



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

***Raised Bill No. 1044***

LCO No. 5321



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT RESTORING THE CITIZENS' ELECTION PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (3) of subsection (i) of section 9-705 of the  
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

4 (3) (A) If a participating candidate who is nominated for election  
5 does not have [any] an opponent in the general election campaign, [the  
6 amount of the] such candidate shall be ineligible for a general election  
7 campaign grant. [for which the qualified candidate committee for said  
8 candidate shall be eligible shall be thirty per cent of the applicable  
9 amount set forth in subsections (a) to (h), inclusive, of this section.] For  
10 the purposes of this subdivision, a participating candidate shall be  
11 deemed to have an opponent if [(A)] (i) a major party has properly  
12 endorsed any other candidate and made the requisite filing with the  
13 Secretary of the State within the time specified in [section 9-391 or 9-  
14 400, as applicable, (B)] chapter 153, (ii) any candidate of any other  
15 major party has received not less than fifteen per cent of the vote of

16 convention delegates and has complied with the filing requirements  
 17 set forth in section 9-400, or [(C)] (iii) any candidate of any other major  
 18 party has circulated a petition and obtained the required number of  
 19 signatures for filing a candidacy for nomination and has either  
 20 qualified for the primary or been deemed the party's nominee;

21 (B) If a participating candidate who is nominated for election and  
 22 who was previously deemed to not have an opponent under  
 23 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision is subsequently deemed to have  
 24 an opponent in the general election campaign, the qualified candidate  
 25 committee of such candidate shall be eligible to receive a general  
 26 election campaign grant under subsections (a) to (h), inclusive, of this  
 27 section, and the amount of such grant shall be reduced by the amount  
 28 of any additional contributions raised pursuant to subsection (c) of  
 29 section 9-702, as amended by this act, during the period when such  
 30 candidate was deemed to not have an opponent;

31 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 9-702 of the general statutes is  
 32 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
 33 *January 1, 2020*):

34 (c) (1) A candidate participating in the Citizens' Election Program  
 35 shall limit the expenditures of the candidate's candidate committee (A)  
 36 before a primary campaign and a general election campaign, to the  
 37 amount of qualifying contributions permitted in section 9-704 and any  
 38 personal funds provided by the candidate under subsection (c) of  
 39 section 9-710, (B) for a primary campaign, to the sum of (i) the amount  
 40 of such qualifying contributions and personal funds that have not been  
 41 spent before the primary campaign, and (ii) the amount of the grant for  
 42 the primary campaign authorized under section 9-705, as amended by  
 43 this act, and (C) for a general election campaign, to the sum of (i) the  
 44 amount of such qualifying contributions and personal funds that have  
 45 not been spent before the general election campaign, (ii) any  
 46 unexpended funds from any grant for a primary campaign authorized  
 47 under section 9-705, as amended by this act, and (iii) the amount of the  
 48 grant for the general election campaign authorized under section 9-

49 705, as amended by this act.

50 (2) The candidate committee of a minor or petitioning party  
 51 candidate who has received a general election campaign grant from  
 52 the fund pursuant to section 9-705, as amended by this act, or an  
 53 unopposed candidate who is ineligible to receive a grant pursuant to  
 54 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (i) of said section,  
 55 shall be permitted to receive contributions in addition to the qualifying  
 56 contributions subject to the limitations and restrictions applicable to  
 57 participating candidates for the same office, provided (A) such minor  
 58 or petitioning party candidate shall limit the expenditures of the  
 59 candidate committee for a general election campaign to the sum of the  
 60 qualifying contributions and personal funds, the amount of the general  
 61 election campaign grant received and the amount raised in additional  
 62 contributions that is equivalent to the difference between the amount  
 63 of the applicable general election campaign grant for a major party  
 64 candidate for such office and the amount of the general election  
 65 campaign grant received by such minor or petitioning party candidate,  
 66 and (B) such unopposed candidate shall limit the expenditures of the  
 67 candidate committee for a general election campaign to the sum of (i)  
 68 the qualifying contributions, (ii) any personal funds, and (iii) the  
 69 amount raised in additional contributions that is equivalent to thirty  
 70 per cent of the applicable general election campaign grant for which  
 71 such candidate committee would be eligible under subsections (a) to  
 72 (h), inclusive, of section 9-705, as amended by this act, if such  
 73 candidate was not unopposed.

74 Sec. 3. Section 9-718 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
 75 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

76 (a) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes and  
 77 except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, [no] a town  
 78 committee [, legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership  
 79 committee] shall not make an organization expenditure for the benefit  
 80 of a participating candidate or the candidate committee of a  
 81 participating candidate in the Citizens' Election Program for the office

82 of state senator in an amount that exceeds ten thousand dollars for the  
83 general election campaign.

84 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, a state  
85 central committee, legislative caucus committee or legislative  
86 leadership committee shall not make an organization expenditure for  
87 the benefit of a participating candidate or the candidate committee of a  
88 participating candidate in the Citizens' Election Program for the office  
89 of state senator in an amount that exceeds one-fourth of the applicable  
90 full grant amount for a major party candidate authorized under section  
91 9-705, as amended by this act, for the applicable campaign period.

92 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, [no] a  
93 party committee, legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership  
94 committee shall not make an organization expenditure for the  
95 purposes described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (25) of section  
96 9-601 for the benefit of a participating candidate or the candidate  
97 committee of a participating candidate in the Citizens' Election  
98 Program for the office of state senator for the primary campaign.

99 (c) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes and  
100 except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, [no] a town  
101 committee [, legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership  
102 committee] shall not make an organization expenditure for the benefit  
103 of a participating candidate or the candidate committee of a  
104 participating candidate in the Citizens' Election Program for the office  
105 of state representative in an amount that exceeds three thousand five  
106 hundred dollars for the general election campaign.

107 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, a state  
108 central committee, legislative caucus committee or legislative  
109 leadership committee shall not make an organization expenditure for  
110 the benefit of a participating candidate or the candidate committee of a  
111 participating candidate in the Citizens' Election Program for the office  
112 of state representative in an amount that exceeds one-fourth of the  
113 applicable full grant amount for a major party candidate authorized

114 under section 9-705, as amended by this act, for the applicable  
 115 campaign period.

116 (d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, [no]  
 117 party committee, legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership  
 118 committee shall not make an organization expenditure for the  
 119 purposes described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (25) of section  
 120 9-601 for the benefit of a participating candidate or the candidate  
 121 committee of a participating candidate in the Citizens' Election  
 122 Program for the office of state representative for the primary  
 123 campaign.

124 (e) For any election held in 2014, and thereafter, the amount of the  
 125 limitations on organization expenditures provided in [subsections]  
 126 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) and subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of  
 127 this section shall be adjusted by the State Elections Enforcement  
 128 Commission not later than January 15, 2014, and biennially thereafter,  
 129 in accordance with any change in the consumer price index for all  
 130 urban consumers as published by the United States Department of  
 131 Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, during the period beginning on  
 132 January 1, 2010, and ending on December thirty-first in the year  
 133 preceding the year in which said adjustment is to be made.

134 Sec. 4. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-7a of the general  
 135 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
 136 (*Effective from passage*):

137 (2) On and after July 1, 2011, but before July 1, 2019, members shall  
 138 be appointed for terms of three years from July first in the year of their  
 139 appointment and shall be appointed by the person holding the same  
 140 office as was held by the person making the original appointment,  
 141 provided any person chosen to fill a vacancy shall be appointed only  
 142 for the unexpired term of the member whom he or she shall succeed.  
 143 On and after [July 1, 2011, no] July 1, 2019, any member may serve  
 144 more than two consecutive terms, [except that] and any member  
 145 serving on said date [.] may serve until a successor is appointed and

146 has qualified. All appointments shall be made with the consent of the  
 147 state Senate and House of Representatives. No person who has served  
 148 during any part of the three-year period prior to the appointment as a  
 149 political party officer, shall be appointed to membership on the  
 150 commission. For purposes of this subsection, "political party officer"  
 151 means an officer of a national committee of a political party, state  
 152 central or town committee. The commission shall elect one of its  
 153 members to serve as chairperson and another member to serve as vice-  
 154 chairperson. Each member of the commission shall be compensated at  
 155 the rate of two hundred dollars per day for any day on which he  
 156 participates in a regular commission meeting or hearing, and shall be  
 157 paid by the state for his reasonable expenses, including necessary  
 158 stenographic and clerical help.

159 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 9-601a of the general statutes is  
 160 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
 161 *passage*):

162 (a) As used in this chapter and chapter 157, "contribution" means:

163 (1) Any gift, subscription, loan, advance, payment or deposit of  
 164 money or anything of value, made (A) to promote, attack, support or  
 165 oppose the success or defeat of any [candidate] person seeking (i) the  
 166 nomination for election, or (ii) election, or (B) for the purpose of aiding  
 167 or promoting (i) the success or defeat of any referendum question, or  
 168 (ii) the success or defeat of any political party;

169 (2) A written contract, promise or agreement to make a contribution  
 170 for any such purpose;

171 (3) The payment by any person, other than a candidate or treasurer,  
 172 of compensation for the personal services of any other person which  
 173 are rendered without charge to a committee or candidate for any such  
 174 purpose;

175 (4) An expenditure that is not an independent expenditure; or

176 (5) Funds received by a committee which are transferred from  
177 another committee or other source for any such purpose.

178 Sec. 6. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 9-601b of the general  
179 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
180 (*Effective from passage*):

181 (a) As used in this chapter and chapter 157, [the term] "expenditure"  
182 means:

183 (1) Any purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, deposit or  
184 gift of money or anything of value, when made (A) to promote, ~~attack,~~  
185 support or oppose the success or defeat of any [candidate] person  
186 seeking (i) the nomination for election, or (ii) election, [of any person]  
187 or (B) for the purpose of aiding or promoting (i) the success or defeat  
188 of any referendum question, or (ii) the success or defeat of any political  
189 party;

190 (2) Any communication that (A) refers to one or more clearly  
191 identified candidates, and (B) (i) is broadcast (I) by radio, by television,  
192 other than on a public access channel, [or] by satellite communication  
193 or via the Internet, or (II) as a paid-for telephone communication, or (ii)  
194 appears in a newspaper, in a magazine or on a billboard, or (iii) is sent  
195 by mail; or

196 (3) The transfer of funds by a committee to another committee.

197 (b) [The term "expenditure"] "Expenditure" does not mean:

198 (1) A loan of money, made in the ordinary course of business, by a  
199 state or national bank;

200 (2) A communication made by any corporation, organization or  
201 association solely to its members, owners, stockholders, executive or  
202 administrative personnel, or their families;

203 (3) Nonpartisan voter registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns  
204 by any corporation, organization or association aimed at its members,

205 owners, stockholders, executive or administrative personnel, or their  
206 families;

207 (4) Uncompensated services provided by individuals volunteering  
208 their time on behalf of a party committee, political committee, slate  
209 committee or candidate committee, including any services provided  
210 for the benefit of nonparticipating and participating candidates under  
211 the Citizens' Election Program and any unreimbursed travel expenses  
212 made by an individual who volunteers the individual's personal  
213 services to any such committee. For purposes of this subdivision, an  
214 individual is a volunteer if such individual is not receiving  
215 compensation for such services regardless of whether such individual  
216 received compensation in the past or may receive compensation for  
217 similar services that may be performed in the future;

218 (5) Any news story, commentary or editorial distributed through  
219 the facilities of any broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine or  
220 other periodical, unless such facilities are owned or controlled by any  
221 political party, committee or candidate;

222 (6) The use of real or personal property, a portion or all of the cost of  
223 invitations and the cost of food or beverages, voluntarily provided by  
224 an individual to a candidate, including a nonparticipating or  
225 participating candidate under the Citizens' Election Program, or to a  
226 party, political or slate committee, in rendering voluntary personal  
227 services at the individual's residential premises or a community room  
228 in the individual's residence facility, to the extent that the cumulative  
229 value of the invitations, food or beverages provided by an individual  
230 on behalf of any candidate or committee does not exceed four hundred  
231 dollars with respect to any single event or does not exceed eight  
232 hundred dollars for any such event hosted by two or more individuals,  
233 provided at least one such individual owns or resides at the residential  
234 premises, and further provided the cumulative value of the invitations,  
235 food or beverages provided by an individual on behalf of any such  
236 candidate or committee does not exceed eight hundred dollars with  
237 respect to a calendar year or single election, as the case may be;



238 (7) A communication described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a)  
 239 of this section, which communication is not made to promote, attack,  
 240 support or oppose the nomination or election of any person, that  
 241 includes speech or expression [made] (A) made prior to the ninety-day  
 242 period preceding the date of a primary or an election at which the  
 243 clearly identified candidate or candidates are seeking nomination to  
 244 public office or position, [that is] including a communication made for  
 245 the purpose of influencing any legislative or administrative action, as  
 246 defined in section 1-91, or executive action, [or] (B) made during a  
 247 legislative session for the purpose of influencing legislative action, or  
 248 (C) that constitutes a candidate debate or that solely promotes any  
 249 such debate and is made by or on behalf of the person sponsoring the  
 250 debate;

251 (8) An organization expenditure by a party committee, legislative  
 252 caucus committee or legislative leadership committee;

253 (9) A commercial advertisement that refers to an owner, director or  
 254 officer of a business entity who is also a candidate, [and that] which  
 255 commercial advertisement had previously been broadcast or appeared  
 256 when the owner, director or officer was not a candidate;

257 (10) A communication containing an endorsement on behalf of a  
 258 candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor,  
 259 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State  
 260 Comptroller, Attorney General, state senator or state representative,  
 261 from a candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,  
 262 Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State Comptroller, Attorney  
 263 General, state senator or state representative, shall not be an  
 264 expenditure attributable to the endorsing candidate, if the candidate  
 265 making the endorsement is unopposed at the time of the  
 266 communication;

267 (11) A communication that is sent by mail to addresses in the district  
 268 for which a candidate being endorsed by another candidate pursuant  
 269 to the provisions of this subdivision is seeking nomination or election

270 to the office of state senator or state representative, containing an  
 271 endorsement on behalf of such candidate for such nomination or  
 272 election, from a candidate for the office of state senator or state  
 273 representative, shall not be an expenditure attributable to the  
 274 endorsing candidate, if the candidate making the endorsement is not  
 275 seeking election to the office of state senator or state representative for  
 276 a district that contains any geographical area shared by the district for  
 277 the office to which the endorsed candidate is seeking nomination or  
 278 election;

279 (12) Campaign training events provided to multiple individuals by  
 280 a legislative caucus committee and any associated materials, provided  
 281 the cumulative value of such events and materials does not exceed six  
 282 thousand dollars in the aggregate for a calendar year;

283 (13) A lawful communication by any charitable organization which  
 284 is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal  
 285 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal  
 286 revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended;

287 (14) The use of offices, telephones, computers and similar  
 288 equipment provided by a party committee, legislative caucus  
 289 committee or legislative leadership committee that serve as  
 290 headquarters for or are used by such party committee, legislative  
 291 caucus committee or legislative leadership committee; or

292 (15) An expense or expenses incurred by a human being acting  
 293 alone in an amount that is two hundred dollars or less, in the  
 294 aggregate, that benefits a candidate for a single election.

295 Sec. 7. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 9-608 of the  
 296 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
 297 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

298 (a) (1) Each treasurer of a committee, other than a state central  
 299 committee, shall file a statement, sworn under penalty of false  
 300 statement with the proper authority in accordance with the provisions

301 of section 9-603, (A) on the tenth calendar day in the months of  
 302 January, April, July and October, provided, if such tenth calendar day  
 303 is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the statement shall be filed on  
 304 the next business day, except that in the case of a candidate or  
 305 exploratory committee established for an office to be elected at a  
 306 special election, statements pursuant to this subparagraph shall not be  
 307 required, (B) on the seventh day preceding each regular state election,  
 308 except that (i) in the case of a candidate or exploratory committee  
 309 established for an office to be elected at a municipal election, the  
 310 statement shall be filed on the seventh day preceding a regular  
 311 municipal election in lieu of such date, except if the candidate's name  
 312 is not eligible to appear on the ballot, in which case such statement  
 313 shall not be required, (ii) in the case of a town committee, the  
 314 statement shall be filed on the seventh day preceding each municipal  
 315 election in addition to such date, (iii) in the case of a candidate  
 316 committee in a state election, [that is required to file any supplemental  
 317 campaign finance statements pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of  
 318 subsection (a) of section 9-712, such] the supplemental campaign  
 319 finance statements required pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-712,  
 320 as amended by this act, shall satisfy the filing requirement under this  
 321 subdivision, and (iv) in the case of a candidate committee established  
 322 by a candidate whose name is not eligible to appear on the ballot, such  
 323 statement shall not be required, and (C) if the committee has made or  
 324 received a contribution or expenditure in connection with any other  
 325 election, a primary or a referendum, on the seventh day preceding the  
 326 election, primary or referendum, except that in the case of a candidate  
 327 committee in a primary [that is required to file statements pursuant to  
 328 subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-712, such] for an  
 329 office to be voted upon at a state election, the statements required  
 330 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-712, as amended by this act,  
 331 shall satisfy the filing requirement under this subdivision. The  
 332 statement shall be complete as of eleven fifty-nine o'clock p.m. of the  
 333 last day of the month preceding the month in which the statement is  
 334 required to be filed, except that for the statement required to be filed  
 335 on the seventh day preceding the election, primary or referendum, the

336 statement shall be complete as of eleven fifty-nine o'clock p.m. of the  
337 second day immediately preceding the required filing day. The  
338 statement shall cover a period to begin with the first day not included  
339 in the last filed statement. In the case of a candidate committee, the  
340 statement required to be filed in January shall be in lieu of the  
341 statement formerly required to be filed within forty-five days  
342 following an election.

343 Sec. 8. Section 9-611 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
344 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

345 (a) [No] An individual shall not make a contribution or  
346 contributions to, for the benefit of, or pursuant to the authorization or  
347 request of, a candidate or a committee supporting or opposing any  
348 candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary, or any candidate's  
349 campaign for election, to the office of (1) Governor, in excess of three  
350 thousand five hundred dollars; (2) Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of  
351 the State, Treasurer, Comptroller or Attorney General, in excess of two  
352 thousand dollars; (3) chief executive officer of a town, city or borough,  
353 in excess of one thousand dollars; (4) state senator or probate judge, in  
354 excess of one thousand dollars; or (5) state representative or any other  
355 office of a municipality not previously included in this subsection, in  
356 excess of two hundred fifty dollars. The limits imposed by this  
357 subsection shall be applied separately to primaries and elections.

358 (b) (1) [No] An individual shall not make a contribution or  
359 contributions to, or for the benefit of, an exploratory committee, in  
360 excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars, if the candidate  
361 establishing the exploratory committee certifies on the statement of  
362 organization for the exploratory committee pursuant to subsection (c)  
363 of section 9-604 that the candidate will not be a candidate for the office  
364 of state representative. [No] An individual shall not make a  
365 contribution or contributions to, or for the benefit of, any exploratory  
366 committee, in excess of two hundred fifty dollars, if the candidate  
367 establishing the exploratory committee does not so certify.

368 (2) [No] An individual shall not make a contribution or  
 369 contributions to, or for the benefit of, a political committee formed by a  
 370 slate of candidates in a primary for the office of justice of the peace, in  
 371 excess of two hundred fifty dollars.

372 [(c) No individual shall make contributions to such candidates or  
 373 committees which in the aggregate exceed thirty thousand dollars for  
 374 any single election and primary preliminary to such election.]

375 [(d) No] (c) An individual shall not make a contribution to any  
 376 candidate or committee, other than a contribution in kind, in excess of  
 377 one hundred dollars, except by personal check or credit card of that  
 378 individual.

379 [(e) No] (d) An individual who is less than eighteen years of age  
 380 shall not make a contribution or contributions, in excess of thirty  
 381 dollars to, for the benefit of, or pursuant to the authorization or request  
 382 of: (1) A candidate or a committee supporting or opposing any  
 383 candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary to any office; (2) a  
 384 candidate or a committee supporting or opposing any candidate's  
 385 campaign for election to any office; (3) an exploratory committee; (4)  
 386 any other political committee in any calendar year; or (5) a party  
 387 committee in any calendar year. Notwithstanding any provision of  
 388 subdivision (2) of section 9-7b, any individual who is less than  
 389 eighteen years of age who violates any provision of this subsection  
 390 shall not be subject to the provisions of subdivision (2) of section 9-7b.

391 Sec. 9. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 9-712 of the  
 392 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
 393 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

394 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the  
 395 statements required to be filed pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of  
 396 this subsection shall not be required to be filed by (A) a candidate  
 397 committee of a candidate that is exempt from filing campaign finance  
 398 statements pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-608 unless or until  
 399 such a candidate committee receives or expends an amount in excess

400 of one thousand dollars for purposes of the primary or election for  
 401 which such committee was formed, (B) a candidate committee of a  
 402 candidate who is no longer eligible for a position on the ballot, or (C) a  
 403 candidate committee of a participating candidate that is unopposed or  
 404 of a nonparticipating candidate that is unopposed or opposed only by  
 405 a nonparticipating candidate or candidates, except that such candidate  
 406 committee shall file a supplemental statement on the last Thursday  
 407 before the applicable primary or general election. Such statement shall  
 408 be complete as of eleven fifty-nine o'clock p.m. of the second day  
 409 immediately preceding the required filing day. The statement shall  
 410 cover a period beginning with the first day not included in the last  
 411 filed statement.

412 Sec. 10. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 9-7a of the  
 413 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
 414 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

415 (g) (1) In the case of a written complaint filed with the commission  
 416 pursuant to section 9-7b, commission staff shall conduct and complete  
 417 a preliminary examination of such complaint by the fourteenth day  
 418 following its receipt, at which time such staff shall, at its discretion, (A)  
 419 dismiss the complaint for failure to allege any substantial violation of  
 420 state election law supported by evidence, (B) engage the respondent in  
 421 discussions in an effort to speedily resolve any matter pertaining to a  
 422 de minimis violation, or (C) investigate and docket the complaint for a  
 423 determination by the commission that probable cause or no probable  
 424 cause exists for any such violation. If commission staff dismisses a  
 425 complaint pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, such staff  
 426 shall provide a brief written statement concisely setting forth the  
 427 reasons for such dismissal. If commission staff engages a respondent  
 428 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision but is unable to  
 429 speedily resolve any such matter described in said subparagraph by  
 430 the forty-fifth day following receipt of the complaint, such staff shall  
 431 docket such complaint for a determination by the commission that  
 432 probable cause or no probable cause exists for any violation of state  
 433 election law. If the commission does not, by the sixtieth day following

434 receipt of the complaint, either issue a decision or render its  
 435 determination that probable cause or no probable cause exists for any  
 436 violation of state election laws, the complainant or respondent may  
 437 apply to the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for an  
 438 order to show cause why the commission has not acted upon the  
 439 complaint and to provide evidence that the commission has  
 440 unreasonably delayed action. For any complaint received on or after  
 441 January 1, 2018, if the commission does not, by one year following  
 442 receipt of such complaint, [issue a decision thereon] find reason to  
 443 believe, pursuant to section 9-7b-35 of the regulations of Connecticut  
 444 state agencies, that a violation of state election law has been  
 445 committed, the commission shall dismiss such complaint, provided the  
 446 length of time of any delay caused by (i) the commission or  
 447 commission staff granting any extension or continuance to a  
 448 respondent prior to the issuance of any such decision, (ii) any  
 449 subpoena issued in connection with such complaint, (iii) any litigation  
 450 in state or federal court related to such complaint, [or] (iv) any  
 451 investigation by the commission or commission staff (I) involving a  
 452 potential violation of section 9-601c or 9-601d, as amended by this act,  
 453 or (II) involving a potential violation of state election law by any  
 454 foreign national or foreign-influenced entity, or (v) any investigation  
 455 by, or consultation of the commission or commission staff with, the  
 456 Chief State's Attorney, the Attorney General, the United States  
 457 Department of Justice or the United States Attorney for Connecticut  
 458 related to such complaint, shall be added to such one year.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

|           |                        |                   |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Section 1 | <i>January 1, 2020</i> | 9-705(i)(3)       |
| Sec. 2    | <i>January 1, 2020</i> | 9-702(c)          |
| Sec. 3    | <i>from passage</i>    | 9-718             |
| Sec. 4    | <i>from passage</i>    | 9-7a(a)(2)        |
| Sec. 5    | <i>from passage</i>    | 9-601a(a)         |
| Sec. 6    | <i>from passage</i>    | 9-601b(a) and (b) |
| Sec. 7    | <i>from passage</i>    | 9-608(a)(1)       |
| Sec. 8    | <i>from passage</i>    | 9-611             |

|         |                     |             |
|---------|---------------------|-------------|
| Sec. 9  | <i>from passage</i> | 9-712(a)(4) |
| Sec. 10 | <i>from passage</i> | 9-7a(g)(1)  |

***Statement of Purpose:***

To (1) eliminate grants from the Citizens' Election Fund for candidates without an opponent, (2) modify the amounts of organization expenditures that state central, legislative caucus and legislative leadership committees may make to participating candidates, (3) permit members of the State Elections Enforcement Commission to serve more than two consecutive terms, and (4) revise the manner in which the commission processes complaints.

*[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.]*