

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 1049

January Session, 2019

LCO No. 5386



Referred to Committee on ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

GOVERNMENT

Introduced by: (GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING MODERN ELECTIONS.

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

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective from passage) The Secretary of the State
- 2 shall develop and implement a system through which the Secretary
- 3 may permit any person to submit an electronic signature for the
- 4 purpose of signing any form or application pursuant to chapters 141 to
- 5 154, inclusive, of the general statutes. The Secretary may include in, or
- 6 exclude from, such system any such form or application.
- 7 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any such form or
- 8 application on which any such electronic signature appears shall be
- 9 deemed to have been signed in the original.
- Sec. 2. Subsection (k) of section 9-140 of the general statutes is
- 11 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
- 12 passage):
- 13 (k) (1) (A) [A] Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this
- 14 <u>subsection, a person shall register with the [town] municipal</u> clerk
- 15 before distributing five or more absentee ballot applications for an

- election, primary or referendum, not including applications distributed to such person's immediate family. Such requirement shall
- 18 not apply to a person who is the designee of an applicant.
- [(2)] (B) Any person who distributes absentee ballot applications pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall maintain a list of the names and addresses of prospective absentee ballot applicants who receive such applications, and shall file such list with the [town] municipal clerk prior to the date of the primary, election or referendum for which the applications were so distributed.
- 25 (2) The Secretary of the State shall develop an online system 26 through which a person may register to distribute absentee ballot 27 applications for an election, primary or referendum. Such system shall 28 provide a unique identifier for each such person, which unique 29 identifier shall appear on each such application that may be 30 distributed. The information of any person registering through such 31 system shall be transmitted to the appropriate municipal clerk, who 32 shall provide such applications to such person. Any such person registering through such system shall be deemed to have fully 33 34 complied with the provisions of this subsection.
- 35 (3) Any person who distributes absentee ballot applications and 36 receives an executed application shall forthwith file the application 37 with the [town] municipal clerk.
- Sec. 3. Section 9-324 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) Any elector or candidate who claims that such elector or candidate is aggrieved by any ruling of any election official in connection with any election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, State Comptroller or judge of probate, held in such elector's or candidate's town, or that there has been a mistake in the count of the votes cast at such election for candidates for said offices or any of them, at any

voting district in such elector's or candidate's town, or any candidate for such an office who claims that such candidate is aggrieved by a violation of any provision of section 9-355, 9-357 to 9-361, inclusive, 9-364, 9-364a or 9-365 in the casting of absentee ballots at such election or any candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, Attorney General or State Comptroller, who claims that such candidate is aggrieved by a violation of any provision of sections 9-700 to 9-716, inclusive, may bring such elector's or candidate's complaint to any judge of the [Superior Court, in which such] superior court for the judicial district of Hartford. Such elector or candidate shall set out in the complaint the claimed errors of such election official, the claimed errors in the count or the claimed violations of said sections. In any action brought pursuant to the provisions of this section, the complainant shall send a copy of the complaint by first-class mail, or deliver a copy of the complaint by hand, to the State Elections Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made prior to such election, such judge shall proceed expeditiously to render judgment on the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing to be given to the Secretary of the State and the State Elections Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made subsequent to the election, it shall be brought not later than fourteen days after the election or, if such complaint is brought in response to the manual tabulation of paper ballots authorized pursuant to section 9-320f, such complaint shall be brought not later than seven days after the close of any such manual tabulation. [and, in either such circumstance, such]

(b) Such judge shall forthwith order a hearing to be had upon such complaint, upon a day not more than five nor less than three days from the making of such order, and shall cause notice of not less than three nor more than five days to be given to any candidate or candidates whose election may be affected by the decision upon such hearing, to such election official, the Secretary of the State, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and to any other party or parties whom such judge deems proper parties thereto, of the time and place

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for the hearing upon such complaint. Such judge shall, on the day fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary delay, proceed to hear the parties. If sufficient reason is shown, such judge may order any voting tabulators to be unlocked or any ballot boxes to be opened and a recount of the votes cast, including absentee ballots, to be made. Such judge shall thereupon, in case such judge finds any error in the rulings of the election official, any mistake in the count of the votes or any violation of said sections, certify the result of such judge's finding or decision to the Secretary of the State before the fifteenth day of the next succeeding December. Such judge may order a new election or a change in the existing election schedule.

(c) Such certificate of such judge of such judge's finding or decision shall be final and conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the rulings of such election officials, to the correctness of such count, and, for the purposes of this section only, such claimed violations, and shall operate to correct the returns of the moderators or presiding officers, so as to conform to such finding or decision, unless the same is appealed from as provided in section 9-325, as amended by this act.

Sec. 4. Section 9-325 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

If, upon any such hearing by a judge of the [Superior Court] superior court for the judicial district of Hartford, any question of law is raised which any party to the complaint claims should be reviewed by the Supreme Court, such judge, instead of filing the certificate of his finding or decision with the Secretary of the State, shall transmit the same, including therein such questions of law, together with a proper finding of facts, to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who shall thereupon call a special session of [said court] the Supreme Court for the purpose of an immediate hearing upon the questions of law so certified. A copy of the finding and decision so certified by the judge of the [Superior Court] superior court for the judicial district of Hartford, together with the decision of the Supreme Court, on the questions of law therein certified, shall be attested by the clerk of the Supreme

114 Court, and by him transmitted to the Secretary of the State forthwith. 115 The finding and decision of the judge of the [Superior Court] superior 116 court for the judicial district of Hartford, together with the decision of the Supreme Court on the questions of law thus certified, shall be final 117 118 and conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the rulings of 119 the election officials and to the correctness of such count and shall 120 operate to correct the returns of the moderators or presiding officers so 121 as to conform to such [decision of said court] decisions. Nothing in this 122 section shall be considered as prohibiting an appeal to the Supreme 123 Court from a final judgment of the [Superior Court] superior court for 124 the judicial district of Hartford. The judges of the Supreme Court may 125 establish rules of procedure for the speedy and inexpensive hearing of 126 such appeals within fifteen days of such judgment of a judge of the 127 [Superior Court] superior court for the judicial district of Hartford.

Sec. 5. Section 9-328 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Any elector or candidate claiming to have been aggrieved by any ruling of any election official in connection with an election for any municipal office or a primary for justice of the peace, or any elector or candidate claiming that there has been a mistake in the count of votes cast for any such office at such election or primary, or any candidate in such an election or primary claiming that he is aggrieved by a violation of any provision of sections 9-355, 9-357 to 9-361, inclusive, 9-364, 9-364a or 9-365 in the casting of absentee ballots at such election or primary, may bring a complaint to any judge of the [Superior Court] superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for relief therefrom. In any action brought pursuant to the provisions of this section, the complainant shall send a copy of the complaint by first-class mail, or deliver a copy of the complaint by hand, to the State Elections Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made prior to such election or primary, such judge shall proceed expeditiously to render judgment on the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing to be given to the Secretary of the State and the State Elections Enforcement

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Commission. If such complaint is made subsequent to such election or primary, it shall be brought not later than fourteen days after such election or primary, except that if such complaint is brought in response to the manual tabulation of paper ballots, authorized pursuant to section 9-320f, such complaint shall be brought not later than seven days after the close of any such manual tabulation, to any judge of the [Superior Court] superior court for the judicial district of Hartford, in which he shall set out the claimed errors of the election official, the claimed errors in the count or the claimed violations of said sections.

(b) Such judge shall forthwith order a hearing to be had upon such complaint, upon a day not more than five nor less than three days from the making of such order, and shall cause notice of not less than three nor more than five days to be given to any candidate or candidates whose election or nomination may be affected by the decision upon such hearing, to such election official, the Secretary of the State, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and to any other party or parties whom such judge deems proper parties thereto, of the time and place for the hearing upon such complaint. Such judge shall, on the day fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary delay, proceed to hear the parties. If sufficient reason is shown, he may order any voting tabulators to be unlocked or any ballot boxes to be opened and a recount of the votes cast, including absentee ballots, to be made. Such judge shall thereupon, if he finds any error in the rulings of the election official or any mistake in the count of the votes, certify the result of his finding or decision to the Secretary of the State before the tenth day succeeding the conclusion of the hearing. Such judge may order a new election or primary or a change in the existing election schedule.

(c) Such certificate of such judge of his finding or decision shall be final and conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the ruling of such election officials, to the correctness of such count, and, for the purposes of this section only, such claimed violations, and shall

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180 operate to correct the returns of the moderators or presiding officers, 181 so as to conform to such finding or decision, except that this section 182 shall not affect the right of appeal to the Supreme Court and it shall not prevent such judge from reserving such questions of law for the 183 184 advice of the Supreme Court as provided in section 9-325, as amended 185 by this act. Such judge may, if necessary, issue [his] a writ of 186 mandamus, requiring the adverse party and those under him to 187 deliver to the complainant the appurtenances of such office, and shall 188 cause his finding and [decree] decision to be entered on the records of 189 the Superior Court in the proper judicial district.

Sec. 6. Section 9-329a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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(a) Any (1) elector or candidate aggrieved by a ruling of an election official in connection with any primary held pursuant to (A) section 9-423, 9-425 or 9-464, or (B) a special act, (2) elector or candidate who alleges that there has been a mistake in the count of the votes cast at such primary, or (3) candidate in such a primary who alleges that he is aggrieved by a violation of any provision of sections 9-355, 9-357 to 9-361, inclusive, 9-364, 9-364a or 9-365 in the casting of absentee ballots at such primary, may bring his complaint to any judge of the Superior Court] superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for appropriate action. In any action brought pursuant to the provisions of this section, the complainant shall file a certification attached to the complaint indicating that a copy of the complaint has been sent by first-class mail or delivered to the State Elections Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made prior to such primary such judge shall proceed expeditiously to render judgment on the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing to be given to the Secretary of the State and the State Elections Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made subsequent to such primary it shall be brought, not later than fourteen days after such primary, or if such complaint is brought in response to the manual tabulation of paper ballots, described in section 9-320f, such complaint shall be brought, not later

than seven days after the close of any such manual tabulation, to any judge of the [Superior Court] superior court for the judicial district of Hartford.

(b) Such judge shall forthwith order a hearing to be held upon such complaint upon a day not more than five nor less than three days after the making of such order, and shall cause notice of not less than three days to be given to any candidate or candidates in any way directly affected by the decision upon such hearing, to such election official, to the Secretary of the State, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and to any other person or persons, whom such judge deems proper parties thereto, of the time and place of the hearing upon such complaint. Such judge shall, on the day fixed for such hearing, and without delay, proceed to hear the parties and determine the result. If, after hearing, sufficient reason is shown, such judge may order any voting tabulators to be unlocked or any ballot boxes to be opened and a recount of the votes cast, including absentee ballots, to be made. Such judge shall thereupon, if he finds any error in the ruling of the election official, any mistake in the count of the votes or any violation of said sections, certify the result of his finding or decision to the Secretary of the State before the tenth day following the conclusion of the hearing. Such judge may (1) determine the result of such primary; (2) order a change in the existing primary schedule; or (3) order a new primary if he finds that but for the error in the ruling of the election official, any mistake in the count of the votes or any violation of said sections, the result of such primary might have been different and he is unable to determine the result of such primary.

(c) The certification by the judge of his finding or decision shall be final and conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the ruling of such election official, to the correctness of such count, and, for the purposes of this section only, such alleged violations, and shall operate to correct any returns or certificates filed by the election officials, unless the same is appealed from as provided in section 9-325, as amended by this act. In the event a new primary is held pursuant to

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- 246 such [Superior Court] order of the superior court for the judicial
- 247 <u>district of Hartford</u>, the result of such new primary shall be final and
- 248 conclusive unless a complaint is brought pursuant to this section. The
- 249 clerk of the court shall forthwith transmit a copy of such findings and
- order to the Secretary of the State.
- Sec. 7. Section 9-329b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- To lie with grade outconversed in field unforced (2), conversion processor.
- At any time prior to a primary held pursuant to sections 9-423, 9-425
- and 9-464, or a special act or prior to any election, the [Superior Court]
- 255 <u>superior court for the judicial district of Hartford</u> may issue an order
- 256 removing a candidate from a ballot where it is shown that [said] such
- 257 candidate is improperly on the ballot.
- Sec. 8. Section 9-388 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 259 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 260 (a) Whenever a convention of a political party is held for the
- 261 endorsement of candidates for nomination to state or district office,
- 262 each candidate endorsed at such convention shall file with the
- Secretary of the State a certificate, signed by him, stating that he was
- 264 endorsed by such convention, his name as he authorizes it to appear
- on the ballot, his full residence address and the title and district, if applicable, of the office for which he was endorsed. Such certificate
- shall be attested by either (1) the chairman or presiding officer, or (2)
- the secretary of such convention and shall be received by the Secretary
- of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after
- 270 the close of such convention. Such certificate shall either be mailed to
- the Secretary of the State by certified mail, return receipt requested, or
- delivered in person, in which case a receipt indicating the date and
- time of delivery shall be provided by the Secretary of the State to the
- 274 person making delivery. If a certificate of a party's endorsement for a
- 275 particular state or district office is not received by the Secretary of the
- 276 State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for
- 277 <u>the purposes of [section 9-416 and section 9-416a] sections 9-416 and 9-</u>

416a, shall be deemed to have made no endorsement of any candidate for such office. If applicable, the chairman of a party's state convention shall, forthwith upon the close of such convention, file with the Secretary of the State the names and full residence addresses of persons selected by such convention as the nominees of such party for electors of President and Vice-President of the United States in accordance with the provisions of section 9-175.

(b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, in the case of an error or omission in any such certificate of a party's endorsement, which error or omission would operate to invalidate such endorsement and which certificate is timely filed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to make such correction, provided neither failure of such candidate to timely file such certificate pursuant to subsection (a) of this section nor failure of the chairman, presiding officer or secretary of the convention, as applicable, to attest such certificate shall be an error or omission that may be corrected pursuant to this subsection. If such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to have made no such endorsement.

(2) The Secretary of the State may amend a certificate of a party's endorsement to correct any error or omission deemed by the Secretary to be harmless, and shall keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission in any such certificate.

Sec. 9. Subsection (c) of section 9-391 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

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(c) (1) Each endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the nomination of candidates for a municipal office to be voted upon at a state election shall be made under the provisions of section 9-390 not earlier than the eighty-fourth day or later than the seventy-seventh day preceding the day of such primary. Each certification to be filed under this subsection shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of the town committee meeting, caucus or convention, as the case may be. If such a certificate of a party's endorsement is not received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-418, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any endorsement of any candidate for such office. The candidate so endorsed for a municipal office to be voted upon at a state election, other than the office of justice of the peace, shall file with the Secretary of the State a certificate, signed by that candidate, stating that such candidate was so endorsed, the candidate's name as the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full street address and the title and district of the office for which the candidate was endorsed. Such certificate may be filed by a candidate whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the senatorial district within which the candidate is endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of state senator, or the assembly district within which the candidate is endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of state representative, or the municipality or political subdivision within which the candidate is to run for nomination for other municipal offices to be voted on at a state election. Such certificate shall be attested by either the chairperson or presiding officer or the secretary of the town committee, caucus or convention which made such endorsement. The endorsement of any candidate for the office of justice of the peace shall be certified to the clerk of the municipality by either the chairperson or presiding officer or the secretary of the town committee, caucus or convention, and shall

contain the name and street address of each candidate so endorsed and the title of the office for which each such candidate is endorsed. Such certification shall be made on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State or on such other form as may comply with the provisions of this subsection.

- (2) (A) In the case of an error or omission in any such certificate of a party's endorsement, which error or omission would operate to invalidate such endorsement and which certificate is timely filed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the town committee meeting, caucus or convention, as the case may be, and amending such certificate to make such correction, provided neither failure of such candidate to timely file such certificate pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection nor failure of the chairperson, presiding officer or secretary of the town committee, caucus or convention to attest such certificate shall be an error or omission that may be corrected pursuant to this subdivision. If such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-418, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified such endorsement.
- (B) The Secretary of the State may amend a certificate of a party's endorsement to correct any error or omission deemed by the Secretary to be harmless, and shall keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this subparagraph. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to require the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission in any such certificate.
- Sec. 10. Section 9-400 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 376 (a) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a state office

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may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such party in any municipality within the state and who has either (1) received at least fifteen per cent of the votes of the convention delegates present and voting on any rollcall vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a candidate for such state office, whether or not the party-endorsed candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on the last ballot, or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of at least two per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the state, in accordance with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive. Candidacies described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed by submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day following the close of the state convention, a certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that such candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for such state office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full residence address and the title of the office for which the candidacy is being filed. If such certificate for a state office is not received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and <u>such person</u>, for <u>the</u> purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination by a political party [for] to such state office. A single such certificate or petition for state office may be filed on behalf of two or more candidates for different state offices who consent to have their names appear on a single row of the primary ballot under subsection (b) of section 9-437. Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-

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404c. A petition filed by or on behalf of a candidate for state office shall be invalid for such candidate if such candidate is certified as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act, or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such office pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a, upon the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and circulation and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or more candidacies for such state office have been filed pursuant to the provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town clerks and registrars of voters in accordance with the provisions of section 9-433, that a primary for such state office shall be held in each municipality in accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

(b) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a district office may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the district the person seeks to represent that is in the office of the Secretary of the State at the end of the last day prior to the convention for the party from which the person seeks nomination and who has either (1) received at least fifteen per cent of the votes of the convention delegates present and voting on any roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a candidate for such district office, whether or not the party-endorsed candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on the last ballot, or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of at least two per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district for the district office of representative in Congress, and at least five per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district for the district offices of state senator, state representative and judge of probate, in accordance with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive. Candidacies described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed by submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day following the close of the district convention, a certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention,

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that such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that the candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for such district office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full residence address and the title and district of the office for which the candidacy is being filed. If such certificate for a district office is not received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination by a political party [for] to such district office. Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c. A petition may only be filed by or on behalf of a candidate for the district office of state senator, state representative or judge of probate who is not certified as the partyendorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act, or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such office pursuant to this subsection. A petition filed by or on behalf of a candidate for the district office of representative in Congress shall be invalid if said candidate is certified as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act, or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such office pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a, upon the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and circulation and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or more candidacies for such district office have been filed pursuant to the provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town clerks within the district, in accordance with the provisions of section 9-433, that a primary for such district office shall be held in each municipality and each part of a municipality within the district in accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

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(c) (1) In the case of an error or omission in any such certificate of candidacy for nomination by a political party, which error or omission would operate to invalidate such candidacy and which certificate is timely filed pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section, as applicable, the person so certified or an agent of such person may correct such error or omission by appearing in person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to make such correction, provided neither failure of such person to timely file such certificate pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section nor failure of the chairperson, presiding officer or secretary of the convention to attest such certificate shall be an error or omission that may be corrected pursuant to this subsection. If such person or agent does not appear to so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination by a political party. As used in this subsection, "agent" means an individual authorized to act on behalf of a person.

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(2) The Secretary of the State may amend a certificate of candidacy for nomination to correct any error or omission deemed by the Secretary to be harmless, and shall keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission in any such certificate.

[(c)] (d) For the purposes of this section, the number of enrolled members of a party shall be determined by the latest enrollment records in the office of the Secretary of the State prior to the earliest date that primary petitions were available. The names of electors on the inactive registry list compiled under section 9-35 shall not be counted for purposes of computing the number of petition signatures required under this section, as provided in section 9-35c.

[(d)] (e) On the last day for filing primary petition candidacies in

- accordance with the provisions of this section, the office or office facilities of the registrars of voters shall open not later than one o'clock p.m., and remain open until at least four o'clock p.m., and such registrars or the deputy or assistant registrars shall be present.
- Sec. 11. Section 9-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) All minor parties nominating candidates for any elective office shall make such nominations and certify and file a list of such nominations, as required by this section, not later than the sixty-second day prior to the day of the election at which such candidates are to be voted for. A list of nominees in printed or typewritten form that includes each candidate's name as authorized by each candidate to appear on the ballot, the signature of each candidate, the full street address of each candidate and the title and district of the office for which each candidate is nominated shall be certified by the presiding officer of the committee, meeting or other authority making such nomination and shall be filed by such presiding officer with the Secretary of the State, in the case of any state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election, or with the clerk of the municipality, in the case of any municipal office to be voted upon at a municipal election, not later than the sixty-second day prior to the day of the election. The registrars of voters of such municipality shall promptly verify and correct the names on any such list filed with him, or the names of nominees forwarded to the clerk of the municipality by the Secretary of the State, in accordance with the registry list of such municipality and endorse the same as having been so verified and corrected. For purposes of this section, a list of nominations shall be deemed to be filed when it is received by the Secretary of the State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate. If such certificate of a party's nomination is not received by the Secretary of the State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate, by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-460, 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any

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nomination of any candidate for such office. A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a district or municipal office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed registry list of the district or municipality represented by such office, as the case may be. A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a state office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed registry list of the state.

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(b) (1) In the case of an error or omission in any such certificate of nomination for any state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election, which error or omission would operate to invalidate such nomination and which certificate is timely filed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fifty-seventh day prior to the day of the election and amending such certificate to make such correction, provided neither failure of the presiding officer of the committee, meeting or other authority to timely file such certificate pursuant to subsection (a) of this section nor failure of the candidate to sign such certificate shall be an error or omission that may be corrected pursuant to this subsection. If such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-460, 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any such nomination.

(2) The Secretary of the State may amend a certificate of nomination to correct any error or omission deemed by the Secretary to be harmless, and shall keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission in any such certificate.

Sec. 12. Section 9-19j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

- (a) As used in this subsection and subsections (b) to (i), inclusive, of this section, "election day" means the day on which a regular election, as defined in section 9-1, is held.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person who (1) is (A) not an elector, or (B) an elector registered in a municipality who wishes to change his or her registration to another municipality pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this section, and (2) meets the eligibility requirements under subsection (a) of section 9-12, may apply for admission as an elector on election day pursuant to the provisions of subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section.
- (c) (1) The registrars of voters shall designate a location for the completion and processing of election day registration applications on election day, provided (A) the registrars of voters shall have access to the state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location, and (B) such location shall be certified in writing to the Secretary of the State not later than thirty-one days before election day. The written certification required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision shall (i) include the name, street address and relevant contact information associated with such location, (ii) list the name and address of each election official appointed to serve at such location, if any, and (iii) provide a description of the design of such location and a plan for effective completion and processing of such applications. Upon review of such written certification, the Secretary may require the registrars of voters to appoint one or more additional election officials or to alter such design or plan.
- (2) The registrars of voters may [appoint one or more election officials to serve at such location and may delegate to such election officials] delegate to each election official appointed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, if any, any of the responsibilities assigned to the registrars of voters. The registrars of voters shall supervise each such election [officials] official and train each such election [officials] official to be an election day registration election

[officials] official.

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- (d) Any person applying to register on election day under the provisions of subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section shall make application in accordance with the provisions of section 9-20, provided (1) on election day, the applicant shall appear in person at the location designated by the registrars of voters for election day registration, (2) an applicant who is a student enrolled at an institution of higher education may submit a current photo identification card issued by [said] such institution in lieu of the identification required by section 9-20, and (3) the applicant shall declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the election. If the information that the applicant is required to provide under section 9-20 and subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section does not include proof of the applicant's residential address, the applicant shall also submit identification that shows the applicant's bona fide residence address, including, but not limited to, a learner's permit issued under section 14-36 or a utility bill that has the applicant's name and current address and that has a due date that is not later than thirty days after the election or, in the case of a student enrolled at an institution of higher education, a registration or fee statement from such institution that has the applicant's name and current address.
- (e) If the registrars of voters determine that an applicant satisfies the application requirements set forth in subsection (d) of this section, the registrars of voters shall [check the state-wide centralized voter registration system before admitting] admit such applicant as an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.
- [(1) If the registrars of voters determine that the applicant is not already an elector, the registrars of voters shall admit the applicant as an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.
- (2) If the registrars of voters determine that such applicant is an elector in another municipality and such applicant states that he or she wants to change the municipality in which the applicant is an elector,

notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-21, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register shall immediately notify the registrars of voters in such other municipality that such elector is changing the municipality in which the applicant is an elector. The registrars of voters in such other municipality shall notify the election officials in such municipality to remove such elector from the official voter list of such municipality. Such election officials shall cross through the elector's name on such official voter list and mark "off" next to such elector's name on such official voter list.

- (A) If it is reported that such applicant already voted in such other municipality, the registrars of voters of such other municipality shall immediately notify the registrars of voters of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. In such event, such elector shall not receive an election day registration ballot from the registrars of voters of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. For any such elector, the election day registration process shall cease in the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register and such matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters in the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. After completion of such review, if a resolution of the matter can not be made, such matter shall be reported to the State Elections Enforcement Commission which shall conduct an investigation of the matter.
- (B) If there is no such report that such applicant already voted in the other municipality, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which the applicant seeks to register shall admit the applicant as an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.]
- (f) [If the applicant is admitted] <u>Upon admission of the applicant</u> as an elector, the registrars of voters shall provide the elector with an election day registration ballot and election day registration envelope and shall make a record of such issuance. The elector shall complete an affirmation imprinted upon the back of the envelope for an election day registration ballot and shall declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the election. The affirmation shall be in the

- 678 form substantially as follows and signed by the voter:
- AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty of false statement, (perjury) that:
- 1. I am the person admitted here as an elector in the town indicated.
- 2. I am eligible to vote in the election indicated for today in the town indicated.
- 3. The information on my voter registration card is correct and complete.
- 4. I reside at the address that I have given to the registrars of voters.
- 5. If previously registered at another location, I have provided such address to the registrars of voters and hereby request cancellation of such prior registration.
- 690 6. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not vote otherwise than by this ballot at this election.
- 7. I completed an application for an election day registration ballot and received an election day registration ballot.
- 694 (Signature of voter)
 - (g) The elector shall forthwith mark the election day registration ballot in the presence of the registrars of voters in such a manner that the registrars of voters shall not know how the election day registration ballot is marked. The elector shall place the election day registration ballot in the election day registration ballot envelope provided, and deposit such envelope in a secured election day registration ballot depository receptacle. At the time designated by the registrars of voters and noticed to election officials, the registrars of voters shall transport such receptacle containing the election day registration ballots to the central location or polling place, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, where absentee ballots are counted

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and such election day registration ballots shall be counted by the election officials present at such central location or polling place. A section of the head moderator's return shall show the number of election day registration ballots received from electors. The registrars of voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for election day registration ballots in a depository envelope with the election day registration ballots and store such election day registration depository envelope with the other election results materials. The election day registration depository envelope shall be preserved by the registrars of voters for the period of time required to preserve counted ballots for elections.

- (h) The provisions of the general statutes and regulations concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of absentee ballots shall apply as nearly as possible, to the custody, control and counting of election day registration ballots under subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section.
- (i) After the acceptance of an election day registration, the registrars of voters shall forthwith send a registration confirmation notice to the residential address of each applicant who is admitted as an elector on election day under subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section. Such confirmation shall be sent by first class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. If a confirmation notice is returned undelivered, the registrars shall forthwith take the necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43, as applicable, notwithstanding the May first deadline in section 9-35.
- (j) No person shall solicit in behalf of or in opposition to the candidacy of another or himself or herself or in behalf of or in opposition to any question being submitted at the election, or loiter or peddle or offer any advertising matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to the [registrars' of voters designated location] location designated by the registrars of voters for election day registration balloting or in any corridor, passageway or other approach leading

from any such outside entrance to such [registrars' of voters designated] location or in any room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach.

Sec. 13. (NEW) (Effective from passage) Upon the adoption or determination of a plan of districting pursuant to Article XVI or Article XXXI of the Amendments to the Constitution of Connecticut, as applicable, the Secretary of the State shall request of the authority that so adopted or determined such plan any statistical and voting district information as the Secretary may deem necessary to ensure effective implementation of such plan. In the case of any error in the implementation of such plan in a municipality, the Secretary shall notify the registrars of voters of such municipality of such error and require that such registrars of voters undertake measures to correct such error. Such registrars of voters shall immediately correct such error and certify in writing to the Secretary when such error has been corrected.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	from passage	New section
Sec. 2	from passage	9-140(k)
Sec. 3	from passage	9-324
Sec. 4	from passage	9-325
Sec. 5	from passage	9-328
Sec. 6	from passage	9-329a
Sec. 7	from passage	9-329b
Sec. 8	from passage	9-388
Sec. 9	from passage	9-391(c)
Sec. 10	from passage	9-400
Sec. 11	from passage	9-452
Sec. 12	from passage	9-19j
Sec. 13	from passage	New section

GAE Joint Favorable