

General Assembly

Committee Bill No. 377

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 5161



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by: (GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIALS' USE OF THE STATE-WIDE CENTRALIZED VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

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

- Section 1. Section 9-50b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):
- 3 (a) As used in this section, "state-wide centralized voter registration 4 system" means a computerized system designed and maintained by the
- 5 Secretary of the State which includes: (1) Voter registration information
- 6 prescribed by the Secretary, (2) information contained in applications
- 7 for admission as electors described in section 9-20, (3) information
- 8 needed to compile registry lists and enrollment lists under sections 9-35
- 9 and 9-54, (4) information required by section 9-50a, and (5) other
- information for use in complying with the provisions of this title.
- 11 (b) Not later than July 1, 2003, each registrar of voters shall transmit
- 12 to the office of the Secretary of the State all elector information required
- 13 by the office to complete the state-wide centralized voter registration
- 14 system. Each registrar shall transmit such information in a format

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prescribed by the Secretary. Not later than September 1, 2003, each 15 16 registrar of voters shall participate in the state-wide centralized voter 17 registration system in the manner prescribed by the Secretary. On and 18 after July 1, 2023, each admitting official, as defined in section 9-17a, 19 shall utilize the state-wide centralized voter registration system 20 whenever carrying out any provision of this title involving the addition 21 or restoration of names to or removal or transfer of names from any 22 active or inactive registry list or enrollment list, the changing of any 23 voter's information on any such list, the checking of absentee ballot 24 applications or returned absentee ballots against any such list or the use 25 of any such list to prepare any materials used by poll workers on the 26 day of an election, primary or referendum.

(c) Not later than sixty days after each election or primary, the registrars of voters shall update the state-wide centralized voter registration system and indicate whether the eligible voters on the official registry list for such election or primary voted and, if so, if they voted in person or by absentee ballot.

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Sec. 2. Section 9-355 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

34 Any person who, without reasonable cause, neglects to perform any 35 of the duties required of him by the laws relating to elections or 36 primaries and for which neglect no other punishment is provided, and 37 any person who is guilty of fraud in the performance of any such duty, 38 and any person who makes any unlawful alteration in any list required 39 by law, shall be fined not more than three hundred dollars or be 40 imprisoned not more than one year or be both fined and imprisoned. 41 Any official who is convicted of fraud in the performance of any duty 42 imposed upon him by any law relating to the registration or admission 43 of electors or to the conduct of any election shall be disfranchised. Any 44 public officer or any election official upon whom any duty is imposed 45 by part I of chapter 147, [and] section 9-50b, as amended by this act, or 46 sections 9-308 to 9-311, inclusive, who wilfully omits or neglects to

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- 47 perform any such duty or does any act prohibited therein for which
- 48 punishment is not otherwise provided shall be guilty of a class E felony.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	9-50b
Sec. 2	July 1, 2023	9-355

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) require certain local election officials to utilize the state-wide centralized voter registration system when performing certain duties related to election administration, and (2) provide a penalty for noncompliance with such requirement.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.

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