



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 8959



Offered by:

SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.
SEN. KELLY, 21st Dist.
SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd Dist.
SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.
SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.

SEN. CICARELLA, 34th Dist.
SEN. FAZIO, 36th Dist.
SEN. GORDON, 35th Dist.
SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.
SEN. SEMINARA, 8th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5004

File No. 756

Cal. No. 461

"AN ACT IMPLEMENTING EARLY VOTING."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 1-1h of the general statutes
4 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
5 *from passage*):

6 (a) Any person who does not possess a valid motor vehicle operator's
7 license may apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles for an identity
8 card. The application for an identity card shall be accompanied by the
9 birth certificate of the applicant or a certificate of identification of the
10 applicant issued and authorized for such use by the Department of
11 Correction and, except as provided in this subsection, a fee of twenty-
12 eight dollars. Such application shall include: (1) The applicant's name;

13 (2) the applicant's address; (3) whether the address is permanent or
14 temporary; (4) the applicant's date of birth; (5) notice to the applicant
15 that false statements on such application are punishable under section
16 53a-157b; and (6) such other pertinent information as the Commissioner
17 of Motor Vehicles deems necessary. The applicant shall sign the
18 application in the presence of an official of the Department of Motor
19 Vehicles. The commissioner shall waive the fee for any applicant who
20 does not have the means to pay such fee, including any applicant who
21 is a resident of a homeless shelter or other facility for homeless persons
22 or a certified homeless youth or certified homeless young adult. The
23 commissioner may waive the fee for any applicant (A) who has
24 voluntarily surrendered such applicant's motor vehicle operator's
25 license, (B) whose license has been refused by the commissioner
26 pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 14-36, (C) who is
27 both a veteran, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, and blind,
28 as defined in subsection (a) of section 1-1f. [, or (D) who is a resident of
29 a homeless shelter or other facility for homeless persons or a certified
30 homeless youth or certified homeless young adult. The] Not later than
31 September 1, 2023, the commissioner shall adopt regulations, in
32 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish the procedure
33 and qualifications for the issuance of an identity card to any such
34 [homeless] applicant who does not have the means to pay the fee for
35 such identity card. For the purposes of this subsection, "certified
36 homeless youth" and "certified homeless young adult" have the same
37 meanings as provided in section 7-36.

38 (b) (1) An identity card shall indicate its date of expiration, contain a
39 picture of the applicant and specify the applicant's height, sex and eye
40 color.

41 (2) (A) An original identity card shall expire within a period not
42 exceeding seven years following the date of the applicant's next
43 birthday. Any person who holds an identity card may be notified by the
44 commissioner before its expiration and may renew such card in such
45 manner as the commissioner shall prescribe. Upon renewal of an
46 identity card, the commissioner may issue an identity card for a period

47 to be determined by the commissioner, provided such period does not
48 exceed eight years. [The] Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this
49 subdivision, (i) the fee for the renewal of an identity card that expires
50 eight years from the date of issuance shall be thirty-two dollars, [The]
51 and (ii) the commissioner shall charge a prorated amount of such fee for
52 an identity card that expires less than eight years from the date of
53 issuance. The commissioner shall not provide notification by mail to the
54 holder of an identity card if the United States Postal Service has
55 determined that mail is undeliverable to such person at the address for
56 such person that is in the records of the department.

57 (B) The commissioner shall waive the fee for the renewal of an
58 identity card, or any prorated amount of such fee, for any person who
59 does not have the means to pay such fee or prorated amount.

60 Sec. 502. Section 9-140a of the general statutes is repealed and the
61 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

62 Each absentee ballot applicant shall sign the form on the inner
63 envelope provided for in section 9-137 which shall constitute a
64 statement under the penalties of false statement in absentee balloting.
65 Any absentee ballot applicant who is unable to write may cause his
66 name to be signed on the form by an authorized agent who shall, in the
67 space provided for the signature, write the name of the applicant
68 followed by the word "by" and his own signature. The failure of the
69 applicant or authorized agent to date the form shall not invalidate the
70 ballot. The ballot shall be inserted in the inner envelope, [and] the inner
71 envelope shall be inserted in the outer envelope [,] and a copy of the
72 applicant's photo identification shall also be inserted in the outer
73 envelope prior to the return of the ballot to the municipal clerk. [If an
74 applicant is required to return identification with the ballot pursuant to
75 the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time,
76 such identification shall be inserted in the outer envelope so such
77 identification can be viewed without opening the inner envelope.]

78 Sec. 503. Subsection (a) of section 9-140b of the general statutes is

79 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
80 *passage*):

81 (a) An absentee ballot shall be cast at a primary, election or
82 referendum only if: (1) It is mailed by (A) the ballot applicant, (B) a
83 designee of a person who applies for an absentee ballot because of
84 illness or physical disability, or (C) a member of the immediate family
85 of an applicant who is a student, so that it is received by the clerk of the
86 municipality in which the applicant is qualified to vote not later than the
87 close of the polls; (2) it is returned by the applicant in person to the clerk
88 by the day before a regular election, special election or primary or prior
89 to the opening of the polls on the day of a referendum; (3) it is returned
90 by a designee of an ill or physically disabled ballot applicant, in person,
91 to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of the election,
92 primary or referendum; (4) it is returned by a member of the immediate
93 family of the absentee voter, in person, to said clerk not later than the
94 close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or referendum; (5)
95 in the case of a presidential or overseas ballot, it is mailed or otherwise
96 returned pursuant to the provisions of section 9-158g; or (6) it is returned
97 with [the proper] a copy of the applicant's photo identification [as
98 required by the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from
99 time to time, if applicable, inserted in the outer envelope so such
100 identification can be viewed without opening the inner envelope]
101 inserted in the outer envelope. A person returning an absentee ballot to
102 the municipal clerk pursuant to subdivision (3) or (4) of this subsection
103 shall present identification and, on the outer envelope of the absentee
104 ballot, sign his name in the presence of the municipal clerk, and indicate
105 his address, his relationship to the voter or his position, and the date
106 and time of such return. As used in this section, "immediate family"
107 means a dependent relative who resides in the individual's household
108 or any spouse, child, parent or sibling of the individual.

109 Sec. 504. Subsection (a) of section 9-158e of the general statutes is
110 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
111 *passage*):

112 (a) A person applying for a presidential ballot in person shall present
113 [:(1) A] a current and valid photo identification, [or (2) a copy of a
114 current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or
115 other government document that shows the name and address of the
116 voter.] The application for a presidential ballot by mail shall be
117 accompanied by [:(A) A] a copy of a current and valid photo
118 identification, [or (B) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,
119 government check, paycheck or government document that shows the
120 name and address of the voter.] Upon receipt of an application for a
121 presidential ballot under sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, the clerk,
122 if satisfied that the application is proper and that the applicant is
123 qualified to vote under said sections, shall forthwith give or mail to the
124 applicant, as the case may be, a ballot for presidential and vice-
125 presidential electors for use at the election and instructions and
126 envelopes for its return.

127 Sec. 505. Subsection (a) of section 9-261 of the general statutes is
128 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
129 *passage*):

130 (a) In each primary, election or referendum, when an elector has
131 entered the polling place, the elector shall announce the elector's street
132 address, if any, and the elector's name to the official checker or checkers
133 in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all the election officials
134 present to hear the same. Each elector [who registered to vote by mail
135 for the first time on or after January 1, 2003, and has a "mark" next to the
136 elector's name on the official registry list, as required by section 9-23r,]
137 shall present to the official checker or checkers, before the elector votes,
138 [either] a current and valid photo identification that shows the elector's
139 name and address, [or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,
140 government check, paycheck or other government document that shows
141 the name and address of the elector. Each other elector shall (1) present
142 to the official checker or checkers the elector's Social Security card or any
143 other preprinted form of identification which shows the elector's name
144 and either the elector's address, signature or photograph, or (2) on a
145 form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, write the elector's

146 residential address and date of birth, print the elector's name and sign a
147 statement under penalty of false statement that the elector is the elector
148 whose name appears on the official checklist. Such form shall clearly
149 state the penalty of false statement. A separate form shall be used for
150 each elector. If the elector presents a preprinted form of identification
151 under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the official checker or checkers
152 shall check the name of such elector on the official checklist, manually
153 on paper or electronically. If the elector completes the form under
154 subdivision (2) of this subsection, the registrar of voters or the assistant
155 registrar of voters, as the case may be, shall examine the information on
156 such form and either instruct the official checker or checkers to check
157 the name of such elector on the official checklist, manually on paper or
158 electronically, or notify the elector that the form is incomplete or
159 inaccurate.]

160 Sec. 506. Section 9-23r of the general statutes is repealed and the
161 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

162 (a) On or after January 1, 2003, any person who is applying, by mail,
163 to register to vote for the first time in this state may submit as part of
164 such voter registration application: (1) A copy of a current and valid
165 photo identification, (2) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,
166 government check, paycheck or government document that shows the
167 name and address of the voter, (3) a valid Connecticut motor vehicle
168 operator's license number, or (4) the last four digits of the individual's
169 Social Security number. Members of the armed forces and persons
170 entitled to use the federal post card application for absentee ballots
171 under section 9-153a are not required to provide identification when
172 registering by mail. No information submitted as part of a voter
173 registration application under this subsection shall be subject to
174 disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act pursuant to chapter
175 14, except for the name, address, date of birth and telephone number of
176 the applicant.

177 [(b) If an individual submits such information pursuant to this section
178 as part of the individual's voter registration application and, with

179 respect to subdivision (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of this section, the
180 registrars of voters are able to match the information submitted with an
181 existing Connecticut identification record bearing the same number,
182 name and date of birth as provided, such individual shall not be
183 required to produce identification when voting in person or by absentee
184 ballot and may sign a statement as described in subparagraph (B) of
185 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-261 in lieu of presenting
186 identification when voting in person.]

187 [(c)] (b) Any additional documentation submitted as part of the voter
188 registration application pursuant to this section may be destroyed by
189 the registrars of voters after verification pursuant to the Help America
190 Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time.

191 [(d)] (c) If an individual described in subsection (a) of this section
192 does not submit the identification described in subsection (a) of this
193 section as part of the individual's application for admission as an elector,
194 when the individual has entered the polling place in an election for
195 federal office, the individual shall present [:(1) A] a current and valid
196 photo identification, [, or (2) a copy of a current utility bill, bank
197 statement, government check, paycheck or other government document
198 that shows the name and address of the voter.] If an individual does not
199 meet the requirements of this subsection in an election for federal office,
200 such individual may cast a provisional ballot prescribed under sections
201 9-232i to 9-232o, inclusive.

202 [(e)] (d) If an individual described in subsection (a) of this section
203 does not submit the identification described in subsection (a) of this
204 section as part of the individual's application for admission as an elector,
205 and if the individual votes by absentee ballot in an election for federal
206 office, the individual shall enclose in the outer absentee ballot envelope,
207 and not in the inner envelope with the ballot [:(1) A] a copy of a current
208 and valid photo identification, [, or (2) a copy of a current utility bill,
209 bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government
210 document that shows the name and address of the voter.] If an
211 individual does not meet the requirements of this subsection in an

212 election for federal office, such individual's absentee ballot shall be
213 processed in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of
214 subsection (d) of section 9-150a, as amended by this act, and treated as
215 a provisional ballot for federal office only, pursuant to sections 9-232i to
216 9-232o, inclusive.

217 Sec. 507. Subdivision (4) of subsection (d) of section 9-23g of the
218 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
219 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

220 (4) If on the day of an election or primary, the name of an applicant
221 does not appear on the official check list, such applicant may present to
222 the moderator at the polls either a notice of acceptance received through
223 the mail or an application receipt that was previously provided to the
224 applicant pursuant to section 9-19e, subsection (b) of section 9-19h,
225 subsection (b) of this section or section 9-23n. If an applicant presents
226 said notice or receipt, and either the registrars of voters find the original
227 application or the applicant submits a new application at the polls, the
228 registrar, or assistant registrar upon notice to and approval by the
229 registrar, shall add such person's name and address to the official check
230 list on such day and the person shall be allowed to vote if otherwise
231 eligible to vote and the person presents to the checkers at the polling
232 place a [preprinted form of identification pursuant to subparagraph (A)
233 of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-261] current and valid
234 photo identification.

235 Sec. 508. Subsection (d) of section 9-150a of the general statutes is
236 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
237 *passage*):

238 (d) (1) If the statement on the inner envelope has not been signed as
239 required by section 9-140a, as amended by this act, such inner envelope
240 shall not be opened or the ballot removed therefrom, and such inner
241 envelope shall be replaced in the opened outer envelope which shall be
242 marked "Rejected" and the reason therefor endorsed thereon by the
243 counters. (2) If such statement is signed but the individual completing

244 the ballot is an individual described in subsection (a) of section 9-23r, as
 245 amended by this act, and has not met the requirements of subsection
 246 [(e)] (d) of section 9-23r, as amended by this act, the counters shall
 247 replace the ballot in the opened inner envelope, replace the inner
 248 envelope in the opened outer envelope and mark "Rejected as an
 249 Absentee Ballot" and endorse the reason for such rejection on the outer
 250 envelope, and the ballot shall be treated as a provisional ballot for
 251 federal offices only, pursuant to sections 9-232i to 9-232o, inclusive."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>from passage</i>	1-1h(a) and (b)
Sec. 502	<i>from passage</i>	9-140a
Sec. 503	<i>from passage</i>	9-140b(a)
Sec. 504	<i>from passage</i>	9-158e(a)
Sec. 505	<i>from passage</i>	9-261(a)
Sec. 506	<i>from passage</i>	9-23r
Sec. 507	<i>from passage</i>	9-23g(d)(4)
Sec. 508	<i>from passage</i>	9-150a(d)