



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Committee Bill No. 6045

LCO No. 3794



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTION DAY AND PRIMARY DAY
REGISTRATION.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-19j of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) As used in [this subsection and subsections (b) to (i), inclusive,
4 of] this section, "election day" means the day on which a regular
5 election, as defined in section 9-1, is held, "primary day" means the day
6 on which a primary, as defined in section 9-372 or 9-463, as applicable,
7 is held, "election day registration" means admission as an elector on
8 election day and "primary day registration" means both admission as
9 an elector and enrollment in a political party holding a primary on
10 primary day.

11 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person who (1)
12 is (A) not an elector, or (B) an elector registered in a municipality who
13 wishes to change his or her registration to another municipality
14 pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this

15 section, and (2) meets the eligibility requirements under subsection (a)
16 of section 9-12, may apply for admission as an elector on election day,
17 or for both admission as an elector and enrollment in a political party
18 holding a primary on primary day, pursuant to the provisions of
19 [subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of] this section.

20 (c) (1) The registrars of voters shall designate a location for the
21 completion and processing of election day registration applications on
22 election day and primary day registration applications on primary
23 day, provided the registrars of voters have access to the state-wide
24 centralized voter registration system from such location.

25 (2) The registrars of voters may appoint one or more election
26 officials or primary officials, as applicable, to serve at such location
27 and may delegate to such election or primary officials any of the
28 responsibilities assigned to the registrars of voters. The registrars of
29 voters shall supervise such election or primary officials and train such
30 election or primary officials to be election day registration election
31 officials or primary day registration primary officials.

32 (d) Any person applying [to register] for admission as an elector on
33 election day, or for both admission as an elector and enrollment in a
34 political party holding a primary on primary day, under the provisions
35 [of subsections (a) to (i), inclusive,] of this section shall make
36 application in accordance with [the provisions of] section 9-20,
37 provided (1) on election day or primary day, the applicant shall appear
38 in person not later than eight o'clock p.m., in accordance with
39 subsection (b) of section 9-174, as amended by this act, or section 9-438,
40 as amended by this act, as applicable, at the location designated by the
41 registrars of voters for election day registration or primary day
42 registration, (2) an applicant who is a student enrolled at an institution
43 of higher education may submit a current photo identification card
44 issued by [said] such institution in lieu of the identification required by
45 section 9-20, and (3) the applicant shall declare under oath that the
46 applicant has not previously voted in [the] any election or primary

47 held that day. If the information that the applicant is required to
48 provide under section 9-20 and [subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of] this
49 section does not include proof of the applicant's residential address,
50 the applicant shall also submit identification that shows the applicant's
51 bona fide residence address, including, but not limited to, a learner's
52 permit issued under section 14-36 or a utility bill that has the
53 applicant's name and current address and that has a due date that is
54 not later than thirty days after the election or primary, as applicable,
55 or, in the case of a student enrolled at an institution of higher
56 education, a registration or fee statement from such institution that has
57 the applicant's name and current address.

58 (e) If the registrars of voters determine that an applicant satisfies the
59 application requirements set forth in subsection (d) of this section, the
60 registrars of voters shall check the state-wide centralized voter
61 registration system before admitting such applicant as an elector on
62 election day, or before both admitting such applicant as an elector and
63 enrolling such applicant in a political party holding a primary on
64 primary day.

65 (1) If the registrars of voters determine that the applicant is not
66 already an elector, the registrars of voters shall admit the applicant as
67 an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately. On
68 primary day, the registrars of voters shall also enroll the applicant in
69 the political party holding a primary of such applicant's preference and
70 the privileges of party enrollment shall attach immediately.

71 (2) If the registrars of voters determine that such applicant is an
72 elector in another municipality and such applicant states that he or she
73 wants to change the municipality in which the applicant is an elector,
74 notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-21, the registrars of voters
75 of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register shall
76 immediately notify the registrars of voters in such other municipality
77 that such elector is changing the municipality in which the applicant is
78 an elector. The registrars of voters in such other municipality shall

79 notify the election officials in such municipality to remove such elector
80 from the official voter list and, if applicable, any enrollment list of such
81 municipality. Such election officials shall cross through the elector's
82 name on such official voter list and, if applicable, enrollment list and
83 mark "off" next to such elector's name on such official voter list and, if
84 applicable, enrollment list.

85 (A) If it is reported that such applicant already voted in such other
86 municipality, the registrars of voters of such other municipality shall
87 immediately notify the registrars of voters of the municipality in which
88 such elector now seeks to register. In such event, such elector shall not
89 receive an election day registration ballot or a primary day registration
90 ballot, as applicable, from the registrars of voters of the municipality in
91 which such elector now seeks to register. For any such elector, the
92 election day registration or primary day registration process shall
93 cease in the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register
94 and such matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters in the
95 municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. After
96 completion of such review, if a resolution of the matter [can not]
97 cannot be made, such matter shall be reported to the State Elections
98 Enforcement Commission which shall conduct an investigation of the
99 matter.

100 (B) If there is no such report that such applicant already voted in the
101 other municipality, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which
102 the applicant seeks to register shall admit the applicant as an elector
103 and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately. On primary
104 day, the registrars of voters shall also enroll the applicant in the
105 political party holding a primary of such applicant's preference and the
106 privileges of party enrollment shall attach immediately.

107 (f) If the applicant is admitted as an elector on election day, or both
108 admitted as an elector and enrolled in a political party holding a
109 primary on primary day, the registrars of voters shall provide the
110 elector with an election day registration or primary day registration

111 ballot and [election day registration] envelope and shall make a record
112 of such issuance. The elector shall complete an affirmation imprinted
113 upon the back of the envelope for an election day registration or
114 primary day registration ballot and shall declare under oath that the
115 applicant has not previously voted in [the] any election or primary
116 held that day. The affirmation shall be in the form substantially as
117 follows and signed by the voter:

118 AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty
119 of false statement, (perjury) that:

120 1. I am the person admitted here as an elector in the town indicated.

121 2. I am eligible to vote in the election or primary indicated for today
122 in the town indicated.

123 3. The information on my voter registration card is correct and
124 complete.

125 4. I reside at the address that I have given to the registrars of voters.

126 5. If previously registered at another location, I have provided such
127 address to the registrars of voters and hereby request cancellation of
128 such prior registration.

129 6. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not
130 vote otherwise than by this ballot at this election or primary.

131 7. I completed an application for an election day registration or
132 primary day registration ballot and received an election day
133 registration or primary day registration ballot.

134 (Signature of voter)

135 (g) The elector shall forthwith mark the election day registration or
136 primary day registration ballot in the presence of the registrars of
137 voters in such a manner that the registrars of voters shall not know
138 how [the election day registration] such ballot is marked. The elector

139 shall place [the election day registration] such ballot in the election day
140 registration or primary day registration ballot envelope provided, and
141 deposit such envelope in a secured election day registration or primary
142 day registration ballot depository receptacle. At the time designated by
143 the registrars of voters and noticed to election officials, the registrars of
144 voters shall transport such receptacle containing [the election day
145 registration] such ballots to the central location or polling place,
146 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, where absentee ballots are
147 counted and such election day registration or primary day registration
148 ballots shall be counted by the election or primary officials present at
149 such central location or polling place. A section of the head
150 moderator's return shall show the number of election day registration
151 or primary day registration ballots received from electors. The
152 registrars of voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for [election day
153 registration] such ballots in a depository envelope with [the election
154 day registration] such ballots and store such [election day registration]
155 depository envelope with the other election or primary results
156 materials. [The] Each election day registration or primary day
157 registration depository envelope shall be preserved by the registrars of
158 voters for the period of time required to preserve counted ballots for
159 elections or primaries, as applicable.

160 (h) The provisions of the general statutes and regulations
161 concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of
162 absentee ballots shall apply as nearly as possible, to the custody,
163 control and counting of election day registration and primary day
164 registration ballots under [subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of] this
165 section.

166 (i) After the acceptance of an election day registration or a primary
167 day registration, the registrars of voters shall forthwith send a
168 registration confirmation notice to the residential address of each
169 applicant who is admitted as an elector on election day, or both
170 admitted as an elector and enrolled in a political party holding a
171 primary on primary day, as applicable, under [subsections (a) to (i),

172 inclusive, of] this section. Such confirmation shall be sent by first class
173 mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not
174 deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. If a confirmation
175 notice is returned undelivered, the registrars shall forthwith take the
176 necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43, as applicable,
177 notwithstanding the May first deadline in section 9-35.

178 (j) No person shall solicit in behalf of or in opposition to the
179 candidacy of another or himself or herself or in behalf of or in
180 opposition to any question being submitted at the election, or loiter or
181 peddle or offer any advertising matter, ballot or circular to another
182 person within a radius of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in
183 use as an entry to the registrars' of voters designated location for
184 election day registration or primary day registration balloting or in any
185 corridor, passageway or other approach leading from any such outside
186 entrance to such registrars' of voters designated location or in any
187 room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach.

188 Sec. 2. Section 9-174 of the general statutes is repealed and the
189 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

190 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general statute, special
191 act or municipal charter to the contrary, at any regular election, or at
192 any special election held to fill a vacancy in a state, district or
193 municipal office, the polls shall remain open for voting from six o'clock
194 a.m. until eight o'clock p.m. No elector shall be permitted to cast his
195 vote after the hour prescribed for the closing of the polls in any
196 election unless such elector is in line at eight o'clock p.m. An election
197 official or a police official of the municipality, who is designated by the
198 moderator, shall be placed at the end of the line at eight o'clock p.m.
199 Such official shall not allow any electors who were not in such line at
200 eight o'clock p.m. to enter such line.

201 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general statute, special
202 act or municipal charter to the contrary, at any regular election, the
203 location designated for election day registration, as defined in section

204 9-19j, as amended by this act, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection
205 (c) of said section, shall remain open for election day registration and
206 voting from six o'clock a.m. until eight o'clock p.m. No applicant for
207 election day registration shall be admitted as an elector or permitted to
208 cast such applicant's vote after the hour prescribed for the closing of
209 the location designated for such purposes in any regular election
210 unless such applicant is in line at eight o'clock p.m. An election official
211 or a police official of the municipality, who is appointed by the
212 registrars of voters, shall be placed at the end of the line at eight o'clock
213 p.m. Such official shall not allow any applicants for election day
214 registration who were not in such line at eight o'clock p.m. to enter
215 such line.

216 Sec. 3. Section 9-438 of the general statutes is repealed and the
217 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

218 In each municipality or voting district, the polling places for
219 primaries held under sections 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, shall be the
220 same as those used for the election to be held. When unaffiliated
221 electors are authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary of
222 either of two parties, both parties shall hold their primaries in the same
223 room of each such polling place. On the day of the primary, (1) the
224 polls shall remain open for voting from six o'clock a.m. until eight
225 o'clock p.m., and (2) the location designated for primary day
226 registration, as defined in section 9-19j, as amended by this act,
227 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of said section, shall
228 remain open for primary day registration and voting from six o'clock
229 a.m. until eight o'clock p.m.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-19j
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	9-174
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	9-438

Statement of Purpose:

To permit applicants in line for election day registration prior to eight o'clock p.m. to be admitted as electors and cast a vote in a regular election, as well as apply to primaries the procedures at regular elections for elector registration, party enrollment and voting.

[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: REP. DOUCETTE, 13th Dist.; SEN. CASSANO, 4th Dist.

H.B. 6045