603 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

3 (a) Statements filed by party committees, political committees formed
4 to aid or promote the success or defeat of a referendum question,
5 [proposing a constitutional convention, constitutional amendment or
6 revision of the Constitution, individual lobbyists,] and those political
7 committees and candidate committees formed to aid or promote the
8 success or defeat of any candidate for [the office of Governor, Lieutenant
9 Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State Comptroller,
10 Attorney General, judge of probate and members of the General
11 Assembly] public office or the position of town committee member,
12 shall be filed with the State Elections Enforcement Commission. A
13 political committee formed for a slate of candidates in a primary for the
14 office of justice of the peace shall file statements with the [town clerk of
15 the municipality in which the primary is to be held] State Elections

16 Enforcement Commission.

17 [(b) Statements filed by political committees formed solely to aid or
18 promote the success or defeat of a referendum question to be voted
19 upon by the electors of a single municipality and those political
20 committees or candidate committees formed to aid or promote the
21 success or defeat of any candidate for public office, other than those
22 enumerated in subsection (a) of this section, or the position of town
23 committee member shall be filed only with the town clerk of the
24 municipality in which the election or referendum is to be held. Each
25 unsalaried town clerk shall be entitled to receive ten cents from the town
26 for the filing of each such statement.]

27 [(c)] (b) A certification of a candidate who is exempt from the
28 requirement of subsection (a) of section 9-604 to form, as amended by
29 this act, a candidate committee shall be filed with the State Elections
30 Enforcement Commission. [if the candidate seeks an office enumerated
31 in subsection (a) of this section, or with the town clerk of the
32 municipality in which the election is to be held if the candidate seeks an
33 office other than those enumerated. A certification of a group of
34 individuals who have joined solely to aid or promote a referendum
35 question and who are exempt from the requirement to form a political
36 committee under section 9-605 shall be filed with the town clerk of each
37 municipality in which the referendum is to be held.]

38 [(d)] (c) On December 31, 2006, the duties of the Secretary of the State
39 concerning the administration of campaign finance reporting under this
40 chapter shall be transferred to the State Elections Enforcement
41 Commission.

42 Sec. 2. Section 9-604 of the general statutes is repealed and the
43 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

44 (a) Each candidate for a particular public office or the position of
45 town committee member shall form a single candidate committee for
46 which he shall designate a treasurer and a depository institution
47 situated in this state as the depository for the committee's funds and

48 shall file a committee statement containing such designations, not later
49 than ten days after becoming a candidate, with the [proper authority]
50 State Elections Enforcement Commission as required by section 9-603,
51 as amended by this act. The candidate may also designate a deputy
52 treasurer on such committee statement. The treasurer and any deputy
53 treasurer so designated shall sign a statement accepting such
54 designation which the candidate shall include as part of, or file with, the
55 committee statement.

56 (b) The formation of a candidate committee by a candidate and the
57 filing of statements pursuant to section 9-608, as amended by this act,
58 shall not be required if the candidate files a certification with the [proper
59 authority] State Elections Enforcement Commission required by section
60 9-603, as amended by this act, not later than ten days after becoming a
61 candidate, and any of the following conditions exist for the campaign:
62 (1) The candidate is one of a slate of candidates whose campaigns are
63 funded solely by a party committee or a political committee formed for
64 a single election or primary and expenditures made on behalf of the
65 candidate's campaign are reported by the committee sponsoring the
66 candidate's candidacy; (2) the candidate finances the candidate's
67 campaign entirely from personal funds and does not solicit or receive
68 contributions, provided if said candidate personally makes an
69 expenditure or expenditures in excess of one thousand dollars to, or for
70 the benefit of, said candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary or
71 election to an office or position, said candidate shall file statements
72 according to the same schedule and in the same manner as is required
73 of a treasurer of a candidate committee under section 9-608, as amended
74 by this act; (3) the candidate does not receive or expend funds in excess
75 of one thousand dollars; or (4) the candidate does not receive or expend
76 any funds, including personal funds, for the candidate's campaign. If
77 the candidate no longer qualifies for the exemption under any of these
78 conditions, the candidate shall comply with the provisions of subsection
79 (a) of this section, not later than three business days thereafter and shall
80 provide the candidate's designated treasurer with all information
81 required for completion of the treasurer's statements and filings as

82 required by section 9-608, as amended by this act. If the candidate no
83 longer qualifies for the exemption due to the condition stated in the
84 candidate's certification but so qualifies due to a different condition
85 specified in this subsection, the candidate shall file an amended
86 certification with the [proper authority] State Elections Enforcement
87 Commission and provide the new condition for the candidate's
88 qualification not later than three business days following the change in
89 circumstances of the financing of the candidate's campaign. The filing
90 of a certification under this subsection shall not relieve the candidate
91 from compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

92 (c) The chairman of a political committee formed to support a single
93 candidate for public office shall, not later than seven days after filing a
94 statement of organization with the [proper authority] State Elections
95 Enforcement Commission under section 9-603, as amended by this act,
96 send the candidate a notice, by certified mail, of such filing. If a
97 candidate (1) does not, within fourteen days after receiving such notice,
98 disavow such committee, in writing, to the [proper authority] State
99 Elections Enforcement Commission under section 9-603, as amended by
100 this act, or (2) disavows such committee within such period, but, at any
101 time before such disavowal, accepts funds from the committee for his
102 campaign, such committee shall be deemed to have been authorized by
103 such candidate and shall constitute a candidate committee for the
104 purposes of this chapter. No candidate shall establish, agree to or assist
105 in establishing, or give his consent or authorization to establishing a
106 committee other than a single candidate committee to promote his
107 candidacy for any public office except that a candidate may establish an
108 exploratory committee. The candidate shall designate on the statement
109 of organization for the exploratory committee the type of office to which
110 the candidate is determining whether to seek nomination or election, as
111 follows: (A) The General Assembly, (B) a state office, or (C) any other
112 public office. The candidate may also certify on the statement of
113 organization that the candidate will not be a candidate for the office of
114 state representative. Not later than fifteen days after a public declaration
115 by the candidate of the candidate's intention to seek nomination or

116 election to a particular public office, the candidate shall form a single
117 candidate committee, except that in the case of a candidate establishing
118 an exploratory committee for purposes including aiding or promoting
119 the candidate's candidacy for nomination or election to the General
120 Assembly or a state office, the candidate shall form a single candidate
121 committee not later than fifteen days after the date that the treasurer of
122 such exploratory committee is required to file a notice of intent to
123 dissolve the committee under subsection (f) of section 9-608, as
124 amended by this act. As used in this subsection, "state office" has the
125 same meaning as provided in subsection (e) of section 9-610.

126 (d) A slate of candidates in a primary for the office of justice of the
127 peace shall designate a chairperson to form a single political committee
128 to comply with the requirements of section 9-605, as amended by this
129 act, except if the individuals on the slate unanimously consent to have
130 their campaign financed solely by a town committee and such
131 committee consents to such financing by filing a statement of consent
132 with the [town clerk of the municipality in which the primary is to be
133 held] State Elections Enforcement Commission.

134 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 9-608 of the general statutes is
135 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
136 *1, 2026*):

137 (d) At the time of filing statements required under this section, the
138 treasurer of each candidate committee shall send to the candidate a
139 duplicate statement and the treasurer of each party committee and each
140 political committee other than an exploratory committee shall send to
141 the chairman of the committee a duplicate statement. Each statement
142 required to be filed [with the commission] under this section, section 9-
143 601d, section 9-706 or section 9-712 shall be deemed to be filed in a
144 timely manner if: (1) For a statement filed as a hard copy, including, but
145 not limited to, a statement delivered by the United States Postal Service,
146 courier service, parcel service or hand delivery, the statement is received
147 by the commission by five o'clock p.m. on the day the statement is
148 required to be filed, (2) for a statement authorized by the commission to

149 be filed electronically, including, but not limited to, a statement filed via
150 dedicated electronic mail, facsimile machine, a web-based program
151 created by the commission or other electronic means, the statement is
152 transmitted to the commission not later than eleven fifty-nine o'clock
153 p.m. on the day the statement is required to be filed, or (3) for a
154 statement required to be filed pursuant to section 9-601d, section 9-706
155 or section 9-712, by the deadline specified in each such section. [Any
156 other filing required to be filed with a town clerk pursuant to this section
157 shall be deemed to be filed in a timely manner if it is delivered by hand
158 to the office of the town clerk in accordance with the provisions of
159 section 9-603 before four-thirty o'clock p.m. or postmarked by the
160 United States Postal Service before midnight on the required filing day.]
161 If the day for any filing falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the
162 statement shall be filed on the next business day thereafter. The State
163 Elections Enforcement Commission shall not levy a penalty upon a
164 treasurer for failure to file a hard copy of a statement in a timely manner
165 in accordance with the provisions of this section if such treasurer has a
166 copy of the statement time stamped by the State Elections Enforcement
167 Commission that shows timely receipt of the statement or the treasurer
168 has a return receipt from the United States Postal Service or a similar
169 receipt from a commercial delivery service confirming timely delivery
170 of such statement was made or should have been made to said
171 commission.

172 Sec. 4. Subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of section 9-610 of the 2024
173 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
174 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

175 (2) A political committee established for ongoing political activities,
176 [and required pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-603 to file
177 statements with the commission] other than a committee established
178 solely for the purpose of aiding or promoting any candidate or
179 candidates for municipal office or the success or defeat of a referendum
180 question, shall be subject to the prohibition on making contributions
181 under subsection (e) of this section unless the treasurer of the committee
182 has filed a registration statement as described in subsection (b) of section

183 9-605 with the commission, on forms prescribed by the commission, on
184 or before November 15, 2012, for all such political committees in
185 existence on such date, or, if the committee is not in existence on such
186 date, not later than ten days after the organization of the committee
187 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-605, as amended by this act, and
188 on or before November fifteenth of each even-numbered year thereafter.
189 Such statements shall be filed even if there are no changes, additions or
190 deletions to the registration statement previously filed with the
191 commission. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, if an
192 officer of the committee has changed since the last registration statement
193 filed with the commission, such registration statement shall be filed by
194 the chairperson of the committee.

195 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 9-623 of the general statutes is
196 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
197 *1, 2026*):

198 (b) (1) If any treasurer fails to file any statement required by section
199 9-608, as amended by this act, or if any candidate fails to file either (A)
200 a statement for the formation of a candidate committee as required by
201 section 9-604, as amended by this act, or (B) a certification pursuant to
202 section 9-603, as amended by this act, that the candidate is exempt from
203 forming a candidate committee as required by section 9-604, as
204 amended by this act, within the time required, the treasurer or
205 candidate, as the case may be, shall pay a late filing fee of one hundred
206 dollars.

207 (2) In the case of any such statement or certification that is required
208 to be filed with the State Elections Enforcement Commission, the
209 commission shall, not later than ten days after the filing deadline is, or
210 should be, known to have passed, notify by certified mail, return receipt
211 requested, the person required to file that, if such statement or
212 certification is not filed not later than twenty-one days after such notice,
213 the person is in violation of section 9-603, as amended by this act, 9-604,
214 as amended by this act, or 9-608, as amended by this act.

215 [(3) In the case of any such statement or certification that is required
216 to be filed with a town clerk, the town clerk shall forthwith after the
217 filing deadline is, or should be, known to have passed, notify by certified
218 mail, return receipt requested, the person required to file that, if such
219 statement or certification is not filed not later than seven days after the
220 town clerk mails such notice, the town clerk shall notify the State
221 Elections Enforcement Commission that the person is in violation of
222 section 9-603, 9-604 or 9-608.]

223 [(4)] (3) The penalty for any violation of section 9-603, as amended by
224 this act, 9-604, as amended by this act, or 9-608, as amended by this act,
225 shall be a fine of not less than two hundred dollars or more than two
226 thousand dollars or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

227 Sec. 6. Section 9-624 of the general statutes is repealed and the
228 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

229 (a) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall prepare and
230 print the forms required for compliance with this chapter and distribute
231 them upon request to candidates and treasurers.

232 (b) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall, at the expense
233 of the state, prepare [and print] all forms for statements required to be
234 returned under the provisions of this chapter and [shall furnish to each
235 town clerk a sufficient supply of each of such blank forms as are
236 required to be filed with or returned to the town clerk. The town clerk
237 of each town shall, upon request, distribute to treasurers the forms
238 required for compliance with this chapter and, if not salaried, shall be
239 entitled to receive from the town the sum of ten cents for each copy]
240 make them available on the commission's Internet web site. In the case
241 of any treasurer for whom the requirement to file by electronic
242 submission has been waived pursuant to subsection (e) of section 9-675,
243 as amended by this act, the commission shall print such forms and
244 distribute them upon request to such treasurers.

245 Sec. 7. Section 9-675 of the general statutes is repealed and the
246 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

247 (a) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall (1) create a
248 web-based program for the preparation and electronic submission of
249 registration, certification of exemption from registration and financial
250 disclosure statements required by chapters 155 to 157, inclusive, and (2)
251 prescribe the standard reporting format and specifications for any
252 software program created by a vendor for such purpose. No software
253 program created by a vendor may be used for the electronic submission
254 of such financial disclosure statements unless the commission
255 determines that the software program provides for the standard
256 reporting format and complies with the specifications prescribed under
257 subdivision (2) of this subsection for any such software program. The
258 commission shall provide training in the use of the web-based program
259 created by the commission.

260 (b) [On and after July 1, 2017, the] The following shall file all financial
261 disclosure statements required by chapters 155 to 157, inclusive, by
262 electronic submission pursuant to subsection (a) of this section: (1) The
263 treasurer of the candidate committee or exploratory committee for each
264 candidate for nomination or election to [the office of Governor,
265 Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State
266 Treasurer, Secretary of the State, state senator, state representative or
267 judge of probate] public office or the position of town committee
268 member that raises or spends one thousand dollars or more, (2) the
269 treasurer of any state central committee, legislative caucus committee or
270 legislative leadership committee, (3) the treasurer of any other political
271 committee or town committee [required to be registered with the
272 commission] that (A) raises or spends one thousand dollars or more
273 during the current calendar year, or (B) raised or spent one thousand
274 dollars or more in the preceding regular election cycle, and (4) the
275 treasurer of any committee, or any other person, who makes or obligates
276 to make any independent expenditure and who is required to file a
277 financial disclosure statement of any such independent expenditure
278 [with the State Elections Enforcement Commission] in accordance with
279 the provisions of section 9-601d. Once any such candidate committee or
280 exploratory committee has raised or spent one thousand dollars or more

281 during an election campaign, all previously filed statements required by
282 chapters 155 to 157, inclusive, which were not filed by electronic
283 submission shall be refiled in such manner not later than the date on
284 which the treasurer of such committee is required to file its next
285 financial disclosure statement.

286 (c) (1) The treasurer of the candidate committee for any other
287 candidate, as defined in section 9-601, that neither raises nor spends one
288 thousand dollars or more who is required to file the financial disclosure
289 statements required by chapters 155 to 157, inclusive, [with the
290 commission,] and (2) the treasurer of any other political committee or
291 town committee that neither raises nor spends one thousand dollars or
292 more who is required to file the financial disclosure statements required
293 by chapters 155 to 157, inclusive, [with the State Elections Enforcement
294 Commission] may file any such financial disclosure statements by
295 electronic submission pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

296 (d) All registration and certification of exemption from registration
297 statements required by chapters 155 to 157, inclusive, shall be filed by
298 electronic submission pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of
299 this section.

300 [(d)] (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, upon the
301 written request of a treasurer or any other person responsible for filing
302 any statement described in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of
303 subsection (b) of this section or in subsection (d) of this section, the
304 commission may waive the requirement to file by electronic submission
305 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section if such treasurer or other
306 person demonstrates good cause.

307 Sec. 8. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 9-602 of the general statutes
308 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
309 *January 1, 2026*):

310 (b) No contribution in aid of or in opposition to the candidacy of any
311 person or to any party or referendum question shall be made at any
312 time, except to the committee's treasurer whose designation is on file

313 with the [proper authority] State Elections Enforcement Commission, a
314 solicitor or a candidate who is exempt from the requirement to form a
315 candidate committee and has filed a certification.

316 (c) An individual who is designated as treasurer of a committee shall
317 be responsible for all duties required of him under this chapter until the
318 committee is terminated. The treasurer shall be relieved of such duties
319 upon his permanent incapacity, resignation or replacement, provided a
320 statement to that effect is filed with the [proper authority] State Elections
321 Enforcement Commission, as provided in section 9-603, as amended by
322 this act. In the event of the death of the treasurer or after a statement has
323 been filed concerning the treasurer's incapacity, resignation or
324 replacement, if a deputy treasurer has been designated, the deputy
325 treasurer shall be responsible for all duties required of the treasurer
326 under this chapter until the candidate or chairman of the committee files
327 with the proper authority a designation of a successor treasurer. If a
328 deputy treasurer has not been designated, the candidate or chairman
329 shall designate a successor treasurer and file such designation with the
330 proper authority not more than ten days after the death of the treasurer
331 or the filing of the statement of his incapacity, resignation or
332 replacement.

333 Sec. 9. Subsection (a) of section 9-605 of the general statutes is
334 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
335 *1, 2026*):

336 (a) The chairperson of each political committee shall designate a
337 treasurer and may designate a deputy treasurer. The treasurer and any
338 deputy treasurer so designated shall sign a statement accepting the
339 designation. The chairperson of each political committee shall file a
340 registration statement described in subsection (b) of this section along
341 with the statement signed by the designated treasurer and deputy
342 treasurer with the [proper authority] State Elections Enforcement
343 Commission, within ten days after its organization, provided that the
344 chairperson of any political committee organized within ten days prior
345 to any primary, election or referendum in connection with which it

346 intends to make any contributions or expenditures, shall immediately
347 file a registration statement.

348 Sec. 10. Subsection (c) of section 9-605 of the general statutes is
349 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
350 *1, 2026*):

351 (c) The treasurer of each political committee shall report any addition
352 to or change in information previously submitted in a statement of
353 organization to the [proper authority] State Elections Enforcement
354 Commission not later than ten days after the addition or change,
355 provided if an officer of the committee has changed, such amended
356 statement shall be filed by the chairperson of the committee.

357 Sec. 11. Subsection (m) of section 9-607 of the general statutes is
358 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
359 *1, 2026*):

360 (m) Any obligation or restriction imposed by this section and sections
361 9-608, as amended by this act, 9-610, as amended by this act, 9-611, 9-
362 613, 9-615, 9-616, 9-618, 9-620, 9-621, 9-622 and 9-623, as amended by this
363 act, on a treasurer or a candidate committee shall be deemed to be
364 imposed on any candidate who is exempt from forming a candidate
365 committee and has filed a certification pursuant to subsection (b) of
366 section 9-604, as amended by this act, with the [proper authority] State
367 Elections Enforcement Commission.

368 Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 9-608 of the general statutes is
369 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
370 *1, 2026*):

371 (a) (1) Each treasurer of a committee, other than a state central
372 committee, shall file a statement, sworn under penalty of false statement
373 with the [proper authority] State Elections Enforcement Commission in
374 accordance with the provisions of section 9-603, as amended by this act,
375 (A) on the tenth calendar day in the months of January, April, July and
376 October, provided, if such tenth calendar day is a Saturday, Sunday or

377 legal holiday, the statement shall be filed on the next business day,
378 except that in the case of a candidate or exploratory committee
379 established for an office to be elected at a special election, statements
380 pursuant to this subparagraph shall not be required, (B) on the seventh
381 day preceding each regular state election, except that (i) in the case of a
382 candidate or exploratory committee established for an office to be
383 elected at a municipal election, the statement shall be filed on the
384 seventh day preceding a regular municipal election in lieu of such date,
385 except if the candidate's name is not eligible to appear on the ballot, in
386 which case such statement shall not be required, (ii) in the case of a town
387 committee, the statement shall be filed on the seventh day preceding
388 each municipal election in addition to such date, (iii) in the case of a
389 candidate committee in a state election that is required to file any
390 supplemental campaign finance statements pursuant to subdivisions (1)
391 and (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-712, such supplemental campaign
392 finance statements shall satisfy the filing requirement under this
393 subdivision, and (iv) in the case of a candidate committee established by
394 a candidate whose name is not eligible to appear on the ballot, such
395 statement shall not be required, and (C) if the committee has made or
396 received a contribution or expenditure in connection with any other
397 election, a primary or a referendum, on the seventh day preceding the
398 election, primary or referendum, except that in the case of a candidate
399 committee in a primary that is required to file statements pursuant to
400 subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-712, such
401 statements shall satisfy the filing requirement under this subdivision.
402 The statement shall be complete as of eleven fifty-nine o'clock p.m. of
403 the last day of the month preceding the month in which the statement is
404 required to be filed, except that for the statement required to be filed on
405 the seventh day preceding the election, primary or referendum, the
406 statement shall be complete as of eleven fifty-nine o'clock p.m. of the
407 second day immediately preceding the required filing day. The
408 statement shall cover a period to begin with the first day not included
409 in the last filed statement. In the case of a candidate committee, the
410 statement required to be filed in January shall be in lieu of the statement
411 formerly required to be filed within forty-five days following an

412 election.

413 (2) Each treasurer of a candidate committee established by a
414 candidate in a primary, not later than thirty days after such primary,
415 and each treasurer of a political committee formed for a single primary,
416 election or referendum, not later than forty-five days after any election
417 or referendum not held in November, shall file statements in the same
418 manner as is required of them under subdivision (1) of this subsection.
419 A candidate committee established by a candidate who is unsuccessful
420 in the primary shall not be required to file any statements required
421 under subdivision (1) of this subsection following the primary unless
422 the candidate is eligible to appear on the general election ballot. If the
423 treasurer of a candidate committee established by a candidate, who is
424 unsuccessful in the primary or has terminated his candidacy prior to the
425 primary, distributes all surplus funds within thirty days following the
426 scheduled primary and discloses the distribution on the postprimary
427 statement, such treasurer shall not be required to file any subsequent
428 statement unless the committee has a deficit, in which case he shall file
429 any required statements in accordance with the provisions of
430 subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of this section.

431 (3) In the case of state central committees, (A) on the tenth calendar
432 day in the months of January, April and July, provided, if such tenth
433 calendar day is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, on the next business
434 day, (B) on the twelfth day preceding any regular election, and (C) if the
435 committee has made or received a contribution or expenditure in
436 connection with any other election, or any primary or referendum, on
437 the twelfth day preceding the election, primary or referendum, the
438 treasurer of each such committee shall file with the [proper authority]
439 State Elections Enforcement Commission, a statement, sworn under
440 penalty of false statement, complete as of the last day of the month
441 immediately preceding the month in which such statement is to be filed
442 in the case of statements required to be filed in January, April and July,
443 and complete as of the nineteenth day preceding an election, primary or
444 referendum in the case of the statement required to be filed on the
445 twelfth day preceding an election, primary or referendum, and in each

446 case covering a period to begin with the first day not included in the last
447 filed statement.

448 Sec. 13. Subdivisions (3) and (4) of subsection (e) of section 9-608 of
449 the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
450 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

451 (3) Not later than seven days after such distribution or not later than
452 seven days after all funds have been expended in accordance with
453 subparagraph (D) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the treasurer
454 shall file a supplemental statement, sworn under penalty of false
455 statement, with the [proper authority] State Elections Enforcement
456 Commission, identifying all further contributions received since the
457 previous statement and explaining how any surplus has been
458 distributed or expended in accordance with this section. No surplus
459 may be distributed or expended until after the election, primary or
460 referendum.

461 (4) In the event of a deficit, the treasurer shall file a supplemental
462 statement ninety days after an election, primary or referendum not held
463 in November or on the seventh calendar day in February, or the next
464 business day if such day is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, after an
465 election or referendum held in November, with the [proper authority]
466 State Elections Enforcement Commission and, thereafter, on the seventh
467 day of each month following if on the last day of the previous month
468 there was an increase or decrease in the deficit in excess of five hundred
469 dollars from that reported on the last statement filed. The treasurer shall
470 file such supplemental statements as required until the deficit is
471 eliminated. If any such committee does not have a surplus or a deficit,
472 the statement required to be filed not later than forty-five days following
473 any election or referendum not held in November or on the seventh
474 calendar day in January, or the next business day if such day is a
475 Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, following an election or referendum
476 held in November, or not later than thirty days following any primary
477 shall be the last required statement.

478 Sec. 14. Subsection (f) of section 9-608 of the general statutes is
479 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
480 *1, 2026*):

481 (f) If an exploratory committee has been established by a candidate
482 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-604, as amended by this act, the
483 treasurer of the committee shall file a notice of intent to dissolve it with
484 the [appropriate authority] State Elections Enforcement Commission
485 not later than fifteen days after the candidate's declaration of intent to
486 seek nomination or election to a particular public office, except that in
487 the case of an exploratory committee established by a candidate for
488 purposes that include aiding or promoting the candidate's candidacy for
489 nomination or election to the General Assembly or a state office, the
490 treasurer of the committee shall file such notice of intent to dissolve the
491 committee not later than fifteen days after the earlier of: (1) The
492 candidate's declaration of intent to seek nomination or election to a
493 particular public office, (2) the candidate's endorsement at a convention,
494 caucus or town committee meeting, or (3) the candidate's filing of a
495 candidacy for nomination under section 9-400 or 9-405. The treasurer
496 shall also file a statement identifying all contributions received or
497 expenditures made by the exploratory committee since the previous
498 statement and the balance on hand or deficit, as the case may be. In the
499 event of a surplus, the treasurer shall, not later than the filing of the
500 statement, distribute the surplus to the candidate committee established
501 pursuant to said section, except that (A) in the case of a surplus of an
502 exploratory committee established by a candidate who intends to be a
503 participating candidate, as defined in section 9-703, as amended by this
504 act, in the Citizens' Election Program, the treasurer may distribute to the
505 candidate committee only that portion of such surplus that is
506 attributable to contributions that meet the criteria for qualifying
507 contributions for the candidate committee under section 9-704 and shall
508 distribute the remainder of such surplus to the Citizens' Election Fund
509 established in section 9-701, and (B) in the case of a surplus of an
510 exploratory committee established for nomination or election to an
511 office other than the General Assembly or a state office (i) the treasurer

512 may only distribute to the candidate committee for nomination or
513 election to the General Assembly or state office of such candidate that
514 portion of such surplus which is in excess of the total contributions
515 which the exploratory committee received from lobbyists or political
516 committees established by lobbyists, during any period in which the
517 prohibitions in subsection (e) of section 9-610 apply, and (ii) any
518 remaining amount shall be returned to all such lobbyists and political
519 committees established by or on behalf of lobbyists, on a prorated basis
520 of contribution, or distributed to any charitable organization which is a
521 tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
522 Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code
523 of the United States, as from time to time amended. If the candidate
524 decides not to seek nomination or election to any office, the treasurer
525 shall, within fifteen days after such decision, comply with the provisions
526 of this subsection and distribute any surplus in the manner provided by
527 this section for political committees other than those formed for ongoing
528 political activities, except that if the surplus is from an exploratory
529 committee established by the State Treasurer, any portion of the surplus
530 that is received from a principal of an investment services firm or a
531 political committee established by such firm shall be returned to such
532 principal or committee on a prorated basis of contribution. In the event
533 of a deficit, the treasurer shall file a statement thirty days after the
534 decision or declaration with the [proper authority] State Elections
535 Enforcement Commission and, thereafter, on the seventh day of each
536 month following if on the last day of the previous month there was an
537 increase or decrease in such deficit in excess of five hundred dollars
538 from that reported on the last statement filed. The treasurer shall file
539 supplemental statements until the deficit is eliminated. If the
540 exploratory committee does not have a surplus or deficit, the statement
541 filed after the candidate's declaration or decision shall be the last
542 required statement. If a candidate certifies on the statement of
543 organization for the exploratory committee pursuant to subsection (c) of
544 section 9-604, as amended by this act, that the candidate will not be a
545 candidate for the office of state representative and subsequently
546 establishes a candidate committee for the office of state representative,

547 the treasurer of the candidate committee shall pay to the State Treasurer,
548 for deposit in the General Fund, an amount equal to the portion of any
549 contribution received by said exploratory committee that exceeded two
550 hundred fifty dollars. As used in this subsection, "principal of an
551 investment services firm" has the meaning set forth in subsection (e) of
552 section 9-612 and "state office" has the same meaning set forth in
553 subsection (e) of section 9-610.

554 Sec. 15. Subsection (a) of section 9-609 of the general statutes is
555 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
556 *1, 2026*):

557 (a) The chairman of each party committee shall designate a treasurer
558 and may designate a deputy treasurer, or in the case of a state central
559 committee, not more than two deputy treasurers. The treasurer and any
560 deputy treasurers so designated shall sign a statement accepting the
561 designation, which shall be filed with the [proper authority] State
562 Elections Enforcement Commission with the statement of designation
563 required under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 9-602. No
564 state central committee or town committee shall establish a committee
565 other than a single party committee for purposes of this chapter. A party
566 committee or a political committee organized for ongoing political
567 activities shall form no other political committees, except that two or
568 more such committees may join to form a political committee for the
569 purpose of a single fund-raising event.

570 Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 9-703 of the general statutes is
571 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
572 *1, 2026*):

573 (a) Each candidate for nomination or election to the office of state
574 senator or state representative in 2008, or thereafter, or the office of
575 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller,
576 Secretary of the State or State Treasurer in 2010, or thereafter, shall file
577 an affidavit with the State Elections Enforcement Commission. The
578 affidavit shall include a written certification that the candidate either

579 intends to abide by the expenditure limits under the Citizens' Election
580 Program set forth in subsection (c) of section 9-702, or does not intend
581 to abide by said limits. If the candidate intends to abide by said limits,
582 the affidavit shall also include written certifications (1) that the treasurer
583 of the candidate committee for said candidate shall expend any moneys
584 received from the Citizens' Election Fund in accordance with the
585 provisions of subsection (g) of section 9-607 and regulations adopted by
586 the State Elections Enforcement Commission under subsection (e) of
587 section 9-706, (2) that the candidate shall repay to the fund any such
588 moneys that are not expended in accordance with subsection (g) of
589 section 9-607 and said regulations, (3) that the candidate and the
590 treasurer shall comply with the provisions of subdivision (1) of
591 subsection (a) of section 9-711, and (4) stating the candidate's status as a
592 major party, minor party or petitioning party candidate and, in the case
593 of a major party or minor party candidate, the name of such party. The
594 written certification described in subdivision (3) of this subsection shall
595 be made by both the candidate and the treasurer of the candidate
596 committee for said candidate. A candidate for nomination or election to
597 any such office shall file such affidavit not later than four o'clock p.m.
598 on the twenty-fifth day before the day of a primary, if applicable, or on
599 the fortieth day before the day of the election for such office, except that
600 in the case of a special election for the office of state senator or state
601 representative, the candidate shall file such affidavit not later than four
602 o'clock p.m. on the twenty-fifth day before the day of such special
603 election. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a candidate
604 who is not required to form a candidate committee pursuant to
605 subdivision (3) or (4) of subsection (b) of section 9-604, as amended by
606 this act, files a certification with the commission pursuant to subsection
607 ~~[(c)]~~ (b) of section 9-603, as amended by this act, and does not intend to
608 participate in the Citizens' Election Program shall not be required to file
609 such affidavit of intent not to abide by the expenditure limits of said
610 program. Any such candidate shall be referred to as a nonparticipating
611 candidate, in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

612 Sec. 17. Subsection (b) of section 9-709 of the general statutes is

613 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
614 *1, 2026*):

615 (b) If a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Lieutenant
616 Governor is campaigning jointly with a candidate for nomination or
617 election to the office of Governor, the candidate committee and any
618 exploratory committee for the candidate for the office of Lieutenant
619 Governor shall be dissolved as of the applicable date set forth in
620 subsection (a) of this section. Not later than fifteen days after said date,
621 the treasurer of the candidate committee formed to aid or promote the
622 success of said candidate for nomination or election to the office of
623 Lieutenant Governor shall file a statement with the [proper authority]
624 State Elections Enforcement Commission under section 9-603, as
625 amended by this act, identifying all contributions received or
626 expenditures made by the committee since the previous statement and
627 the balance on hand or deficit, as the case may be. Not later than thirty
628 days after the applicable date set forth in subsection (a) of this section,
629 (1) the treasurer of a qualified candidate committee formed to aid or
630 promote the success of said candidate for nomination or election to the
631 office of Lieutenant Governor shall distribute any surplus to the fund,
632 and (2) the treasurer of a nonqualified candidate committee formed to
633 aid or promote the success of said candidate for nomination or election
634 to the office of Lieutenant Governor shall distribute such surplus in
635 accordance with the provisions of subsection (e) of section 9-608, as
636 amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-603
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-604
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-608(d)
Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-610(f)(2)
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-623(b)
Sec. 6	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-624
Sec. 7	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-675
Sec. 8	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-602(b) and (c)

Sec. 9	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-605(a)
Sec. 10	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-605(c)
Sec. 11	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-607(m)
Sec. 12	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-608(a)
Sec. 13	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-608(e)(3) and (4)
Sec. 14	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-608(f)
Sec. 15	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-609(a)
Sec. 16	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-703(a)
Sec. 17	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-709(b)

Statement of Purpose:

To require that all municipal campaign registration and financial disclosure statements be filed with the State Elections Enforcement Commission, instead of with town clerks, and make several conforming changes.

[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.]