

## Substitute Bill No. 1096

January Session, 2019

## AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL CHANGES TO ELECTION LAWS.

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

Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 9-140b of the general statutes is
 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

(c) [For purposes of] <u>As used in</u> this section, "mailed" means sent by
the United States Postal Service or any commercial carrier, courier or
messenger service recognized and approved by the Secretary of the
State.

8 Sec. 2. Section 9-150c of the general statutes is repealed and the 9 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

10 An applicant who applies for an absentee ballot because of 11 unforeseen illness or physical disability occurring within six days 12 immediately preceding the close of the polls at an election, primary or 13 referendum or because the applicant is a patient in a hospital within 14 such six-day period, may appoint a designee, as defined in subsection 15 (b) of section 9-140b, to deliver the ballot to him, by stating on the 16 application, in a space provided for that purpose, (1) the date of 17 occurrence of the illness or disability or the name and address of the 18 hospital in which the applicant is a patient within such six-day period,

19 (2) the name, address and category under said subsection, of the 20 person so designated, and (3) the delivery which the person is 21 designated to perform, provided the person so designated shall also 22 sign a statement on the application to the effect that he consents to the 23 designation and will perform the delivery without tampering with the 24 ballot in any way. If the application designates a person to deliver the 25 ballot to the applicant, that person shall personally submit the 26 application to the municipal clerk. If such application is submitted to 27 the clerk in person, within six days immediately preceding the close of 28 the polls at an election or primary, by a person designated on the 29 application to deliver the absentee ballot to the applicant as provided 30 in this section and in subsection (b) of [said] section 9-140b, and if the 31 application is dated within such time, the clerk shall give that person 32 the absentee voting set.

33 Sec. 3. Section 9-264 of the general statutes is repealed and the 34 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

35 An elector who requires assistance to vote, by reason of blindness, 36 disability or inability to write or to read the ballot, may be given 37 assistance by a person of the elector's choice, other than (1) the elector's 38 employer, (2) an agent of such employer, (3) an officer or agent of the 39 elector's union, or (4) a candidate for any office on the ballot, unless the 40 elector is a member of the immediate family of such candidate. The 41 person assisting the elector may accompany the elector into the voting 42 booth. Such person shall register such elector's vote upon the ballot as 43 such elector directs. Any person accompanying an elector into the 44 voting booth who deceives any elector in registering the elector's vote 45 under this section or seeks to influence any elector while in the act of 46 voting, or who registers any vote for any elector or on any question 47 other than as requested by such elector, or who gives information to 48 any person as to what person or persons such elector voted for, or how 49 such elector voted on any question, shall be guilty of a class D felony. 50 As used in this section, "immediate family" [means "immediate family" 51 as defined] has the same meaning as provided in section 9-140b, as 52 <u>amended by this act</u>.

53 Sec. 4. Section 9-364a of the general statutes is repealed and the 54 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

55 Any person who influences or attempts to influence by force or 56 threat the vote, or by force, threat, bribery or corrupt means, the 57 speech, of any person in a primary, caucus, referendum, convention or election; or wilfully and fraudulently suppresses or destroys any vote 58 59 or ballot properly given or cast or, in counting such votes or ballots, 60 wilfully miscounts or misrepresents the number thereof; and any 61 presiding or other officer of a primary, caucus or convention who 62 wilfully announces the result of a ballot or vote of such primary, 63 caucus or convention, untruly and wrongfully, shall be guilty of a class 64 C felony.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2019	9-140b(c)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2019	9-150c
Sec. 3	October 1, 2019	9-264
Sec. 4	October 1, 2019	9-364a

## Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 3, ", as amended by this act" was added for accuracy.

GAE Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO