



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 267

January Session, 2019



AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITING OF SIGNED STATEMENTS OF ELECTORS PRIOR TO VOTING.

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-261 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 (a) In each primary, election or referendum, when an elector has
4 entered the polling place, the elector shall announce the elector's street
5 address, if any, and the elector's name to the official checker or
6 checkers in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all the
7 election officials present to hear the same. Each elector who registered
8 to vote by mail for the first time on or after January 1, 2003, and has a
9 "mark" next to the elector's name on the official registry list, as
10 required by section 9-23r, as amended by this act, shall present to the
11 official checker or checkers, before the elector votes, either a current
12 and valid photo identification that shows the elector's name and
13 address or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government
14 check, paycheck or other government document that shows the name
15 and address of the elector. Each other elector shall (1) present to the
16 official checker or checkers the elector's Social Security card or any
17 other preprinted form of identification which shows the elector's name
18 and either the elector's address, signature or photograph, or (2) on a
19 form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, write the elector's

20 residential address and date of birth, print the elector's name and sign
21 a statement under penalty of false statement that the elector is the
22 elector whose name appears on the official checklist. Such form shall
23 clearly state the penalty of false statement. A separate form shall be
24 used for each elector. If the elector presents a preprinted form of
25 identification under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the official
26 checker or checkers shall check the name of such elector on the official
27 checklist, manually on paper or electronically. If the elector completes
28 the form under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the registrar of voters
29 or the assistant registrar of voters, as the case may be, shall examine
30 the information on such form and either instruct the official checker or
31 checkers to check the name of such elector on the official checklist,
32 manually on paper or electronically, or notify the elector that the form
33 is incomplete or inaccurate. Such registrar or assistant registrar shall
34 maintain a log of (A) each elector who completes the form under
35 subdivision (2) of this subsection, and (B) each such elector for whom
36 such form is incomplete or inaccurate.

37 (b) In the event that an elector is present at the polling place but is
38 unable to gain access to the polling place due to a temporary
39 incapacity, the elector may request that the ballot be brought to him or
40 her. The registrars of voters or the assistant registrars of voters, as the
41 case may be, shall take such ballot, along with a privacy sleeve to such
42 elector. The elector shall show identification, in accordance with the
43 provisions of this section. The elector shall forthwith mark the ballot in
44 the presence of the election officials in such manner that the election
45 officials shall not know how the ballot is marked. The elector shall
46 place the ballot in the privacy sleeve. The election officials shall mark
47 the elector's name on the official voter list, manually on paper or
48 electronically, as having voted in person and deliver such ballot and
49 privacy sleeve to the voting tabulator where such ballot shall be placed
50 into the tabulator, by the election official, for counting. The moderator
51 shall record such activity in the moderator's diary.

52 (c) In each polling place in which two or more parties are holding

53 primaries in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote,
54 pursuant to section 9-431, an unaffiliated elector shall also announce to
55 the separate table of the official checker or checkers for unaffiliated
56 electors the party in whose primary the elector chooses to vote and the
57 official checker or checkers shall note such party when checking such
58 elector's name on the checklist of unaffiliated electors, manually on
59 paper or electronically, provided such choice shall not alter the
60 elector's unaffiliated status.

61 (d) In each polling place in which two or more parties are holding
62 primaries in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote or in
63 which one party is holding a primary in which unaffiliated electors are
64 authorized to vote for some but not all offices to be contested at the
65 primary, the official checker or checkers shall give to each elector
66 checked manually on paper or electronically, a receipt provided by the
67 registrars of voters, in a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State,
68 specifying either (1) the party with which the elector is enrolled, if any,
69 or (2) in the case of an unaffiliated elector, the party in whose primary
70 the elector has so chosen to vote, and whether the elector is authorized
71 to vote for only a partial ballot.

72 (e) If not challenged by anyone lawfully present in the polling place,
73 the elector shall be permitted to pass to the separated area to receive
74 the ballot. The elector shall give any receipt the elector has received to
75 a ballot clerk who shall give the elector a ballot to vote only in the
76 primary of the party specified by the receipt. The elector shall be
77 permitted into the voting booth area, and shall then register his or her
78 vote in secret. Having voted, the elector shall immediately exit the
79 voting booth area and deposit the ballot in the voting tabulator and
80 leave the room. No elector shall remain within the voting booth longer
81 than the time necessary to complete the ballot, and, if the elector
82 refuses to leave such booth after completing the ballot, the elector shall
83 at once be removed by the election officials upon order of the
84 moderator. Not more than one elector at a time shall be permitted to be
85 within the enclosed space which the elector occupies while the elector

86 completes his or her ballot, provided an elector may be accompanied
87 within such enclosed space by one or more children who are fifteen
88 years of age or younger and supervised by the elector, if the elector is
89 the parent or legal guardian of such children. If any elector, after
90 entering the voting booth area, asks for further instruction concerning
91 the manner of voting, the election officials shall give such instructions
92 or directions to the elector; but no election official instructing or
93 assisting an elector, except as provided in section 9-264, shall look at
94 the ballot in such a way as to see the elector's markings or in any
95 manner seek to influence any such elector in the casting of the elector's
96 vote.

97 (f) Not later than ninety days after each primary, election or
98 referendum, the registrars of voters of each town shall (1) compile a
99 report of (A) the number of electors who completed the form under
100 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, and (B) the number of
101 such electors for whom such form was incomplete or inaccurate, and
102 (2) submit such report to the Secretary of the State.

103 Sec. 2. Subdivision (4) of subsection (d) of section 9-23g of the
104 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
105 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

106 (4) If on the day of an election or primary, the name of an applicant
107 does not appear on the official check list, such applicant may present
108 to the moderator at the polls either a notice of acceptance received
109 through the mail or an application receipt that was previously
110 provided to the applicant pursuant to section 9-19e, subsection (b) of
111 section 9-19h, subsection (b) of this section or section 9-23n. If an
112 applicant presents said notice or receipt, and either the registrars of
113 voters find the original application or the applicant submits a new
114 application at the polls, the registrar, or assistant registrar upon notice
115 to and approval by the registrar, shall add such person's name and
116 address to the official check list on such day and the person shall be
117 allowed to vote if otherwise eligible to vote and the person presents to
118 the checkers at the polling place a preprinted form of identification

119 pursuant to [subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2)] subdivision (1) of
120 subsection (a) of section 9-261, as amended by this act.

121 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 9-23r of the general statutes is
122 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
123 *October 1, 2019*):

124 (b) If an individual submits such information pursuant to this
125 section as part of the individual's voter registration application and,
126 with respect to subdivision (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of this section,
127 the registrars of voters are able to match the information submitted
128 with an existing Connecticut identification record bearing the same
129 number, name and date of birth as provided, such individual shall not
130 be required to produce identification when voting in person or by
131 absentee ballot and may sign a statement as described in
132 [subparagraph (B) of] subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-261,
133 as amended by this act, in lieu of presenting identification when voting
134 in person.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	9-261
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	9-23g(d)(4)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	9-23r(b)

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*