

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 9201



Offered by:

SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 5

File No. 570

Cal. No. 338

(As Amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A")

"AN ACT CONCERNING INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR ABSENTEE VOTING, SAFE AND SECURE IN-PERSON VOTING, VOTER REGISTRATION AND CERTAIN OTHER CHANGES REGARDING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION."

- 1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
- 2 internal references accordingly:
- 3 "Sec. 501. Section 9-19j of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 5 (a) As used in this subsection and subsections (b) to (i), inclusive, of
- 6 this section, "election day" means the day on which a regular election,
- 7 as defined in section 9-1, is held.
- 8 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person who (1)
- 9 is (A) not an elector, or (B) an elector registered in a municipality who
- 10 wishes to change such elector's registration to another municipality
- 11 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 under 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. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such written certification not later than fifteen days before election day and may require the registrars of voters to appoint one or more additional election officials or alter such design or plan.
- (2) The registrars of voters may apply to the Secretary of the State not later than sixty days before election day, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, to designate any additional location for the completion and processing of election day registration applications on election day. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such application not later than forty-five days before election day. If the Secretary approves such application, the registrars of voters may so designate any such additional location. The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to any such additional location.
- (3) The registrars of voters may 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 official and train each such election official to be an election day registration election official.

Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prohibit any unofficial checker or challenger from being present at such location.

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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 not later than eight o'clock p.m., in accordance with subsection (b) of section 9-174, 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 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, and (4) the applicant shall be <u>administered the elector's oath individually</u>. 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 such applicant as an elector.
- (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.
- 76 (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] cannot 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] <u>Unless there is a report that such applicant has not already voted in the other municipality, such applicant shall not receive an election day registration ballot from 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] For any such applicant, the election day registration process shall cease in the municipality in which such applicant now seeks to register until such time as such report is made.</u>
- (f) If the applicant is admitted as an elector, the registrars of voters

shall provide the elector with an election day registration ballot and

- 111 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 form substantially as follows and
- signed by the voter:
- 117 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
- 121 indicated.
- 122 3. The information on my voter registration card is correct and
- 123 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.
- 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.
- 132 (Signature of voter)
- 133 (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

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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 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) (1) 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.
- (2) (A) Not later than ninety days after election day, the registrars of
 voters of each town shall (i) compile a report of (I) the number of persons

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171 applying for election day registration as described in subsection (d) of 172 this section, (II) the number of such persons not permitted to register in accordance with subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) 173 174 of this section, (III) the number of registration confirmation notices sent 175 to admitted applicants, pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, that were returned undelivered, and (IV) the number of such admitted 176 177 applicants that were subsequently placed on the inactive registry list as a result of such notices being returned undelivered, in accordance with 178 179 subdivision (1) of this subsection and section 9-35, and (ii) submit such 180 report to the Secretary of the State.

- (B) Not later than one hundred twenty days after election day, the
 Secretary of the State shall (i) aggregate all reports submitted to the
 Secretary under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision into a single
 report, and (ii) submit such single report to the joint standing committee
 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
 elections, in accordance with section 11-4a, and to the State Elections
 Enforcement Commission.
- (3) Not later than five days after a determination of the registrars of voters of any town that the residency of an admitted applicant cannot be verified because a registration confirmation notice for such applicant was returned undelivered to such registrars, as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, such registrars shall report all information resulting in such determination to the State Elections Enforcement Commission which shall conduct an investigation of the matter.
 - (j) In the case of an elector with a developmental disability, as described in section 9-12, as amended by this act, the legal representative of such elector may assist such elector in performing any action under this section if such legal representative submits to the registrar of voters or an election official appointed by such registrar under this section, as the case may be, information sufficient to prove such a relationship with such elector.
- [(j)] (k) No person shall (1) solicit [in] on behalf of or in opposition to

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the candidacy of another or himself or herself or [in] on 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 any 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 any such location or in any room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach, or (2) possess a firearm within a radius of two hundred feet of any such outside entrance or in any such corridor, passageway or other approach or in any such room, except in the case of a firearm located in a residence or parked motor vehicle situated within such radius or in the case of a uniformed on-duty police officer.

(l) The Secretary of the State shall develop a process by which registrars of voters and other elections officials serving at designated election day registration locations shall confirm that persons applying to register on election day under this section, which persons are registered to vote in any other state, have not already voted in such other state on such election day. For any such person, such registrars or election officials shall provide to such person a provisional ballot until such process has been developed."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Sec. 501	from passage	9-19 j