



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 5734



Offered by:

SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.

SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5498

File No. 491

Cal. No. 442

(As Amended by House Amendment Schedule "A")

**"AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTION SECURITY AND
TRANSPARENCY, VARIOUS OTHER REVISIONS RELATED TO
ELECTION ADMINISTRATION AND STATE ELECTIONS
ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION COMPLAINTS."**

1 Strike section 6 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
2 thereof:

3 "Sec. 6. Section 9-364 of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

5 Any person who, with intent to disenfranchise any elector, influences
6 or attempts to influence by force or threat, bribery or corrupt, fraudulent
7 or deliberately deceitful means any elector to stay away from any
8 election or otherwise refrain from voting, whether such voting is by
9 mail, by deposit in a secure drop box or in person at a polling place or
10 designated early voting or same-day election registration location, shall
11 be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of

12 twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced."

13 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
14 internal references accordingly:

15 "Sec. 501. Section 9-352 of the general statutes is repealed and the
16 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

17 Any election official who, with intent to cause or permit any voting
18 tabulator to fail to correctly register all votes cast thereon, tampers with
19 or disarranges such tabulator in any way or any part or appliance
20 thereof, or causes such tabulator to be used or consents to its being used
21 for voting at any election with knowledge of the fact that the same is not
22 in order, or not perfectly set and adjusted to correctly register all votes
23 cast thereon, or who, for the purpose of defrauding or deceiving any
24 elector or of causing it to be doubtful for what candidate or candidates
25 or proposition any vote is cast, or causing it to appear upon such
26 tabulator that votes cast for one candidate or proposition were cast for
27 another candidate or proposition, removes, changes or mutilates any
28 ballot, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of
29 imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

30 Sec. 502. Section 9-353 of the general statutes is repealed and the
31 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

32 Any election official who, at the close of the polls, purposely causes
33 the vote registered on the tabulator to be incorrectly taken down as to
34 any candidate or proposition voted on, or who knowingly causes to be
35 made or signed any false statement, certificate or return of any kind, of
36 such vote, or who knowingly consents to any such act, shall be guilty of
37 a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve
38 months that may not be suspended or reduced.

39 Sec. 503. Section 9-354 of the general statutes is repealed and the
40 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

41 Any person who prints or causes to be printed upon any official ballot

42 the name of any person not a candidate of a party whose name is printed
43 at the head of the column containing such nominees, or who prints or
44 causes to be printed any authorized ballot in any manner other than that
45 prescribed by the Secretary of the State, shall be guilty of a class D felony
46 with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not
47 be suspended or reduced.

48 Sec. 504. Section 9-355 of the general statutes is repealed and the
49 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

50 Any person who, without reasonable cause, neglects to perform any
51 of the duties required of him by the laws relating to elections or
52 primaries and for which neglect no other punishment is provided, and
53 any person who is guilty of fraud in the performance of any such duty,
54 and any person who makes any unlawful alteration in any list required
55 by law, shall be fined not more than three hundred dollars or be
56 imprisoned not more than [one year] twelve months or be both fined
57 and imprisoned. Any official who is convicted of fraud in the
58 performance of any duty imposed upon him by any law relating to the
59 registration or admission of electors or to the conduct of any election
60 shall be disfranchised. Any public officer or any election official upon
61 whom any duty is imposed by part I of chapter 147 and sections 9-308
62 to 9-311, inclusive, who wilfully omits or neglects to perform any such
63 duty or does any act prohibited therein for which punishment is not
64 otherwise provided shall be guilty of a class E felony with a minimum
65 term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or
66 reduced.

67 Sec. 505. Section 9-359 of the general statutes is repealed and the
68 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

69 (a) Any [(1)] person who executes an absentee ballot for the purpose
70 of informing any other person how he votes, or who procures any
71 absentee ballot to be prepared for such purpose, [(2)] shall be guilty of a
72 class D felony.

73 (b) Any (1) municipal clerk or moderator, elector appointed to count

74 any absentee ballot or other person who wilfully attempts to ascertain
75 how any elector marked his absentee ballot or how it was cast, [(3)] (2)
76 person who unlawfully opens or fills out, except as provided in section
77 9-140a with respect to a person unable to write, any elector's absentee
78 ballot signed in blank, [(4)] (3) person designated under section 9-140a
79 who executes an absentee ballot contrary to the elector's wishes, or [(5)]
80 (4) person who wilfully violates any provision of chapter 145, shall be
81 guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of
82 twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

83 Sec. 506. Section 9-359a of the general statutes is repealed and the
84 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

85 (a) (1) A person is guilty of false statement in absentee balloting in the
86 first degree when such person intentionally signs the name of another
87 person to the application for an absentee ballot or the inner envelope
88 accompanying any such ballot, which such person does not believe to
89 be true and which signature is intended to mislead a public servant in
90 the performance of such public servant's official function.

91 (2) False statement in absentee balloting in the first degree is a class
92 D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that
93 may not be suspended or reduced.

94 [(a)] (b) (1) A person is guilty of false statement in absentee balloting
95 in the second degree when [he] such person intentionally makes a false
96 written statement in or on [or signs the name of another person to] the
97 application for an absentee ballot or the inner envelope accompanying
98 any such ballot, which [he] such person does not believe to be true and
99 which statement [or signature] is intended to mislead a public servant
100 in the performance of [his] such public servant's official function.

101 [(b)] (2) False statement in absentee balloting in the second degree is
102 a class D felony.

103 Sec. 507. Section 9-363 of the general statutes is repealed and the
104 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

105 Any person who, with intent to defraud any elector of his or her vote
106 or cause any elector to lose his or her vote or any part thereof, gives in
107 any way, or prints, writes or circulates, or causes to be written, printed
108 or circulated, any improper, false, misleading or incorrect instructions
109 or advice or suggestions as to the manner of voting on any tabulator, the
110 following of which or any part of which would cause any elector to lose
111 his or her vote or any part thereof, or would cause any elector to fail in
112 whole or in part to register or record the same on the tabulator for the
113 candidates of his or her choice, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a
114 minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be
115 suspended or reduced.

116 Sec. 508. Section 9-365 of the general statutes is repealed and the
117 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

118 Any person who (1) during the period that is sixty days or less prior
119 to any election, municipal meeting, school district election or school
120 district meeting, attempts to influence the vote of any operative in his or
121 her employ by threats of withholding employment from him or her or
122 by promises of employment, or (2) dismisses any operative from his or
123 her employment on account of any vote he or she has given at any such
124 election or meeting, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum
125 term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or
126 reduced.

127 Sec. 509. Section 9-366 of the general statutes is repealed and the
128 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

129 Any person who induces or attempts to induce any elector to write,
130 paste or otherwise place, on a ballot, or a table or booth used for voting,
131 any name, sign or device of any kind, as a distinguishing mark by which
132 to indicate to another how such elector voted, or enters into or attempts
133 to form any agreement or conspiracy with any person to induce or
134 attempt to induce electors or any elector to so place any distinguishing
135 mark on such ballot, table or booth, or attempts to induce any elector to
136 do anything with a view to enabling another person to see or know for

137 what persons or any of them such elector votes, or enters into or
 138 attempts to form any agreement or conspiracy to induce any elector to
 139 do any act for the purpose of enabling another person or persons to see
 140 or know for what person or persons such elector votes, or attempts to
 141 induce any person to place himself or herself in such position, or to do
 142 any other act for the purpose of enabling him or her to see or know for
 143 what candidates any elector other than himself or herself votes, or
 144 himself or herself attempts to get in such position to do any act so that
 145 he or she will be enabled to see or know how any elector other than
 146 himself or herself votes, or does any act which invades or interferes with
 147 the secrecy of the voting or causes the same to be invaded or interfered
 148 with, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of
 149 imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

150 Sec. 510. Section 9-368c of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
 151 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
 152 *October 1, 2024*):

153 (a) No person shall intentionally misrepresent the contents of a
 154 petition circulated under this title.

155 (b) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be
 156 guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of
 157 twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 6	October 1, 2024	9-364
Sec. 501	October 1, 2024	9-352
Sec. 502	October 1, 2024	9-353
Sec. 503	October 1, 2024	9-354
Sec. 504	October 1, 2024	9-355
Sec. 505	October 1, 2024	9-359
Sec. 506	October 1, 2024	9-359a
Sec. 507	October 1, 2024	9-363
Sec. 508	October 1, 2024	9-365
Sec. 509	October 1, 2024	9-366

Sec. 510	October 1, 2024	9-368c
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