



General Assembly

Bill No. 298

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 2203



Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

REP. RITTER, 1st Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.

REP. ROJAS, 9th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REALLOCATION OF CERTAIN STATE FUNDS AND VARIOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO EDUCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, GENERAL GOVERNMENT, ELECTIONS, INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES AND WAREHOUSE DISTRIBUTION CENTERS.

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

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The amounts appropriated to the
- 2 following agencies in section 1 of public act 25-168 are reduced by the
- 3 following amounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026:

T1	GENERAL FUND	2025-2026
T2		
T3	DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	
T4	Temporary Family Assistance - TANF	3,400,000
T5		
T6	TOTAL - GENERAL FUND	3,400,000

- 4 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of \$1,700,000 is appropriated to

5 the Labor Department, for Personal Services, for the fiscal year ending
6 June 30, 2026, for the purpose of (1) offsetting declining federal funds
7 that support unemployment compensation program personnel costs,
8 and (2) supporting the integration of information technology solutions
9 in such program to improve service for individuals applying for
10 benefits.

11 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of \$1,700,000 is appropriated to
12 the Department of Education, for Adult Education, from the General
13 Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

14 Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) The unexpended balance of funds
15 appropriated to the Department of Education, for Adult Education, in
16 section 3 of this act, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not
17 lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be made available for the fiscal year
18 ending June 30, 2027, for the same purpose.

19 Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The sum of \$174,000 of the amount
20 appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168 to the Department of
21 Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
22 shall be transferred to the Department of Economic and Community
23 Development, for Other Expenses, and made available for a grant-in-aid
24 to New London VFW.

25 (b) The Department of Education and the Department of Economic
26 and Community Development shall enter into a memorandum of
27 understanding to effectuate the purpose of subsection (a) of this section.

28 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of \$70,000 of the amount
29 appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168 to the Judicial Department,
30 for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall be
31 made available for a grant to the Village Initiative Project.

32 Sec. 7. (*Effective from passage*) From the amount appropriated in
33 section 1 of public act 25-168 to the Office of Policy and Management,
34 for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, not more

35 than \$2,500,000 shall be made available for outdoor recreation in the city
36 of Hartford.

37 Sec. 8. Section 140 of public act 25-168 is repealed and the following
38 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

39 (a) As used in this section, (1) "neuromodulation" means the
40 alteration of nerve activity through targeted delivery of a stimulus,
41 including, but not limited to, electrical stimulation or chemical agents,
42 to specific neurological sites in the body, and (2) "hospital" has the same
43 meaning as provided in section 19a-490 of the general statutes.

44 (b) The University of Connecticut Health Center shall establish a
45 Center of Excellence for Neuromodulation Treatments. The health
46 center may collaborate with a hospital in the state to conduct
47 neuromodulation research and provide neuromodulation treatments to
48 [patients] disabled veterans at the Center of Excellence for
49 Neuromodulation Treatments.

50 Sec. 9. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of \$1,500,000 of the amount
51 appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168 to the Department of Social
52 Services, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
53 and the sum of \$1,000,000 of such amount appropriated for the fiscal
54 year ending June 20, 2027, shall be made available in said fiscal years for
55 grants to school districts in Newington, Wethersfield, Cromwell, Rocky
56 Hill and Middletown for the support or establishment of high acuity,
57 school-based mental health programming. For purposes of this section,
58 (1) "high acuity, school-based mental health programming" means
59 programming offered by a qualified provider that includes (A) clinical
60 care to prevent the need for out-of-district placements for students with
61 intensive behavioral health challenges or return such students from
62 such placements to their home districts, (B) in-person therapeutic
63 services provided in a designated school space by mental health
64 clinicians who have attained at least a master's degree in a related
65 mental health education program, and (C) therapeutic support

66 capabilities, including, but not limited to, regular clinical supervision,
67 quality and risk management data analysis and monitoring and specific
68 interventions meant to reduce chronic student absenteeism; and (2)
69 "qualified provider" means a provider of high acuity, school-based
70 mental health programming that is designated as an outpatient
71 psychiatric clinic for children by the Department of Children and
72 Families and certified or contracted to bill Medicaid or commercial
73 insurance in the state.

74 Sec. 10. Section 122 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following
75 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

76 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-285a of the general
77 statutes, or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or
78 the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said section
79 concerning the reimbursement percentage that a local board of
80 education may be eligible to receive for a school building project, the
81 town of Windham may use the reimbursement rate of ninety-five per
82 cent for the renovation project at Windham High School (Project
83 Number 163-0079 RNV). [provided (1) the school district for the town
84 of Windham is an educational reform district, as defined in section 10-
85 262u of the general statutes, on the effective date of this section, and (2)
86 the date of beginning of construction, as defined in section 10-282 of the
87 general statutes, is not later than one year after the effective date of this
88 section.]

89 Sec. 11. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of \$330,000 of the amount
90 appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168 to the Department of
91 Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the
92 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall be made available in said fiscal
93 year to provide a grant to Our Piece of the Pie.

94 Sec. 12. Subsection (UU) of section 36 of public act 25-168 is repealed
95 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

96 (UU) The sum of \$750,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of

97 [this act] public act 25-168 to the Department of Education, for Other
98 Expenses, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027,
99 shall be made available in each of said fiscal years for a teacher residency
100 program that is operated by Capitol Region Education Council.

101 Sec. 13. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of \$200,000 of the amount
102 appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168 to the Department of
103 Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
104 and made available to provide a grant to Free Agent Now, shall not
105 lapse on June 30, 2026, and such funds shall be carried forward and
106 made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for the same
107 purpose.

108 Sec. 14. Section 169 of public act 25-174 is repealed and the following
109 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

110 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-283 of the general
111 statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or
112 the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said section
113 concerning ineligible costs, [and section 10-286g of the general statutes
114 concerning the waiver of audit deficiencies,] the town of Fairfield shall
115 be eligible to receive reimbursement for certain ineligible costs [and
116 audit deficiencies] associated with the extension and alteration project
117 at Mill Hill Elementary School (Project Number [093-0367] 051-0149 EA),
118 provided such reimbursement for such ineligible costs [and audit
119 deficiencies do] does not exceed six hundred thousand dollars.

120 Sec. 15. Section 156 of public act 25-174 is repealed and the following
121 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

122 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-283 of the general
123 statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or
124 the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said section
125 requiring a completed grant application be submitted prior to June 30,
126 2024, for any school building project that was previously authorized and
127 that has changed substantially in scope or cost and is seeking

128 reauthorization, the new construction project at the [New] Roxbury
129 Elementary School (Project Number 23DASY135281N0623) in the town
130 of Stamford with costs not to exceed one hundred thirty million dollars
131 shall be included in subdivision (2) of section 141 of [this act] public act
132 25-174 and shall subsequently be considered for a grant commitment
133 from the state, provided the town of Stamford meets all other provisions
134 of chapter 173 of the general statutes or any regulation adopted by the
135 State Board of Education or the Department of Administrative Services
136 pursuant to said chapter and is eligible for grant assistance pursuant to
137 said chapter.

138 Sec. 16. Section 174 of public act 25-174 is repealed and the following
139 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

140 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-285a of the general
141 statutes, as amended by [this act] public act 25-174, or any regulation
142 adopted by the State Board of Education or the Department of
143 Administrative Services pursuant to said section concerning the
144 reimbursement percentage that a local board of education may be
145 eligible to receive for a school building project, the town of New London
146 may use the reimbursement rate of ninety-five per cent for a cost
147 increase, not to exceed ten million dollars, approved by the
148 Commissioner of Administrative Services on or before July 1, 2025, for
149 the new construction project at [East End Elementary] New London
150 High School (Project Number 095-0090 N).

151 Sec. 17. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of
152 section 10-283 of the general statutes or any regulation adopted by the
153 State Board of Education or the Department of Administrative Services
154 pursuant to said section concerning ineligible costs, the town of
155 Cheshire shall be eligible to receive reimbursement under chapter 173
156 of the general statutes for certain ineligible costs associated with any
157 existing or future energy or infrastructure improvement projects,
158 including, but not limited to, photovoltaic, building management
159 systems, energy conservation, heating, ventilation and air conditioning

160 systems and roof replacement projects, at any elementary, middle or
161 high school in the town that are financed through a tax-exempt lease
162 purchase agreement.

163 Sec. 18. Section 149 of public act 25-174 is repealed and the following
164 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

165 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-283 of the general
166 statutes, or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or
167 the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said section
168 requiring a completed grant application be submitted prior to June 30,
169 2024, the school building project at Middlefield Memorial School in
170 Regional District 13 with costs not to exceed seventy-six million one
171 hundred thirty thousand dollars shall be included in subdivision (1) of
172 section 141 of [this act] public act 25-174 and shall subsequently be
173 considered for a grant commitment from the state, provided Regional
174 District 13 files an application for such school building project prior to
175 October 1, 2025, and meets all other provisions of chapter 173 of the
176 general statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of
177 Education or the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to
178 said chapter and is eligible for grant assistance pursuant to said chapter.

179 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-283 of the general
180 statutes, or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or
181 the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said section
182 requiring that the description of a project type for a school building
183 project be made at the time of application for a school building project
184 grant and the provisions of subdivision (18) of section 10-282 of the
185 general statutes, or any regulation adopted by the State Board of
186 Education or the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to
187 said section 10-282 concerning the definition of renovation, Regional
188 District 13 may change the description of the school building project at
189 Middlefield Memorial School to a renovation project and subsequently
190 qualify as a renovation, as defined in subdivision (18) of said section 10-
191 282.

192 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection
193 (e) of section 10-285a of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to
194 January 1, 2025, or any regulation adopted by the State Board of
195 Education or the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to
196 said section increasing the reimbursement percentage for a school
197 building project that includes the expansion of an existing building to
198 include space for an early childhood care and education program by
199 fifteen percentage points for the portion of the building used primarily
200 for such program, the reimbursement percentage for the school building
201 project at Middlefield Memorial School in Regional District 13 shall be
202 increased by fifteen percentage points for the entire school building
203 project.

204 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-283 of the general
205 statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or
206 the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said section
207 concerning ineligible costs, Regional District 13 shall be eligible to
208 receive reimbursement for certain ineligible costs relating to the Phase 1
209 swing space used for students while the school building project at
210 Middlefield Memorial School was being completed, provided such
211 ineligible costs do not exceed two million dollars.

212 Sec. 19. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of
213 section 10-284 of the general statutes or any regulation adopted by the
214 State Board of Education or the Department of Administrative Services
215 requiring that a town or regional school district begin construction on a
216 project not later than two years after the effective date of the section of
217 the General Assembly authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative
218 Services to enter into grant commitments for such project, the town of
219 Hartford shall have until June 30, 2028, to begin construction on the (1)
220 alteration project at Expeditionary Learning Academy at Moylan School
221 (Project Number 23DASY064319A0623), (2) alteration project at
222 Parkville Community School (Project Number 23DASY064320A0623),
223 (3) alteration project at McDonough Middle School (Project Number
224 23DASY064321A0623), (4) renovation project at Montessori Magnet at

225 Batchelder (Project Number 24DASY064322RNV0624), (5) renovation
226 project at S.A.N.D. Elementary School (Project Number
227 24DASY064323RNV0624), and (6) renovation project at Maria C. Colon
228 Sanchez Elementary School (Project Number 24DASY064324RNV0624).

229 Sec. 20. Section 10-5 of the general statutes is amended by adding
230 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

231 (NEW) (g) The Department of Education shall establish criteria by
232 which a local or regional board of education, or the governing board of
233 any other school that awards diplomas, may affix the Connecticut State
234 Seal of Civics Education and Engagement on a diploma awarded to a
235 student who has achieved a high level of proficiency in civics education
236 and engagement. Such criteria shall include, but need not be limited to,
237 (1) successful completion of history or social science courses for at least
238 two school years, one of which shall be a course on the United States
239 government or civics, (2) participation in at least one civic engagement
240 project, such as community service, participation in student
241 government, internship with an elected official or involvement in a civic
242 organization, and (3) demonstrated proficiency in civics knowledge
243 through a standardized assessment, portfolio of work that includes
244 essays, projects or presentations related to civics or other mastery-based
245 assessment or process.

246 Sec. 21. Section 10-221a of the general statutes is amended by adding
247 subsection (m) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

248 (NEW) (m) Commencing with classes graduating in 2027, and for
249 each graduating class thereafter, a local or regional board of education
250 may affix the Connecticut State Seal of Civics Education and
251 Engagement, as described in subsection (g) of section 10-5, as amended
252 by this act, to a diploma awarded to a student who has achieved a high
253 level of proficiency in civics education and engagement. The local or
254 regional board of education shall include on such student's transcript a
255 designation that the student received the Connecticut State Seal of

256 Civics Education and Engagement.

257 Sec. 22. Subsection (c) of section 10-10a of the general statutes is
258 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
259 *2026*):

260 (c) The state-wide public school information system shall:

261 (1) Track and report data relating to student, teacher and school and
262 district performance growth and make such information available to
263 local and regional boards of education for use in evaluating educational
264 performance and growth of teachers and students enrolled in public
265 schools in the state. Such information shall be collected or calculated
266 based on information received from local and regional boards of
267 education and other relevant sources. Such information shall include,
268 but not be limited to:

269 (A) In addition to performance on state-wide mastery examinations
270 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, data relating to students shall
271 include, but not be limited to, (i) the primary language spoken at the
272 home of a student, (ii) student transcripts, (iii) student attendance and
273 student mobility, (iv) reliable, valid assessments of a student's readiness
274 to enter public school at the kindergarten level, [and] (v) data collected,
275 if any, from the preschool experience survey, described in section 10-
276 515, and (vi) data required pursuant to section 10-17m concerning the
277 academic progress of students in bilingual education programs;

278 (B) Data relating to teachers shall include, but not be limited to, (i)
279 teacher credentials, such as master's degrees, teacher preparation
280 programs completed and certification levels and endorsement areas, (ii)
281 teacher assessments, such as whether a teacher is deemed highly
282 qualified pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, or
283 deemed to meet such other designations as may be established by
284 federal law or regulations for the purposes of tracking the equitable
285 distribution of instructional staff, (iii) the presence of substitute teachers
286 in a teacher's classroom, (iv) class size, (v) numbers relating to

287 absenteeism in a teacher's classroom, and (vi) the presence of a teacher's
288 aide. The department shall assign a unique teacher identifier to each
289 teacher prior to collecting such data in the public school information
290 system;

291 (C) Data relating to schools and districts shall include, but not be
292 limited to, (i) school population, (ii) annual student graduation rates,
293 (iii) annual teacher retention rates, (iv) school disciplinary records, such
294 as data relating to suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary
295 actions, (v) the percentage of students whose primary language is not
296 English, (vi) the number of and professional credentials of support
297 personnel, (vii) information relating to instructional technology, such as
298 access to computers, [and] (viii) disaggregated measures of school-
299 based arrests pursuant to section 10-233n, and (ix) the measures and
300 data required pursuant to section 10-17g for the evaluation of bilingual
301 education programs.

302 (2) Collect data relating to student enrollment in and graduation from
303 institutions of higher education for any student who had been assigned
304 a unique student identifier pursuant to subsection (b) of this section,
305 provided such data is available.

306 (3) Develop means for access to and data sharing with the data
307 systems of public institutions of higher education in the state.

308 Sec. 23. Subsection (a) of section 10-17o of the general statutes is
309 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
310 *2026*):

311 (a) The State Board of Education shall draft a written bill of rights for
312 parents or guardians of students who are multilingual learners to
313 guarantee that the rights of such parents and students are adequately
314 safeguarded and protected in the provision of bilingual education under
315 chapter 164. Such bill of rights shall include, but need not be limited to,
316 the following declarations:

317 (1) The right of a multilingual learner student to attend a public
318 school in the state regardless of such student's immigration status or the
319 immigration status of such student's parent or guardian;

320 (2) The right of a parent or guardian of a multilingual learner student
321 to enroll such student in a public school without being required to
322 submit immigration documentation, including, but not limited to, a
323 Social Security number, visa documentation or proof of citizenship;

324 (3) The right of a multilingual learner student to have translation
325 services provided (A) by an interpreter who is present in person or
326 available by telephone or through an online technology platform, or (B)
327 through an Internet web site or other electronic application approved
328 by the State Board of Education, during critical interactions with
329 teachers and administrators, including, but not limited to, parent-
330 teacher conferences, meetings with administrators of the school in
331 which such student is attending, and at properly noticed regular or
332 special meetings of the board of education or scheduled meetings with
333 a member or members of the board of education responsible for
334 educating such student, in accordance with section 10-218b;

335 (4) The right of a multilingual learner student to participate in a
336 program of bilingual education offered by the local or regional board of
337 education when there are twenty or more eligible students classified as
338 dominant in a language, other than English, as such student, in
339 accordance with the provisions of section 10-17f;

340 (5) The right of a parent or guardian of a multilingual learner student
341 to receive written notice, in both English and the dominant language of
342 such parent or guardian, that such student is eligible to participate in a
343 program of bilingual education or English as a new language program
344 offered by the local or regional board of education;

345 (6) The right of a multilingual learner student and the parent or
346 guardian of such student to receive a high-quality orientation session,
347 in the dominant language of such student and parent or guardian, from

348 the local or regional board of education that provides information
349 relating to state standards, tests and expectations at the school for
350 multilingual learner students, as well as the goals and requirements for
351 programs of bilingual education and English as a new language, prior
352 to participation in such program of bilingual education or English as a
353 new language;

354 (7) The right of the parent or guardian of a multilingual learner
355 student to receive information about the progress of such student's
356 English language development and acquisition;

357 (8) The right of a multilingual learner student and the parent or
358 guardian of such student to meet with school personnel to discuss such
359 student's English language development and acquisition;

360 (9) The right of a multilingual learner student to be placed in a
361 program of bilingual education or English as a new language, if offered
362 by the local or regional board of education;

363 (10) The right of a multilingual learner student to have equal access
364 to all grade-level school programming;

365 (11) The right of a multilingual learner student to have equal access
366 to all core grade-level subject matter;

367 (12) The right of a multilingual learner student to receive annual
368 language proficiency testing;

369 (13) The right of a multilingual learner student to receive support
370 services aligned with any intervention plan that the school or school
371 district provides to all students;

372 (14) The right of a multilingual learner student to be continuously
373 and annually enrolled in a program of bilingual education or English as
374 a new language while such student remains an eligible student, as
375 defined in section 10-17e; [and]

376 (15) The right of a parent or guardian of a multilingual learner
377 student to contact the Department of Education with any questions or
378 concerns regarding such student's right to receive multilingual learner
379 services or accommodations available to such student or parent or
380 guardian, including information regarding any recourse for failure of
381 the board of education to provide or ensure such services or
382 accommodations; and

383 (16) The right of a multilingual learner student and a parent or
384 guardian of a multilingual learner student to access publicly available
385 data related to the academic progress of students in bilingual education
386 programs and the quality of bilingual education programs on the state-
387 wide public school information system implemented pursuant to
388 section 10-10a, as amended by this act.

389 Sec. 24. Subsection (d) of section 10-16b of the general statutes is
390 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
391 *2026*):

392 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum
393 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional
394 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to
395 this section. The State Board of Education, within available
396 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist
397 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)
398 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical
399 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American
400 and black studies; (4) Puerto Rican and Latino studies; (5) Native
401 American studies; (6) Asian American and Pacific Islander studies; (7)
402 personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial
403 literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (8)
404 training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic
405 external defibrillators; (9) labor history and law, including organized
406 labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the
407 workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and

408 entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the
409 development of the American and world economies; (10) climate change
410 consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (11) topics
411 approved by the state board upon the request of local or regional boards
412 of education as part of the program of instruction offered pursuant to
413 subsection (a) of this section; [and] (12) instruction relating to the Safe
414 Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive; and (13) Islamic and
415 Arab studies. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
416 shall be available to each local and regional board of education for the
417 development of curriculum on climate change as described in this
418 subsection.

419 Sec. 25. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
420 working group to address antisemitism in public schools. The working
421 group shall develop guidance and resources to address issues relating
422 to antisemitism that affect students, families, educators and school
423 personnel. Such guidance and resources may include, but need not be
424 limited to, (1) suggested amendments to school district policies to
425 ensure that all students, educators and school personnel feel safe inside
426 and outside of the school setting, (2) recommended training relating to
427 antisemitism for educators and administrators, and (3) guidance in the
428 creation or provision of curriculum materials and resources relating to
429 antisemitism and Jewish heritage and Holocaust and genocide
430 education and awareness, pursuant to the provisions of section 10-18f
431 of the general statutes.

432 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

433 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
434 one of whom shall be a school administrator with expertise and
435 knowledge in developing and implementing curricula in public schools
436 in the state, and one of whom shall be a representative of the Jewish
437 Federation Association of Connecticut;

438 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of

439 whom shall have knowledge and national and local expertise and
440 experience in developing innovative and collaborative resources to
441 address antisemitism in elementary and secondary schools, and one of
442 whom shall be a representative of the Jewish Federation Association of
443 Connecticut;

444 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
445 Representatives, who shall be a teacher with professional knowledge
446 and proven experience in addressing and combatting antisemitism in a
447 public school in the state;

448 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall
449 have experience in teaching and school administration and expertise in
450 addressing and combatting antisemitism and teaching Jewish heritage;

451 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
452 Representatives, one of whom shall be a current or former faculty
453 member of an institution of higher education with expertise in
454 curriculum development and knowledge and proven experience in
455 addressing antisemitism and teaching Jewish heritage, and one of
456 whom shall have professional experience addressing antisemitism in
457 the state;

458 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
459 shall be a leader at an institution of higher education in the state with
460 knowledge and expertise in program development addressing
461 antisemitism curriculum, and one of whom shall have professional
462 experience addressing antisemitism in the state;

463 (7) One appointed by the Governor, who shall be a representative
464 from a national organization with expertise in the study of global
465 antisemitism and an interdisciplinary study of antisemitism;

466 (8) The executive director of the Connecticut Association of Boards of
467 Education, or the executive director's designee;

468 (9) The executive director of the Connecticut Association of Public
469 School Superintendents, or the executive director's designee;

470 (10) The president of the Connecticut Education Association, or the
471 president's designee; and

472 (11) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee.

473 (c) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
474 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
475 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

476 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
477 pro tempore of the Senate shall each select a cochairperson of the
478 working group from among the members of the working group. Such
479 cochairpersons shall jointly schedule the first meeting of the working
480 group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective
481 date of this section.

482 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
483 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
484 shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

485 (f) Not later than January 1, 2027, the working group shall submit the
486 guidance and resources developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this
487 section and any recommendations for legislation, to the joint standing
488 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
489 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
490 of the general statutes.

491 Sec. 26. Section 10-15c of the general statutes is repealed and the
492 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

493 (a) The public schools shall be open to all children five years of age
494 and over who reach age five on or before the first day of September of
495 any school year, and each such child shall have, and shall be so advised
496 by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to

497 participate in the activities, programs and courses of study offered in
498 such public schools, at such time as the child becomes eligible to
499 participate in such activities, programs and courses of study, without
500 discrimination on account of race, as defined in section 46a-51, color,
501 sex, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, sexual
502 orientation or disability; provided a child who has not reached the age
503 of five on or before the first day of September of the school year may be
504 admitted if the local or regional board of education adopts an early
505 admission policy that permits such child to be admitted (1) upon a
506 written request by the parent or guardian of such child to the principal
507 of the school in which such child would be enrolled, and (2) following
508 an assessment of such child, conducted by such principal and an
509 appropriate certified staff member of the school, to ensure that
510 admitting such child is developmentally appropriate.

511 (b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed to amend
512 other provisions of the general statutes with respect to curricula,
513 facilities or extracurricular activities.

514 Sec. 27. Section 10-15c of the general statutes, as amended by section
515 26 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
516 (*Effective July 1, 2027*):

517 (a) The public schools shall be open to all children five years of age
518 and over who reach age five on or before the first day of September of
519 any school year, and each such child shall have, and shall be so advised
520 by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to
521 participate in the activities, programs and courses of study offered in
522 such public schools, at such time as the child becomes eligible to
523 participate in such activities, programs and courses of study, without
524 discrimination on account of race, as defined in section 46a-51, color,
525 sex, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, sexual
526 orientation or disability.] provided a child who has not reached the age
527 of five on or before the first day of September of the school year may be
528 admitted if the local or regional board of education adopts an early

529 admission policy that permits such child to be admitted (1) upon a
530 written request by the parent or guardian of such child to the principal
531 of the school in which such child would be enrolled, and (2) following
532 an assessment of such child, conducted by such principal and an
533 appropriate certified staff member of the school, to ensure that
534 admitting such child is developmentally appropriate.]

535 (b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed to amend
536 other provisions of the general statutes with respect to curricula,
537 facilities or extracurricular activities.

538 Sec. 28. Section 10-226b of the general statutes is repealed and the
539 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

540 (a) Whenever the State Board of Education finds that racial imbalance
541 exists in a public school, it shall notify in writing the board of education
542 having jurisdiction over said school that such finding has been made,
543 except the State Board of Education shall not notify a board of education
544 of such finding until July 1, [2025] 2030.

545 (b) As used in sections 10-226a to 10-226e, inclusive, "racial
546 imbalance" means a condition wherein the proportion of pupils of racial
547 minorities in all of the grades of a public school of the secondary level
548 or below taken together substantially exceeds or falls substantially short
549 of the proportion of such public school pupils in all of the same grades
550 of the school district in which said school is situated taken together.

551 Sec. 29. Section 10-226c of the general statutes is repealed and the
552 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

553 (a) Any board of education receiving notification of the existence of
554 racial imbalance as specified in section 10-226b, as amended by this act,
555 shall forthwith prepare a plan to correct such imbalance and file a copy
556 of said plan with the State Board of Education, except such board of
557 education shall not be required to prepare and file said plan until July
558 1, [2025] 2030. Said plan may be limited to addressing the imbalance

559 existing at any school and need not result in a district-wide plan or
560 district-wide pupil reassignment. A school district may request an
561 extension of time in cases in which the number of students causing said
562 imbalance is fewer than five students at a school.

563 (b) Any plan submitted by the board of education of any town under
564 sections 10-226a to 10-226e, inclusive, shall include any proposed
565 changes in existing school attendance districts, the location of proposed
566 school building sites as related to the problem, any proposed additions
567 to existing school buildings and all other means proposed for the
568 correction of said racial imbalance. The plan shall include projections of
569 the expected racial composition of all public schools in the district. The
570 plan may include provision for cooperation with other school districts
571 to assist in the correction of racial imbalance.

572 Sec. 30. Section 10-226d of the general statutes is repealed and the
573 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

574 Upon receipt of any plan required under the provisions of subsection
575 (b) of section 10-226c, as amended by this act, the State Board of
576 Education shall review said plan. If it determines that the plan is
577 satisfactory, it shall approve the plan and shall provide to the board of
578 education such assistance and services as may be available. The board
579 of education shall submit annual reports on the implementation of the
580 approved plan, as the State Board of Education may require. The State
581 Board of Education shall not take action on any plan received on or after
582 July 1, 2024, until July 1, [2025] 2030.

583 Sec. 31. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2027*) For the fiscal year ending
584 June 30, 2028, and each fiscal year thereafter, during the preparation of
585 the itemized estimate of the cost of maintenance of public schools for the
586 ensuing year pursuant to section 10-222 of the general statutes, as
587 amended by this act, the superintendent of schools shall provide the
588 members of the local board of education the original amount and actual
589 amount of each line item for the two fiscal years immediately preceding

590 the fiscal year in which such itemized estimate is being prepared and
591 the original amount and current amount of each line item for the fiscal
592 year in which such itemized estimate is being prepared. As used in this
593 section, "itemized estimate" means an estimate in which broad
594 budgetary categories including, but not limited to, salaries, fringe
595 benefits, utilities, supplies and grounds maintenance are divided into
596 one or more line items, "original amount" means the amount of a line
597 item that was appropriated to such line item at the start of the fiscal year,
598 and "actual amount" means the amount of a line item at the conclusion
599 of the fiscal year.

600 Sec. 32. Section 10-222 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
601 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
602 *1, 2026*):

603 Each local board of education shall prepare an itemized estimate of
604 the cost of maintenance of public schools for the ensuing year and shall
605 submit such estimate to the board of finance in each town or city having
606 a board of finance, to the board of selectmen in each town having no
607 board of finance or otherwise to the authority making appropriations
608 for the school district, not later than two months preceding the annual
609 meeting at which appropriations are to be made. Such estimate shall
610 include the original amount and actual amount of each line item for the
611 two fiscal years immediately preceding the fiscal year in which such
612 estimate is being prepared and the original amount and current amount
613 of each line item for the fiscal year in which such estimate is being
614 prepared. The board or authority that receives such estimate shall, not
615 later than ten days after the date the board of education submits such
616 estimate, make spending recommendations and suggestions to such
617 board of education as to how such board of education may consolidate
618 noneducational services and realize financial efficiencies. Such board of
619 education may accept or reject the suggestions of the board of finance,
620 board of selectmen or appropriating authority and shall provide the
621 board of finance, board of selectmen or appropriating authority with a
622 written explanation of the reason for any rejection. The money

623 appropriated by any municipality for the maintenance of public schools
624 shall be expended by and in the discretion of the board of education.
625 Except as provided in this subsection, any such board may transfer any
626 unexpended or uncontracted-for portion of any appropriation for
627 school purposes to any other item of such itemized estimate. Boards
628 may, by adopting policies and procedures, authorize designated
629 personnel to make limited transfers under emergency circumstances if
630 the urgent need for the transfer prevents the board from meeting in a
631 timely fashion to consider such transfer. All transfers made in such
632 instances shall be announced at the next regularly scheduled meeting of
633 the board and a written explanation of such transfer shall be provided
634 to the legislative body of the municipality or, in a municipality where
635 the legislative body is a town meeting, to the board of selectmen.
636 Expenditures by the board of education shall not exceed the
637 appropriation made by the municipality, with such money as may be
638 received from other sources for school purposes. If any occasion arises
639 whereby additional funds are needed by such board, the chairman of
640 such board shall notify the board of finance, board of selectmen or
641 appropriating authority, as the case may be, and shall submit a request
642 for additional funds in the same manner as is provided for departments,
643 boards or agencies of the municipality and no additional funds shall be
644 expended unless such supplemental appropriation shall be granted and
645 no supplemental expenditures shall be made in excess of those granted
646 through the appropriating authority. The annual report of the board of
647 education shall, in accordance with section 10-224, include a summary
648 showing (1) the total cost of the maintenance of schools, (2) the amount
649 received from the state and other sources for the maintenance of schools,
650 (3) the net cost to the municipality of the maintenance of schools, and
651 (4) the balance of any nonlapsing, unexpended funds account described
652 in section 10-248a. For purposes of this [subsection] section, "meeting"
653 means a meeting, as defined in section 1-200, [and] "itemized estimate"
654 means an estimate in which broad budgetary categories including, but
655 not limited to, salaries, fringe benefits, utilities, supplies and grounds
656 maintenance are divided into one or more line items, "original amount"

657 means the amount of a line item that was appropriated to such line item
658 at the start of the fiscal year, and "actual amount" means the amount of
659 a line item at the conclusion of the fiscal year.

660 Sec. 33. Subsection (a) of section 10-51 of the 2026 supplement to the
661 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
662 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

663 (a) The fiscal year of a regional school district shall be July first to June
664 thirtieth. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, not less than
665 two weeks before the annual meeting held pursuant to section 10-47, the
666 board shall hold a public district meeting to present a proposed budget
667 for the next fiscal year. Any public district meeting held pursuant to this
668 section may be accessible to the public by means of electronic equipment
669 or by means of electronic equipment in conjunction with an in-person
670 meeting, in accordance with the provisions of section 1-225a. Such
671 proposed budget shall include the original amount and actual amount
672 of each line item in the budget for the two fiscal years immediately
673 preceding the fiscal year in which such proposed budget is being
674 presented and the original amount and current amount of each line item
675 for the budget of the fiscal year in which such proposed budget is being
676 presented. Any person may recommend the inclusion or deletion of
677 expenditures at such time. After the public hearing, the board shall
678 prepare an annual budget for the next fiscal year, make available on
679 request copies thereof and deliver a reasonable number to the town
680 clerk of each of the towns in the district at least five days before the
681 annual meeting. At the annual meeting on the first Monday in May, the
682 board shall present a budget which includes a statement of (1) estimated
683 receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal year, (2) estimated receipts
684 and expenditures for the current fiscal year, (3) estimated surplus or
685 deficit in operating funds at the end of the current fiscal year, (4) bonded
686 or other debt, (5) estimated per pupil expenditure for the current and
687 for the next fiscal year, (6) the original amount and actual amount of
688 each line item in the budget for the two fiscal years immediately
689 preceding the fiscal year in which such budget is being presented and

690 the original amount and current amount of each line item for the budget
691 of the fiscal year in which such budget is being presented, and [(6)] (7)
692 such other information as is necessary in the opinion of the board.
693 Persons present and eligible to vote under section 7-6 may accept or
694 reject the proposed budget except as provided below. No person who is
695 eligible to vote in more than one town in the regional school district is
696 eligible to cast more than one vote on any issue considered at a regional
697 school district meeting or referendum held pursuant to this section. Any
698 person who violates this section by fraudulently casting more than one
699 vote or ballot per issue shall be fined not more than three thousand five
700 hundred dollars and shall be imprisoned not more than two years and
701 shall be disenfranchised. The regional board of education may, in the
702 call to the meeting, designate that the vote on the motion to adopt the
703 budget shall be by paper ballots at the district meeting held on the
704 budget or by a "yes" or "no" vote on the voting tabulators in each of the
705 member towns on the day following the district meeting. If submitted
706 to a vote by voting tabulator, questions may be included on the ballot
707 for persons voting "no" to indicate whether the budget is too high or too
708 low, provided the vote on such questions shall be for advisory purposes
709 only and not binding upon the board. Two hundred or more persons
710 qualified to vote in any regional district meeting called to adopt a
711 budget may petition the regional board, in writing, at least three days
712 prior to such meeting, requesting that any item or items on the call of
713 such meeting be submitted to the persons qualified to vote in the
714 meeting for a vote by paper ballot or on the voting tabulators in each of
715 the member towns on the day following the district meeting and in
716 accordance with the appropriate procedures provided in section 7-7. If
717 a majority of such persons voting reject the budget, the board shall,
718 within four weeks thereafter and upon notice of not less than one week,
719 call a district meeting to consider the same or an amended budget. Such
720 meetings shall be convened at such intervals until a budget is approved.
721 If the budget is not approved before the beginning of a fiscal year, the
722 disbursing officer for each member town, or the designee of such officer,
723 shall make necessary expenditures to such district in amounts equal to

724 the total of the town's appropriation to the district for the previous year
725 and the town's proportionate share in any increment in debt service over
726 the previous fiscal year, pursuant to section 7-405 until the budget is
727 approved. The town shall receive credit for such expenditures once the
728 budget is approved for the fiscal year. After the budget is approved, the
729 board shall estimate the share of the net expenses to be paid by each
730 member town in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and
731 notify the treasurer thereof. With respect to adoption of a budget for the
732 period from the organization of the board to the beginning of the first
733 full fiscal year, the board may use the above procedure at any time
734 within such period. If the board needs to submit a supplementary
735 budget, the general procedure specified in this section shall be used. As
736 used in this section, "original amount" and "actual amount" have the
737 same meanings as provided in section 10-222, as amended by this act.

738 Sec. 34. Section 10-233m of the general statutes is repealed and the
739 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

740 Each local or regional board of education that assigns a school
741 resource officer to any school under the jurisdiction of such board shall
742 enter into a memorandum of understanding with a local law
743 enforcement agency regarding the role and responsibility of such school
744 resource officer. [Such] Not later than January 1, 2027, such
745 memorandum of understanding shall (1) be maintained in a central
746 location in the school district and posted on the Internet web site of the
747 school district and each school in which such school resource officer is
748 assigned, (2) include provisions addressing daily interactions between
749 students and school personnel with school resource officers, and (3)
750 include a graduated response model for student discipline. Any such
751 memorandum of understanding entered into, extended, updated or
752 amended (A) on or after July 1, 2021, shall include a provision that
753 requires all school resource officers to complete, while in the
754 performance of their duties as school resource officers and during
755 periods when such school resource officers are assigned to be at the
756 school, any separate training specifically related to social-emotional

757 learning and restorative practices provided to certified employees of the
758 school pursuant to section 10-148a, and (B) on or after July 1, 2023, shall
759 include provisions specifying a school resource officer's duties
760 concerning, and procedures for, the restraint of students, use of
761 firearms, school-based arrests and reporting of any investigations and
762 behavioral interventions of challenging behavior or conflict that
763 escalates to violence or constitutes a crime, pursuant to the provisions
764 of section 10-233p, provided such provisions are in accordance with any
765 laws or policies concerning the duties of police officers. Each such
766 memorandum of understanding shall be updated not less frequently
767 than every three years. For the purposes of this section, "school resource
768 officer" means a sworn police officer of a local law enforcement agency
769 who has been assigned to a school pursuant to an agreement between
770 the local or regional board of education and the chief of police of a local
771 law enforcement agency.

772 Sec. 35. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10-51 of the 2026
773 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
774 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

775 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year
776 thereafter, a regional board of education, by a majority vote of its
777 members, may create a reserve fund for educational expenditures. Such
778 fund shall thereafter be termed "reserve fund for educational
779 expenditures". The aggregate amount of annual and supplemental
780 appropriations by a district to such fund shall not exceed two per cent
781 of the annual district budget for such fiscal year. Annual appropriations
782 to such fund shall be included in the share of net expenses to be paid by
783 each member town. Supplemental appropriations to such fund may be
784 made from estimated fiscal year end surplus in operating funds. During
785 any fiscal year, a regional board of education may deposit any funds
786 previously appropriated to and currently in a separate reserve fund for
787 capital and nonrecurring expenditures under the control of such board
788 in the reserve fund for educational expenditures. Interest and
789 investment earnings received with respect to amounts held in the

790 reserve fund for educational expenditures shall be credited to such
791 fund. The board shall annually submit a complete and detailed report
792 of the condition of such fund to the member towns. Upon the
793 recommendation and approval by the regional board of education, any
794 part or the whole of such fund may be used for educational
795 expenditures. Upon the approval of any such expenditure an
796 appropriation shall be set up, plainly designated for the educational
797 expenditure for which it has been authorized. Any unexpended portion
798 of such appropriation remaining shall revert to [said] such fund. If any
799 authorized appropriation is set up pursuant to the provisions of this
800 subsection and through unforeseen circumstances the board is unable
801 to expend the total amount of such appropriation, the board, by a
802 majority vote of its members, may terminate such appropriation which
803 then shall no longer be in effect. Such fund may be discontinued, after
804 the recommendation and approval by the regional board of education,
805 and any amounts held in the fund shall be transferred to the general
806 fund of the district. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each
807 fiscal year thereafter, each board shall make available, and annually
808 update, information regarding such fund, including, but not limited to,
809 the total balance of the fund, the amount deposited into such fund in a
810 fiscal year and an accounting of the expenditures made from such fund.

811 Sec. 36. Subsection (a) of section 10-214 of the general statutes is
812 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
813 *2026*):

814 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide annually
815 to each pupil in kindergarten and grades one and three to five, inclusive,
816 a vision screening and may additionally provide such vision screening
817 annually to each pupil in preschool and grade two. Such vision
818 screening may be performed using a Snellen chart or an equivalent
819 screening device, or an automated vision screening device. The
820 superintendent of schools shall give written notice to the parent or
821 guardian of each pupil (1) who is found to have any defect of vision or
822 disease of the eyes, with a brief statement describing such defect or

823 disease and a recommendation for the pupil to be examined by an
824 optometrist licensed under chapter 380 or an ophthalmologist licensed
825 under chapter 370, and (2) who did not receive such vision screening,
826 with a brief statement explaining why such pupil did not receive such
827 vision screening.

828 Sec. 37. Subsection (c) of section 10-266aa of the 2026 supplement to
829 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
830 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

831 (c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection. (1)
832 For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year
833 thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New
834 Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as
835 a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students
836 who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school in
837 another school district in the region and students who reside in such
838 other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or
839 Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the
840 proportion of students who are not minority students to the total
841 number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to
842 participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
843 students who were not minority students in the prior school year to the
844 total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New
845 Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center
846 operating the program shall make program participation decisions in
847 accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the school
848 year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter, the
849 program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning with
850 the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not
851 minority students to the total number of students leaving New London
852 to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
853 students who were not minority students in the prior year to the total
854 number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school year.
855 The regional educational service center operating the program shall

856 make program participation decisions in accordance with this
857 subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within
858 available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003,
859 to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist school
860 districts in planning for a voluntary program of student enrollment in
861 every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-266p, which is
862 interested in participating in accordance with this subdivision. For the
863 school year commencing in 2003, and for each school year thereafter, the
864 voluntary enrollment program may be in operation in every priority
865 school district in the state. Students from other school districts in the
866 area of a priority school district, as determined by the regional
867 educational service center pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, may
868 attend school in the priority school district, provided such students
869 bring racial, ethnic and economic diversity to the priority school district
870 and do not increase the racial, ethnic and economic isolation in the
871 priority school district. (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2024,
872 and each school year thereafter, there shall be a pilot program in
873 operation in Danbury and Norwalk. The pilot program shall serve (A)
874 up to fifty students who reside in Danbury, and such students may
875 attend school in the school districts for the towns of New Fairfield,
876 Brookfield, Bethel, Ridgefield and Redding, and (B) up to fifty students
877 who (i) reside in Norwalk, and such students may attend school in the
878 school districts for the towns of Darien, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston
879 and Westport, and (ii) reside in Darien, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston
880 and Westport, and such students may attend school in the school district
881 for the town of Norwalk. School districts which receive students under
882 this subdivision as part of the pilot program shall allow such students
883 to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school. (5)
884 For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year
885 thereafter, the town of Guilford shall be eligible to participate in the
886 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.
887 (6) For the school year commencing July 1, 2026, and each school year
888 thereafter, the town of Madison shall be eligible to participate in the
889 program as a receiving district and a sending district with New Haven.

890 Sec. 38. Subsection (a) of section 10-153d of the general statutes is
891 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
892 *2026*):

893 (a) (1) Within thirty days prior to the date on which the local or
894 regional board of education is to commence negotiations pursuant to
895 this section, such board of education shall meet and confer with the
896 board of finance in each town or city having a board of finance, with the
897 board of selectmen in each town having no board of finance and
898 otherwise with the authority making appropriations therein. A member
899 of such board of finance, such board of selectmen, or such other
900 authority making appropriations, shall be permitted to be present
901 during negotiations pursuant to this section and shall provide such
902 fiscal information as may be requested by the board of education.

903 (2) At least one member of the local or regional board of education
904 shall be present during negotiations pursuant to this section, except no
905 member of the local or regional board of education who is also a
906 member of the organization that has been designated or elected as the
907 exclusive representative of an administrators' unit or a teachers' unit
908 may be present during negotiations pursuant to this section.

909 Sec. 39. Section 10-206 of the general statutes is repealed and the
910 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

911 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
912 enrolled in the public schools to have health assessments pursuant to
913 the provisions of this section. Such assessments shall be conducted by
914 (1) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, (2) an advanced practice
915 registered nurse or registered nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378,
916 (3) a physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, (4) a school
917 medical advisor, or (5) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an
918 advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant stationed at
919 any military base, to ascertain whether such pupil is suffering from any
920 physical disability tending to prevent such pupil from receiving the full

921 benefit of school work and to ascertain whether such school work
922 should be modified in order to prevent injury to the pupil or to secure
923 for the pupil a suitable program of education. No health assessment
924 shall be made of any [child] pupil enrolled in the public schools unless
925 such examination is made in the presence of the parent or guardian or
926 in the presence of another school employee. The parent or guardian of
927 such [child] pupil shall receive prior written notice and shall have a
928 reasonable opportunity to be present at such assessment or to provide
929 for such assessment himself or herself. A local or regional board of
930 education may deny continued attendance in public school to any
931 [child] pupil who fails to obtain the health assessments required under
932 this section.

933 (b) Each local or regional board of education shall require each [child]
934 pupil to have a health assessment prior to public school enrollment. The
935 assessment shall include: (1) A physical examination which shall
936 include hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure,
937 a medical risk assessment for lead poisoning and, when indicated by
938 such assessment, a test of the [child's] pupil's blood lead level, and,
939 beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment
940 which shall include, but not be limited to, asthma. The assessment form
941 shall include (A) a check box for the provider conducting the
942 assessment, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, to indicate an
943 asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to appropriate public
944 health concerns to be answered by the parent or guardian, and (C)
945 screening questions to be answered by such provider; (2) an updating
946 of immunizations as required under section 10-204a, provided a
947 registered nurse may only update said immunizations pursuant to a
948 written order by a physician or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to
949 chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant
950 to chapter 378; (3) vision, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings;
951 and (4) such other information, including health and developmental
952 history, as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate. The
953 assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis, sickle cell anemia

954 and Cooley's anemia where the local or regional board of education
955 determines after consultation with the school medical advisor and the
956 local health department, or in the case of a regional board of education,
957 each local health department, that such tests are necessary, provided a
958 registered nurse may only perform said tests pursuant to the written
959 order of a physician or physician assistant, licensed pursuant to chapter
960 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed pursuant to
961 chapter 378.

962 (c) Each local or regional board of education shall require each pupil
963 enrolled in the public schools to have health assessments in either grade
964 six or grade seven and in either grade nine or grade ten. The assessment
965 shall include: (1) A physical examination which shall include hematocrit
966 or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure, and, beginning
967 with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment which shall
968 include, but not be limited to, asthma as defined by the Commissioner
969 of Public Health pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-62a. The
970 assessment form shall include (A) a check box for the provider
971 conducting the assessment, as provided in subsection (a) of this section,
972 to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to
973 appropriate public health concerns to be answered by the parent or
974 guardian, and (C) screening questions to be answered by such provider;
975 (2) an updating of immunizations as required under section 10-204a,
976 provided a registered nurse may only update said immunizations
977 pursuant to a written order of a physician or physician assistant,
978 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered
979 nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378; (3) vision, hearing, postural and
980 gross dental screenings; and (4) such other information including a
981 health history as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate. The
982 assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis and sickle cell
983 anemia or Cooley's anemia where the local or regional board of
984 education, in consultation with the school medical advisor and the local
985 health department, or in the case of a regional board of education, each
986 local health department, determines that said screening or test is

987 necessary, provided a registered nurse may only perform said tests
988 pursuant to the written order of a physician or physician assistant,
989 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered
990 nurse, licensed pursuant to chapter 378.

991 (d) The results of each assessment done pursuant to this section and
992 the results of screenings done pursuant to section 10-214, as amended
993 by this act, shall be recorded on forms supplied by the State Board of
994 Education. Each school nurse may reject such results submitted on
995 forms other than the forms supplied by the State Board of Education and
996 require the resubmission of such results on such forms supplied by the
997 State Board of Education. An asthma action plan shall be included with
998 each assessment form that indicates an asthma diagnosis pursuant to
999 subsections (b) and (c) of this section. Such information shall be included
1000 in the cumulative health record of each pupil and shall be kept on file in
1001 the school such pupil attends. If a pupil permanently leaves the
1002 jurisdiction of the board of education, the pupil's original cumulative
1003 health record shall be sent to the chief administrative officer of the
1004 school district to which such student moves. The board of education
1005 transmitting such health record shall retain a true copy. Each physician,
1006 advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse, or physician
1007 assistant performing health assessments and screenings pursuant to this
1008 section and section 10-214, as amended by this act, shall completely fill
1009 out and sign each form and any recommendations concerning the pupil
1010 shall be in writing.

1011 (e) Appropriate school health personnel shall review the results of
1012 each assessment and screening as recorded pursuant to subsection (d)
1013 of this section. When, in the judgment of such health personnel, a pupil,
1014 as defined in section 10-206a, is in need of further testing or treatment,
1015 the superintendent of schools shall give written notice to the parent or
1016 guardian of such pupil and shall make reasonable efforts to assure that
1017 such further testing or treatment is provided. Such reasonable efforts
1018 shall include a determination of whether or not the parent or guardian
1019 has obtained the necessary testing or treatment for the pupil, and, if not,

1020 advising the parent or guardian on how such testing or treatment may
1021 be obtained. The results of such further testing or treatment shall be
1022 recorded pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, and shall be
1023 reviewed by school health personnel pursuant to this subsection.

1024 (f) On and after October 1, 2017, each local or regional board of
1025 education shall report to the local health department and the
1026 Department of Public Health, on an triennial basis, the total number of
1027 pupils per school and per school district having a diagnosis of asthma
1028 (1) at the time of public school enrollment, (2) in grade six or seven, and
1029 (3) in grade nine or ten. The report shall contain the asthma information
1030 collected as required under subsections (b) and (c) of this section and
1031 shall include pupil age, gender, race, ethnicity and school. Beginning on
1032 October 1, 2021, and every three years thereafter, the Department of
1033 Public Health shall review the asthma screening information reported
1034 pursuant to this section and shall submit a report to the joint standing
1035 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
1036 relating to public health and education concerning asthma trends and
1037 distributions among pupils enrolled in the public schools. The report
1038 shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
1039 and shall include, but not be limited to, (A) trends and findings based
1040 on pupil age, gender, race, ethnicity, school and the education reference
1041 group, as determined by the Department of Education for the town or
1042 regional school district in which such school is located, and (B) activities
1043 of the asthma screening monitoring system maintained under section
1044 19a-62a.

1045 Sec. 40. Subsection (g) of section 10-233c of the 2026 supplement to
1046 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1047 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

1048 (g) On and after July 1, 2015, all suspensions pursuant to this section
1049 shall be in-school suspensions, except a local or regional board of
1050 education may authorize the administration of schools under its
1051 direction to impose an out-of-school suspension on any pupil in (1)

1052 grades three to twelve, inclusive, if, during the hearing held pursuant to
1053 subsection (a) of this section, (A) the administration determines that the
1054 pupil being suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or
1055 such a disruption of the educational process that the pupil shall be
1056 excluded from school during the period of suspension, or (B) the
1057 administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is
1058 appropriate for such pupil based on evidence of (i) previous disciplinary
1059 problems that have led to suspensions or expulsion of such pupil, and
1060 (ii) efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary problems
1061 through means other than out-of-school suspension or expulsion,
1062 including positive behavioral support strategies, or (2) grades preschool
1063 to two, inclusive, if during the hearing held pursuant to subsection (a)
1064 of this section, the administration (A) determines that an out-of-school
1065 suspension is appropriate for such pupil based on evidence that such
1066 pupil's conduct on school grounds is behavior that causes serious
1067 physical harm, (B) requires that such pupil receives services that are
1068 trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate and align with any
1069 behavioral intervention plan, individualized education program or plan
1070 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
1071 from time to time, for such pupil upon such pupil's return to school
1072 immediately following the out-of-school suspension, and (C) considers
1073 whether to convene a planning and placement team meeting for the
1074 purposes of conducting an evaluation to determine whether such pupil
1075 may require special education or related services. An out-of-school
1076 suspension imposed under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not
1077 exceed ten school days, and an out-of-school suspension imposed under
1078 subdivision (2) of this subsection shall not exceed five school days. An
1079 in-school suspension may be served in the school that the pupil attends,
1080 or in any school building under the jurisdiction of the local or regional
1081 board of education, as determined by such board. Nothing in this
1082 section shall limit a person's duty as a mandated reporter pursuant to
1083 section 17-101a to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

1084 Sec. 41. Subsection (d) of section 10-233d of the 2026 supplement to

1085 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1086 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

1087 (d) No local or regional board of education is required to offer an
1088 alternative educational opportunity, except in accordance with this
1089 section. Any pupil under sixteen years of age who is expelled shall be
1090 offered an alternative educational opportunity, which shall be (1)
1091 alternative education, as defined by section 10-74j, with an
1092 individualized learning plan, if such board provides such alternative
1093 education, or (2) in accordance with the standards adopted by the State
1094 Board of Education, pursuant to section 10-233o, during the period of
1095 expulsion, provided any parent or guardian of such pupil who does not
1096 choose to have such parent's or guardian's child enrolled in an
1097 alternative educational opportunity shall not be subject to the
1098 provisions of section 10-184. Any pupil expelled for the first time and
1099 the second time who is between the ages of sixteen and eighteen and
1100 who wishes to continue such pupil's education shall be offered such an
1101 alternative educational opportunity if such pupil complies with
1102 conditions established by such pupil's local or regional board of
1103 education. Such alternative educational opportunity may include, but
1104 shall not be limited to, the placement of a pupil who is at least seventeen
1105 years of age in an adult education program pursuant to section 10-69.
1106 Any pupil participating in any such adult education program during a
1107 period of expulsion shall not be required to withdraw from school under
1108 section 10-184. A local or regional board of education shall count the
1109 expulsion of a pupil when the pupil was under sixteen years of age for
1110 purposes of determining whether an alternative educational
1111 opportunity is required for such pupil when such pupil is between the
1112 ages of sixteen and eighteen. A local or regional board of education may
1113 offer an alternative educational opportunity to a pupil for whom such
1114 alternative educational opportunity is not required pursuant to this
1115 section.

1116 Sec. 42. Subsection (h) of section 10-236b of the general statutes is
1117 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

1118 2026):

1119 (h) Each local or regional board of education shall notify a parent or
1120 guardian of a student who is placed in physical restraint or seclusion
1121 [not later than twenty-four hours after] on the day the student was
1122 placed in physical restraint or seclusion and shall make a reasonable
1123 effort to provide such notification immediately after such physical
1124 restraint or seclusion is initiated.

1125 Sec. 43. Section 10-357e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1126 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

1127 The Commissioner of Education shall allocate funds, as specified in
1128 the annual budget of the Department of Education, to allow the State
1129 Education Resource Center, established pursuant to section 10-357a, to
1130 provide professional development services, technical assistance and
1131 evaluation activities, policy analysis and other forms of assistance to
1132 local and regional boards of education, the Department of Education,
1133 state and local charter schools, as defined in section 10-66aa, the
1134 Technical Education and Career System, established pursuant to section
1135 10-95, providers of school readiness programs, as defined in section 10-
1136 16p, and other educational entities and providers. The State Education
1137 Resource Center shall expend such funds in accordance with procedures
1138 and conditions prescribed by the commissioner.

1139 Sec. 44. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) Not later than April 1, 2027,
1140 the Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis Prevention at
1141 Western Connecticut State University, in collaboration with the
1142 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall (1)
1143 develop a clear definition for crisis response drills for purposes of
1144 section 10-231 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) develop
1145 standardized terminology for the administration and review of crisis
1146 response drills, (3) develop guidance on (A) standardized responses to
1147 crises, and (B) standardized debriefing protocols following a crisis, and
1148 (4) develop an evaluation template for crisis response drills that allows

1149 school districts to use feedback from participants of the crisis response
1150 drill to assess the efficacy of the crisis response drill and make
1151 adjustments to subsequent crisis response drills to improve
1152 preparedness while preventing emotional harm and supporting
1153 psychological safety.

1154 (b) The Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis Prevention at
1155 Western Connecticut State University, in collaboration with the
1156 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall conduct
1157 a study of the impact of crisis response drills on the school community.

1158 (c) Not later than July 1, 2028, the Connecticut Center for School
1159 Safety and Crisis Prevention at Western Connecticut State University
1160 shall submit (1) the guidance developed pursuant to subdivision (3) of
1161 subsection (a) of this section, and (2) a report on the study conducted
1162 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, including any
1163 recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the General
1164 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in
1165 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

1166 Sec. 45. Section 10-231 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1167 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

1168 (a) Each local and regional board of education shall provide for a fire
1169 drill to be held in the schools of such board not later than thirty days
1170 after the first day of each school year and at least once each month
1171 thereafter, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

1172 (b) Each such board shall substitute a crisis response drill for a fire
1173 drill once every three months and shall develop the format of such crisis
1174 response drill [in consultation] in accordance with the crisis response
1175 protocols described in section 46 of this act and with the appropriate
1176 local law enforcement agency. A representative of such agency may
1177 supervise and participate in any such crisis response drill.

1178 Sec. 46. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) For the school year commencing

1179 July 1, 2027, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional
1180 board of education providing for a crisis response drill to be conducted
1181 pursuant to section 10-231 of the general statutes, as amended by this
1182 act, shall ensure the following for each such drill: (1) The utilization of
1183 the (A) definition for crisis response drills, (B) standardized terminology
1184 for the administration and review of crisis response drills, and (C)
1185 guidance on standardized responses to crises and debriefing protocols
1186 following a crisis, developed by the Department of Emergency Services
1187 and Public Protection pursuant to section 44 of this act, (2) that the
1188 school security and safety committee, as described in section 10-222m of
1189 the general statutes, as amended by this act, collaborates with the school
1190 climate committee, as described in section 10-222ff of the general
1191 statutes, to plan crisis response drills that prioritize the physical and
1192 psychological safety of students and school personnel, (3) that crisis
1193 drills are (A) trauma-informed, including the utilization of an approach
1194 that takes into account prior traumatic experiences, and (B) designed to
1195 prevent emotional harm to and support the psychological safety of
1196 students and school personnel, with mental health professionals'
1197 participation integrated throughout the crisis response drill, (4) that
1198 prior to conducting a crisis response drill, school personnel provide age-
1199 appropriate education for students and training for school personnel to
1200 build knowledge and skills to reduce the potential for confusion or
1201 emotional distress, including a review of the purpose and procedures
1202 for crisis response drills prior to the first crisis response drill of the
1203 school year and notification to students, school personnel and parents
1204 and guardians one week in advance of conducting a crisis response drill,
1205 (5) that school personnel communicate in a clear manner to ensure
1206 understanding of the nature and purpose of crisis response drills to the
1207 parents and guardians of students at the school prior to conducting a
1208 crisis response drill, (6) that at the commencement of the crisis response
1209 drill, students and school personnel are informed that they are
1210 participating in a crisis response drill in order to avoid confusion when
1211 an actual emergency situation is occurring, (7) that accommodations for
1212 each student with a cognitive, physical or sensory disability are

1213 provided, to the extent practicable, during a crisis response drill to
1214 ensure the safety and participation of such student, (8) that (A) a crisis
1215 response drill conducted with students does not include an active
1216 assailant simulation or simulated violence with highly sensorial
1217 elements such as fake assailants, firearms, gunfire sounds, blood or
1218 injuries, and (B) a crisis response drill that is conducted outside of the
1219 regular school day and exclusively for school personnel, first responders
1220 and other school volunteers may include an active assailant simulation
1221 or such simulated violence, and (9) that each such drill is evaluated
1222 using the evaluation template developed pursuant to section 44 of this
1223 act.

1224 Sec. 47. Subsection (c) of section 10-222m of the 2026 supplement to
1225 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1226 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

1227 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall (1) annually
1228 submit the school security and safety plan for each school under the
1229 jurisdiction of such board, developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this
1230 section, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
1231 and (2) make any portion of such school security and safety plan that is
1232 not prohibited from disclosure pursuant to section 1-210 available to
1233 members of the school community upon request.

1234 Sec. 48. Section 7-450c of the general statutes is repealed and the
1235 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1236 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or special
1237 act 01-1, no municipality or special taxing district that provides, as of
1238 July 11, 2007, a pension and retirement system for its officers and
1239 employees and their beneficiaries shall diminish or eliminate any right
1240 or benefit granted to any retiree under such retirement or pension
1241 system that was in effect on the date of such retiree's retirement. The
1242 provisions of this section shall not be construed to prohibit a
1243 municipality or special taxing district from changing the administration

1244 of such retiree's retirement benefits as long as the rights and benefits
1245 provided to such retiree after any change in the administration are at
1246 least equivalent to the rights and benefits provided prior to such change.

1247 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or special
1248 act, no municipality or special taxing district that provides a pension
1249 and retirement system for its officers and employees and their
1250 beneficiaries shall diminish or eliminate any right or benefit granted to
1251 any retiree under such pension or retirement system due to permanent
1252 partial disability benefits received on or after July 1, 2026, by such retiree
1253 in accordance with section 31-308. Nothing in this subsection shall be
1254 construed to impair or alter the provisions of any collective bargaining
1255 agreement in effect before July 1, 2026.

1256 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or special
1257 act, a municipality or special taxing district that provides a pension and
1258 retirement system for its officers and employees and their beneficiaries
1259 shall include temporary total disability and temporary partial disability
1260 benefits received by an employee pursuant to chapter 568 as wages for
1261 purposes of the calculation of pension or retirement benefits to be paid
1262 to such employee in retirement, provided (1) the sum of such benefits
1263 and any other wages or compensation used to calculate such employee's
1264 pension or retirement benefits shall not exceed one hundred per cent of
1265 such employee's wages from such municipality or special taxing district
1266 in effect immediately prior to the injury for which the employee
1267 received such benefits, and (2) the provisions of this section shall not
1268 apply to the municipal employees retirement plan set forth in part II of
1269 chapter 113. Nothing in this section shall be construed to impair or alter
1270 the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement in effect before
1271 July 1, 2026.

1272 Sec. 49. (*Effective from passage*) The Comptroller shall conduct a study
1273 on the considerations necessary for a municipality that does not
1274 currently provide a defined pension plan to each police officer and
1275 firefighter employed by such municipality through participation in

1276 either (1) the municipal employees' retirement system, pursuant to
1277 section 7-427 of the general statutes, or (2) any other defined pension
1278 plan that provides such individuals with benefits that are comparable
1279 or superior to those benefits offered by the municipal employees'
1280 retirement system, to successfully transition such individuals from such
1281 municipality's current retirement system to such defined pension plan
1282 described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section. Not later than
1283 January 1, 2028, the Comptroller shall submit a report of the results of
1284 such study, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
1285 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
1286 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public
1287 employees.

1288 Sec. 50. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) As used in this section and
1289 sections 51 to 57, inclusive, of this act:

1290 (1) "Employee" means an individual who is employed at a warehouse
1291 distribution center and who is not exempt from the minimum wage and
1292 overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as
1293 amended from time to time. "Employee" does not include a driver or
1294 courier traveling to or from a warehouse distribution center;

1295 (2) "Employer" means an individual, corporation, partnership,
1296 limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability
1297 company, business trust, estate, trust, association, joint venture, agency,
1298 instrumentality or any other legal or commercial entity, whether
1299 domestic or foreign, that directly or indirectly, or through an agent or
1300 any other person, including through the services of a third-party
1301 employer, temporary services, staffing agency, independent contractor
1302 or any similar entity, at any time in the prior twelve months, employs
1303 or exercises control over the wages, hours or working conditions of two
1304 hundred fifty or more employees at a single warehouse distribution
1305 center in the state or one thousand or more employees at one or more
1306 warehouse distribution centers in the state;

1307 (3) "Quota" means a work performance standard where:

1308 (A) An employee is assigned or required to perform at a specified
1309 productivity speed or a quantified number of tasks or to handle or
1310 produce a quantified amount of material within a defined time period;

1311 (B) Actions by an employee are categorized and measured between
1312 time performing tasks and not performing tasks within a defined time
1313 period;

1314 (C) Increments of time within a defined time period during which an
1315 employee is or is not doing a particular activity are measured, recorded
1316 or tallied; or

1317 (D) An employee's performance is ranked in relation to the
1318 performance of other employees;

1319 (4) "Work speed data" means information an employer collects,
1320 stores, analyzes or interprets relating to an individual employee's
1321 performance of a quota, including, but not limited to, quantities of tasks
1322 performed, quantities of items or materials handled or produced, rates
1323 or speeds of tasks performed, measurements or metrics of employee
1324 performance in relation to a quota and time categorized as performing
1325 tasks or not performing tasks. "Work speed data" does not include
1326 qualitative performance data, personnel records, wage statements or
1327 data an employer collects, stores, analyzes or interprets that does not
1328 relate to the performance of a quota, except for any content of such
1329 records that includes work speed data; and

1330 (5) "Warehouse distribution center" means a warehouse or
1331 warehouse complex owned or leased by an establishment as defined by
1332 any of the following North American Industry Classification System
1333 Codes, however such establishment is denominated: (A) 493110 for
1334 General Warehousing and Storage; (B) 423 for Merchant Wholesalers,
1335 Durable Goods; (C) 424 for Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods;
1336 (D) 454110 for Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses; (E) 492110

1337 for Couriers and Express Delivery Services; (F) 452311 for Warehouse
1338 Clubs and Supercenters; (G) 452319 for All Other General Merchandise
1339 Stores; and (H) 444110 for Home Centers.

1340 Sec. 51. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) An employer shall provide
1341 to each employee a written description of each quota to which such
1342 employee is subject, including any potential adverse employment action
1343 that may result from a failure to satisfy such quota. Such written
1344 description shall be provided to an employer's current employees not
1345 later than August 1, 2026. For employees hired after August 1, 2026, such
1346 written description shall be provided to the employee upon hire.

1347 (b) Whenever an employer makes a change to an existing quota for
1348 an employee that results in a new quota for such employee, an employer
1349 shall:

1350 (1) Notify the employee of such change as soon as practicable, either
1351 verbally or in writing, and prior to the effective date of such new quota;
1352 and

1353 (2) Provide the employee with a written description of the new quota
1354 to which such employee is subject not later than two business days after
1355 the change is made.

1356 (c) Any written description required pursuant to this section shall be
1357 provided either directly to an employee or via electronic mail.

1358 Sec. 52. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) No quota shall:

1359 (1) Prevent compliance with the provisions of section 31-51ii of the
1360 general statutes concerning meal periods;

1361 (2) Interfere with an employee's use of the bathroom facilities,
1362 including reasonable travel time to and from the bathroom facilities;

1363 (3) Set a performance standard that measures an employee's total
1364 output over an increment of time that is shorter than such employee's

1365 work day; or

1366 (4) Set a performance standard that is based solely on ranking the
1367 performance of an employee in relation to the performance of other
1368 employees.

1369 Sec. 53. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) No employer shall take any
1370 adverse action against an employee for failing to satisfy a quota that
1371 violates the provisions of section 52 of this act or has not previously been
1372 provided to the employee pursuant to section 51 of this act.

1373 Sec. 54. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Each employer shall establish,
1374 maintain and preserve contemporaneous, true and accurate records of
1375 (1) each individual employee's work speed data; (2) the aggregated
1376 work speed data for similar employees at the same warehouse
1377 distribution center; and (3) the written description provided to each
1378 employee pursuant to section 51 of this act. Such records shall be
1379 maintained for a period of three years. Nothing in this section shall
1380 require an employer to establish, maintain and preserve the records
1381 required pursuant to this section if such employer does not assign or
1382 require quotas or collect, store, analyze or interpret work speed data.

1383 Sec. 55. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) If an employee believes
1384 satisfying a quota caused or will cause a violation of section 52 of this
1385 act, such employee may request from such employee's employer: (1) A
1386 written description of each quota the employee is subject to; (2) a copy
1387 of the employee's personal work speed data for the prior ninety days;
1388 and (3) a copy of aggregated work speed data for similar employees at
1389 the same warehouse distribution center for the prior ninety days.

1390 (b) A former employee may request from a former employer: (1) A
1391 written description of each quota the employee was subject to for the
1392 ninety days prior to the employee's separation from employment with
1393 such employer; (2) a copy of the employee's personal work speed data
1394 for the ninety days prior to such employee's separation from
1395 employment with such employer; and (3) a copy of aggregated work

1396 speed data for similar employees at the same warehouse distribution
1397 center for the ninety days prior to such employee's separation from
1398 employment with such employer. A former employee may only make
1399 one request under this section.

1400 (c) An employer shall provide a written copy of any records
1401 requested pursuant to this section as soon as practicable, but not later
1402 than ten calendar days after receipt of such request. Such written copy
1403 shall be provided (1) in both English and the primary language of the
1404 employee requesting such records, and (2) (A) for a current employee,
1405 directly to the employee or via electronic mail, or (B) for a former
1406 employee, either in person at a mutually convenient time or via a
1407 mutually convenient delivery method.

1408 Sec. 56. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) No employer shall discharge
1409 or in any way retaliate, discriminate or take any adverse action against
1410 any employee or former employee for (1) making a request pursuant to
1411 section 55 of this act, or (2) filing a civil action pursuant to section 57 of
1412 this act.

1413 (b) (1) If an employer discharges or in any way retaliates,
1414 discriminates or takes any adverse action against any employee or
1415 former employee within ninety days after such employee engages in or
1416 attempts to engage in the activities described in subsection (a) of this
1417 section, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that such adverse action
1418 is in violation of this section.

1419 (2) For an adverse action taken within ninety days of an employee or
1420 former employee engaging or attempting to engage in the activity
1421 described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section, such
1422 presumption shall only apply if such adverse action was taken within
1423 ninety days of an employee or former employee's first request made in
1424 a calendar year.

1425 (3) Such presumption may be rebutted by clear and convincing
1426 evidence that (A) the adverse action was taken for other permissible

1427 reasons, and (B) the employee engaging or attempting to engage in the
1428 activities described in subsection (a) of this section was not a motivating
1429 factor in the employer taking such adverse action.

1430 Sec. 57. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) An employee or former
1431 employee aggrieved by a violation of sections 51 to 56, inclusive, of this
1432 act, or the Attorney General on behalf of a group of employees or former
1433 employees aggrieved by a violation of sections 51 to 56, inclusive, of this
1434 act, may bring a civil action in the Superior Court to recover damages,
1435 civil penalties and such injunctive relief as the court deems appropriate.
1436 In any civil action brought under this section in which the plaintiff
1437 prevails, the court may, in addition to the relief provided pursuant to
1438 subsection (b) of this section, award reasonable attorney's fees and costs,
1439 to be taxed by the court.

1440 (b) An employer who violates a provision of sections 51 to 56,
1441 inclusive, of this act may be assessed a civil penalty by the court of (1)
1442 one thousand dollars for a first violation, (2) two thousand dollars for a
1443 second violation, or (3) three thousand dollars for a third or subsequent
1444 violations.

1445 Sec. 58. Section 51-198 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1446 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1447 (a) The Supreme Court shall consist of one Chief Justice and six
1448 associate judges, who shall, at the time of their appointment, also be
1449 appointed judges of the Superior Court.

1450 (b) In addition thereto, each Chief Justice or associate judge of the
1451 Supreme Court who elects to retain office but to retire from full-time
1452 active service shall continue to be a member of the Supreme Court
1453 during the remainder of [his or her] such justice's or judge's term of
1454 office and during the term of any reappointment under section 51-50i,
1455 until [he or she] such justice or judge attains the age of seventy years.
1456 [He or she] Such justice or judge shall be entitled to participate in the
1457 meetings of the judges of the Supreme Court and vote as a member

1458 thereof.

1459 (c) If an associate judge of the Supreme Court is appointed to serve
1460 as the Chief Court Administrator pursuant to section 51-1b, and chooses
1461 to cease serving as an associate judge of the Supreme Court, the
1462 associate judge shall retain the designation of judge of the Superior
1463 Court for the remainder of the term of appointment, and shall be eligible
1464 for reappointment as a judge of the Superior Court upon expiration of
1465 said term until such judge attains the age of seventy years.

1466 [(c) A] (d) An associate judge of the Supreme Court who has attained
1467 the age of seventy years or who ceases to be an associate judge of the
1468 Supreme Court pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may continue
1469 to deliberate and participate in all matters concerning the disposition of
1470 any case which the judge heard or considered prior to attaining said age
1471 or ceasing to be an associate judge of the Supreme Court pursuant to
1472 said subsection (c), until such time as the decision in any such case is
1473 officially released. The judge may also participate in the consideration
1474 or deliberation of a motion for reconsideration [in such case if such
1475 motion is filed within ten days of the] or any other motion submitted in
1476 any case that the associate judge heard or considered following the
1477 official release of such decision.

1478 Sec. 59. Section 52-434c of the general statutes is repealed and the
1479 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1480 In addition to the powers and jurisdiction granted to state referees
1481 under sections 52-434 and 52-434a, a Chief Justice or a judge of the
1482 Supreme Court or Appellate Court, who has ceased to hold office as
1483 justice or judge because of having retired or having ceased to hold office
1484 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 51-198, as amended by this act, and
1485 who has become a state referee, may be designated by the Chief Justice
1486 of the Supreme Court to be eligible to be assigned by the Chief Judge of
1487 the Appellate Court to perform such duties of the office of judge of the
1488 Appellate Court as may be requested by the Chief Judge. The Chief

1489 Judge may assign no more than one state referee to sit on any one panel.
1490 No such designation may be for a term of more than one year. In
1491 performing the duties assigned, such retired Chief Justice or retired
1492 judge of the Supreme Court or Appellate Court, or a judge of the
1493 Supreme Court who has ceased to hold office pursuant to subsection (c)
1494 of section 51-198, as amended by this act, shall exercise the same powers
1495 and jurisdiction as does a judge of the Superior Court who is qualified
1496 to serve as a judge on the Appellate Court.

1497 Sec. 60. Section 7-294v of the general statutes is repealed and the
1498 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1499 (a) (1) Not later than July 1, 2023, the Police Officer Standards and
1500 Training Council shall:

1501 [(1) after] (A) After consultation with persons with mental or physical
1502 disabilities and advocates on behalf of such persons, develop a training
1503 curriculum for police officers regarding interactions with persons who
1504 have mental or physical disabilities; [,] and [(2) after]

1505 (B) After consultation with persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or
1506 deafblind and advocates on behalf of such persons, develop a training
1507 curriculum for police officers regarding interactions with persons who
1508 are deaf, hard of hearing or deafblind. On and after July 1, 2024, the
1509 training curriculum shall include crisis intervention strategies for police
1510 officers to use when interacting with individuals with mental illness in
1511 crisis.

1512 (2) Not later than March 1, 2027, the Police Officer Standards and
1513 Training Council shall:

1514 (A) After consultation with persons with mental or physical
1515 disabilities, including, but not limited to, autism spectrum disorder,
1516 cognitive impairment or nonverbal learning disorder, and advocates on
1517 behalf of such persons, including, but not limited to, institutions of
1518 higher education, health care professionals or advocacy organizations

1519 that are concerned with persons with autism spectrum disorder,
1520 cognitive impairment or nonverbal learning disorder, develop a
1521 training curriculum for police officers regarding interactions with
1522 persons who have mental illness or mental or physical disabilities. Such
1523 training curriculum shall include, but need not be limited to, the
1524 following topics: (i) The nature of mental illness and mental or physical
1525 disabilities, including, but not limited to, autism spectrum disorder,
1526 cognitive impairment and nonverbal learning disorder; (ii) how to
1527 identify persons with mental illness or mental or physical disabilities;
1528 and (iii) strategies and techniques for handling incidents that involve
1529 persons with mental illness or mental or physical disabilities, including,
1530 but not limited to, crisis intervention strategies and deescalation
1531 techniques; and

1532 (B) After consultation with persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or
1533 deafblind and advocates on behalf of such persons, develop a training
1534 curriculum for police officers regarding interactions with persons who
1535 are deaf, hard of hearing or deafblind.

1536 (b) [On and after] (1) From October 1, 2023, to June 30, 2027, inclusive,
1537 each police basic or review training program conducted or administered
1538 by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, the Division of
1539 State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public
1540 Protection or a municipal police department shall include the training
1541 curriculum developed pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of
1542 this section.

1543 (2) On and after July 1, 2027, each police basic or review training
1544 program conducted or administered by the Police Officer Standards and
1545 Training Council, the Division of State Police within the Department of
1546 Emergency Services and Public Protection or a municipal police
1547 department shall include the training curriculum developed pursuant
1548 to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section.

1549 Sec. 61. Subsection (a) of section 4b-3 of the general statutes is

1550 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1551 *2026*):

1552 (a) There is established a State Properties Review Board, which shall
1553 consist of ~~[six]~~ eight members appointed as follows: (1) The speaker of
1554 the House and president pro tempore of the Senate shall jointly appoint
1555 three members, one of whom shall be experienced in matters relating to
1556 architecture, one experienced in building construction matters and one
1557 in matters relating to engineering; [and] (2) the minority leader of the
1558 House and the minority leader of the Senate shall jointly appoint three
1559 members, one of whom shall be experienced in matters relating to the
1560 purchase, sale and lease of real estate and buildings, one experienced in
1561 business matters generally and one experienced in the management and
1562 operation of state institutions; and (3) on and after July 1, 2026, the
1563 speaker of the House and president pro tempore of the Senate shall
1564 jointly appoint an additional member and the minority leader of the
1565 House and the minority leader of the Senate shall jointly appoint an
1566 additional member. No more than ~~[three of said six]~~ four of the members
1567 shall be of the same political party. One of the members first appointed
1568 by the speaker and the president pro tempore shall serve a two-year
1569 term, one shall serve a three-year term and one shall serve a four-year
1570 term. One of the members first appointed by the minority leaders of the
1571 House and Senate shall serve a two-year term, one shall serve a three-
1572 year term and one shall serve a four-year term. All appointments of
1573 members to replace those whose terms expire and the appointments of
1574 additional members pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection shall
1575 be for a term of four years and until their successors have been
1576 appointed and qualified. If any vacancy occurs on the board, the
1577 appointing authorities having the power to make the initial
1578 appointment under the provisions of this section shall appoint a person
1579 for the unexpired term in accordance with the provisions [hereof] of this
1580 subsection.

1581 Sec. 62. Section 16-256l of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
1582 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

1583 *passage*):

1584 (a) As used in this section, "provider" means a telephone or
1585 telecommunications company providing local telephone service,
1586 provider of commercial mobile radio service, as defined in 47 CFR
1587 Section 20.3, as amended from time to time, and voice over Internet
1588 protocol service provider, as defined in section 28-30b.

1589 (b) On and after [~~January 1, 2027~~] July 1, 2026, each provider shall
1590 assess against each subscriber a fee in an amount equal to five cents per
1591 month per access line. Each fee assessed under this subsection shall be
1592 remitted to the office of the State Treasurer for deposit into the
1593 firefighters cancer relief account established pursuant to section 7-313h,
1594 not later than the fifteenth day of each month. No part of any fee
1595 assessed under this subsection shall be subject to a refund.

1596 (c) Not later than [~~November~~] May 1, 2026, the provider shall provide
1597 written notice to each subscriber disclosing the amount and frequency
1598 of such fee.

1599 (d) The fee described in subsection (b) of this section shall not apply
1600 to any prepaid wireless telecommunications service, as defined in
1601 section 28-30b.

1602 Sec. 63. Section 29-256f of the general statutes is repealed and the
1603 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1604 The State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards
1605 Committee shall, jointly, with the approval of the Commissioner of
1606 Administrative Services, in accordance with the provisions of section 29-
1607 252b, include in the amendments to the State Building Code next
1608 adopted after June 6, 2024, and the State Fire Marshal and the Codes and
1609 Standards Committee shall, in accordance with section 29-292a, include
1610 in the amendments to the Fire Safety Code next adopted after June 6,
1611 2024, provisions that [:

1612 (1) Allow additional residential occupancies to be served safely by a
1613 single exit stairway, in such a way as to:

1614 (A) Be consistent with safe occupancy and egress;

1615 (B) Consider the experience of the cities of Seattle, New York City and
1616 Honolulu in implementing similar provisions;

1617 (C) Apply to municipalities in which the fire service is sufficient to
1618 maintain safe occupancy and egress under such additional occupancies,
1619 if appropriate;

1620 (D) Promote the inclusion of units with three or more bedrooms in
1621 building designs to promote construction of family-sized units,
1622 especially on smaller lots; and

1623 (E) Allow additional stories above grade plane to be served by a
1624 single exit stairway in a building with an automatic sprinkler system,
1625 under such conditions as to ensure safe occupancy and egress. Such
1626 conditions may include, but need not be limited to, additional levels of
1627 fire and smoke separation and any features necessary to allow for
1628 firefighters to ascend a stair as occupants descend; and

1629 (2) Encourage] encourage construction of safe three-unit and four-
1630 unit residential buildings, which shall:

1631 [(A)] (1) Be consistent with safe occupancy and egress; and

1632 [(B)] (2) Include three-unit and four-unit residential buildings in the
1633 International Residential Code portion of the Connecticut State Building
1634 Code, or otherwise provide for requirements for three-unit and four-
1635 unit residential buildings in the International Building Code portion of
1636 the Connecticut State Building Code similar to those for one-unit and
1637 two-unit residential buildings in the International Residential Code
1638 portion of the Connecticut State Building Code, under such conditions
1639 as to ensure safe occupancy and egress.

1640 Sec. 64. Subdivision (1) of subsection (h) of section 17b-340 of the 2026
1641 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
1642 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1643 (h) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any intermediate care
1644 facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with an operating
1645 cost component of its rate in excess of one hundred forty per cent of the
1646 median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992,
1647 shall not receive an operating cost component increase. For the fiscal
1648 year ending June 30, 1993, any intermediate care facility for individuals
1649 with intellectual disabilities with an operating cost component of its rate
1650 that is less than one hundred forty per cent of the median of operating
1651 cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall have an
1652 allowance for real wage growth equal to thirty per cent of the increase
1653 determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the
1654 regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such operating cost
1655 component shall not exceed one hundred forty per cent of the median
1656 of operating cost components in effect January 1, 1992. Any facility with
1657 real property other than land placed in service prior to October 1, 1991,
1658 shall, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, receive a rate of return on
1659 real property equal to the average of the rates of return applied to real
1660 property other than land placed in service for the five years preceding
1661 October 1, 1993. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any
1662 succeeding fiscal year, the rate of return on real property for property
1663 items shall be revised every five years. The commissioner shall, upon
1664 submission of a request, allow actual debt service, comprised of
1665 principal and interest, in excess of property costs allowed pursuant to
1666 section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies,
1667 provided such debt service terms and amounts are reasonable in
1668 relation to the useful life and the base value of the property. For the fiscal
1669 year ending June 30, 1995, and any succeeding fiscal year, the inflation
1670 adjustment made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52
1671 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall not be applied to
1672 real property costs. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any

1673 succeeding fiscal year, the allowance for real wage growth, as
1674 determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the
1675 regulations of Connecticut state agencies, shall not be applied. For the
1676 fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, no rate
1677 shall exceed three hundred seventy-five dollars per day unless the
1678 commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of
1679 Developmental Services, determines after a review of program and
1680 management costs, that a rate in excess of this amount is necessary for
1681 care and treatment of facility residents. For the fiscal year ending June
1682 30, 2002, rate period, the Commissioner of Social Services shall increase
1683 the inflation adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection
1684 (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies
1685 to update allowable fiscal year 2000 costs to include a three and one-half
1686 per cent inflation factor. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, rate
1687 period, the commissioner shall increase the inflation adjustment for
1688 rates made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the
1689 regulations of Connecticut state agencies to update allowable fiscal year
1690 2001 costs to include a one and one-half per cent inflation factor, except
1691 that such increase shall be effective November 1, 2002, and such facility
1692 rate in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, shall be paid for
1693 services provided until October 31, 2002, except any facility that would
1694 have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2002, than for the fiscal
1695 year ending June 30, 2002, due to interim rate status or agreement with
1696 the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2002, and
1697 have such rate updated effective November 1, 2002, in accordance with
1698 applicable statutes and regulations. For the fiscal year ending June 30,
1699 2004, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2003, shall remain in
1700 effect, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate
1701 effective July 1, 2003, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, due
1702 to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued
1703 such lower rate effective July 1, 2003. For the fiscal year ending June 30,
1704 2005, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2004, shall remain in
1705 effect until September 30, 2004. Effective October 1, 2004, each facility
1706 shall receive a rate that is five per cent greater than the rate in effect

1707 September 30, 2004. Effective upon receipt of all the necessary federal
1708 approvals to secure federal financial participation matching funds
1709 associated with the rate increase provided in subdivision (4) of
1710 subsection (f) of this section, but in no event earlier than October 1, 2005,
1711 and provided the user fee imposed under section 17b-320 is required to
1712 be collected, each facility shall receive a rate that is four per cent more
1713 than the rate the facility received in the prior fiscal year, except any
1714 facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1,
1715 2005, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, due to interim rate
1716 status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate
1717 effective October 1, 2005. Such rate increase shall remain in effect unless:
1718 (A) The federal financial participation matching funds associated with
1719 the rate increase are no longer available; or (B) the user fee created
1720 pursuant to section 17b-320 is not in effect. For the fiscal year ending
1721 June 30, 2007, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall
1722 remain in effect until September 30, 2006, except any facility that would
1723 have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2006, than for the fiscal
1724 year ending June 30, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with
1725 the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2006.
1726 Effective October 1, 2006, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than
1727 three per cent greater than the rate in effect for the facility on September
1728 30, 2006, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate
1729 effective October 1, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with
1730 the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2006.
1731 For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, each facility shall receive a rate
1732 that is two and nine-tenths per cent greater than the rate in effect for the
1733 period ending June 30, 2007, except any facility that would have been
1734 issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2007, than for the rate period ending
1735 June 30, 2007, due to interim rate status, or agreement with the
1736 department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2007. For the
1737 fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, rates in effect for the period ending June
1738 30, 2008, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2009, except any facility that
1739 would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30,
1740 2009, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall

1741 be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and
1742 June 30, 2011, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2009, shall
1743 remain in effect until June 30, 2011, except any facility that would have
1744 been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or the
1745 fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement
1746 with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year
1747 ending June 30, 2012, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2011,
1748 shall remain in effect until June 30, 2012, except any facility that would
1749 have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012,
1750 due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be
1751 issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and
1752 June 30, 2015, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending
1753 June 30, 2013, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the
1754 rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2013, if a capital
1755 improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services,
1756 in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or
1757 safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year
1758 ending June 30, 2014, or June 30, 2015, to the extent such rate increases
1759 are within available appropriations. Any facility that would have been
1760 issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or the fiscal
1761 year ending June 30, 2015, due to interim rate status or agreement with
1762 the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years
1763 ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, rates shall not exceed those in
1764 effect for the period ending June 30, 2015, except the rate paid to a
1765 facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period
1766 ending June 30, 2015, if a capital improvement approved by the
1767 Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the
1768 Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents
1769 was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, or
1770 June 30, 2017, to the extent such rate increases are within available
1771 appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30,
1772 2017, and each succeeding fiscal year, any facility that would have been
1773 issued a lower rate, due to interim rate status, a change in allowable fair
1774 rent or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate.

1775 For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, rates shall
1776 not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2017, except the
1777 rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for
1778 the period ending June 30, 2017, if a capital improvement approved by
1779 the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the
1780 Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents
1781 was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, or
1782 June 30, 2019, only to the extent such rate increases are within available
1783 appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30,
1784 2021, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June
1785 30, 2019, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate
1786 paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, if a capital
1787 improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services,
1788 in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or
1789 safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year
1790 ending June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2021, only to the extent such rate
1791 increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal year ending
1792 June 30, 2022, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year
1793 ending June 30, 2021, except the commissioner may, in the
1794 commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide
1795 pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent
1796 additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30,
1797 2020, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year
1798 ending June 30, 2023, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal
1799 year ending June 30, 2022, except the commissioner may, in the
1800 commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide
1801 pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent
1802 additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30,
1803 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years
1804 ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, a facility may receive a rate
1805 increase for a capital improvement approved by the Department of
1806 Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social
1807 Services, for the health or safety of the residents during the fiscal year
1808 ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023, only to the extent such rate

1809 increases are within available appropriations. There shall be no increase
1810 to rates based on inflation or any inflationary factor for the fiscal years
1811 ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023. Notwithstanding any other
1812 provisions of this chapter, any subsequent increase to allowable
1813 operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated by the gross
1814 domestic product deflator when funding is specifically appropriated for
1815 such purposes in the enacted budget. The rate of inflation shall be
1816 computed by comparing the most recent rate year to the average of the
1817 gross domestic product deflator for the previous four fiscal quarters
1818 ending March thirty-first. Any increase to rates based on inflation shall
1819 be applied prior to the application of any other budget adjustment
1820 factors that may impact such rates. For the fiscal year ending June 30,
1821 2024, the department shall determine facility rates based upon 2022 cost
1822 report filings subject to the provisions of this section, adjusted to reflect
1823 any rate increases provided after the cost report year ending June 30,
1824 2022, and with the addition of a two per cent adjustment factor. No
1825 facility shall receive a rate less than the rate in effect for the fiscal year
1826 ending June 30, 2023. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the
1827 minimum per diem, per bed rate shall remain at five hundred one
1828 dollars for a residential facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and
1829 certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as an
1830 intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disability.
1831 There shall be no increase to rates based on any inflationary factor for
1832 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. For the fiscal year ending June 30,
1833 2024, and each subsequent fiscal year, the commissioner may, in the
1834 commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide
1835 pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent
1836 additions placed in service in the cost report years that are not otherwise
1837 included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the
1838 department shall determine facility rates based upon 2023 cost report
1839 filings subject to the provisions of this section, adjusted to reflect any
1840 rate increases provided after the cost report ending June 30, 2023. A
1841 facility may receive a rate that is less than the rate in effect for the fiscal
1842 year ending June 30, 2024, but shall not receive a rate less than the

1843 minimum per diem, per bed rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30,
1844 2025, the minimum per diem, per bed rate shall remain at five hundred
1845 one dollars for a residential facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-227
1846 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as an
1847 intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disability.
1848 There shall be no increase to rates based on any inflationary factor for
1849 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. For the fiscal year ending June 30,
1850 2026, the department shall determine facility rates based upon 2024 cost
1851 report filings subject to the provisions of this section, adjusted to reflect
1852 any rate increases provided after the cost report ending June 30, 2024.
1853 Additionally, the facility shall receive a rate that is [one] three and four-
1854 tenths per cent greater than the calculated rate, except that any facility
1855 that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2025, due to
1856 interim rate status, or agreement with the department, shall be issued
1857 such lower rate effective July 1, 2025. For the fiscal year ending June 30,
1858 2026, there shall be no minimum per diem, per bed rate for a residential
1859 facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate
1860 in the Title XIX Medicaid program as an intermediate care facility for
1861 individuals with intellectual disability. There shall be no increase to
1862 rates based on any inflationary factor for the fiscal year ending June 30,
1863 2026. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, each facility shall receive
1864 a rate that is [two] five and eight-tenths per cent greater than the rate in
1865 effect for the period ending June 30, 2026, except that any facility that
1866 would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2026, than the rate
1867 for the period ending June 30, 2027, due to interim rate status, or
1868 agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective
1869 July 1, 2026. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, each facility shall
1870 receive a rate that is [three] six and three-tenths per cent greater than the
1871 rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2027, except that any facility
1872 that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2027, than the
1873 rate for the period ending June 30, 2027, due to interim rate status, or
1874 agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective
1875 July 1, 2027. Effective January 1, 2028, each facility shall receive a rate
1876 that is [three] six and three-tenths per cent greater than the rate in effect

1877 for the period ending December 31, 2027, except that any facility that
1878 would have been issued a lower rate effective January 1, 2028, than the
1879 rate for the period ending December 31, 2027, due to interim rate status,
1880 or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate
1881 effective January 1, 2028. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and
1882 June 30, 2025, a facility may receive a rate increase for a capital
1883 improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services,
1884 in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or
1885 safety of the residents during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or
1886 June 30, 2025, only to the extent such rate increases are within available
1887 appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, and June 30,
1888 2027, a facility may receive a rate increase for a capital improvement
1889 approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation
1890 with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the
1891 residents during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or June 30, 2027,
1892 only to the extent such rate increases are within available
1893 appropriations. Any facility that has a significant decrease in land and
1894 building costs shall receive a reduced rate to reflect such decrease in
1895 land and building costs. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, June
1896 30, 2013, June 30, 2014, June 30, 2015, June 30, 2016, June 30, 2017, June
1897 30, 2018, June 30, 2019, June 30, 2020, June 30, 2021, June 30, 2022, June
1898 30, 2023, June 30, 2024, June 30, 2025, June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027,
1899 the Commissioner of Social Services may provide fair rent increases to
1900 any facility that has undergone a material change in circumstances
1901 related to fair rent and has an approved certificate of need pursuant to
1902 section 17b-352, 17b-353, 17b-354 or 17b-355. The Department of Social
1903 Services shall amend the regulations of Connecticut state agencies to
1904 allow for the waiver of the separate inflation cost limitation on direct
1905 care costs when rebasing rates for intermediate care facilities for
1906 individuals with intellectual disabilities after the fiscal year ending June
1907 30, 2027. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the
1908 Commissioner of Social Services may, within available appropriations,
1909 increase or decrease rates issued to intermediate care facilities for
1910 individuals with intellectual disabilities to reflect a reduction in

1911 available appropriations as provided in subsection (a) of this section.
1912 For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, the
1913 commissioner shall not consider rebasing in determining rates.
1914 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, effective July 1, 2021,
1915 and July 1, 2022, the commissioner shall, within available
1916 appropriations, increase rates for the purpose of wage and benefit
1917 enhancements for employees of intermediate care facilities. Facilities
1918 that receive a rate adjustment for the purpose of wage and benefit
1919 enhancements but do not provide increases in employee salaries as
1920 described in this subsection on or before July 31, 2021, and July 31, 2022,
1921 respectively, may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the
1922 adjustment by the commissioner.

1923 Sec. 65. Subdivision (12) of subsection (a) of section 19a-638 of the
1924 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1925 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1926 (12) An increase in the licensed bed capacity of a health care facility,
1927 except as provided in [subdivision] subdivisions (23) and (26) of
1928 subsection (b) of this section;

1929 Sec. 66. Subsection (b) of section 19a-638 of the general statutes is
1930 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
1931 *passage*):

1932 (b) A certificate of need shall not be required for:

1933 (1) Health care facilities owned and operated by the federal
1934 government;

1935 (2) The establishment of offices by a licensed private practitioner,
1936 whether for individual or group practice, except when a certificate of
1937 need is required in accordance with the requirements of section 19a-
1938 493b or subdivision (3), (10) or (11) of subsection (a) of this section;

1939 (3) A health care facility operated by a religious group that

- 1940 exclusively relies upon spiritual means through prayer for healing;
- 1941 (4) Residential care homes, as defined in subsection (c) of section 19a-
1942 490, and nursing homes and rest homes, as defined in subsection (o) of
1943 section 19a-490;
- 1944 (5) An assisted living services agency, as defined in section 19a-490;
- 1945 (6) Home health agencies, as defined in section 19a-490;
- 1946 (7) Hospice services, as described in section 19a-122b;
- 1947 (8) Outpatient rehabilitation facilities;
- 1948 (9) Outpatient chronic dialysis services;
- 1949 (10) Transplant services;
- 1950 (11) Free clinics, as defined in section 19a-630;
- 1951 (12) School-based health centers and expanded school health sites, as
1952 such terms are defined in section 19a-6r, community health centers, as
1953 defined in section 19a-490a, not-for-profit outpatient clinics licensed in
1954 accordance with the provisions of chapter 368v and federally qualified
1955 health centers;
- 1956 (13) A program licensed or funded by the Department of Children
1957 and Families, provided such program is not a psychiatric residential
1958 treatment facility;
- 1959 (14) Any nonprofit facility, institution or provider that has a contract
1960 with, or is certified or licensed to provide a service for, a state agency or
1961 department for a service that would otherwise require a certificate of
1962 need. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to a short-term
1963 acute care general hospital or children's hospital, or a hospital or other
1964 facility or institution operated by the state that provides services that are
1965 eligible for reimbursement under Title XVIII or XIX of the federal Social
1966 Security Act, 42 USC 301, as amended;

1967 (15) A health care facility operated by a nonprofit educational
1968 institution exclusively for students, faculty and staff of such institution
1969 and their dependents;

1970 (16) An outpatient clinic or program operated exclusively by or
1971 contracted to be operated exclusively by a municipality, municipal
1972 agency, municipal board of education or a health district, as described
1973 in section 19a-241;

1974 (17) A residential facility for persons with intellectual disability
1975 licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the
1976 Title XIX Medicaid program as an intermediate care facility for
1977 individuals with intellectual disabilities;

1978 (18) Replacement of existing computed tomography scanners,
1979 magnetic resonance imaging scanners, positron emission tomography
1980 scanners, positron emission tomography-computed tomography
1981 scanners, or nonhospital based linear accelerators, if such equipment
1982 was acquired through certificate of need approval or a certificate of need
1983 determination, provided a health care facility, provider, physician or
1984 person notifies the unit of the date on which the equipment is replaced
1985 and the disposition of the replaced equipment, including if a
1986 replacement scanner has dual modalities or functionalities and the
1987 applicant already offers similar imaging services for each of the
1988 equipment's modalities or functionalities that will be utilized;

1989 (19) Acquisition of cone-beam dental imaging equipment that is to be
1990 used exclusively by a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 379;

1991 (20) The partial or total elimination of services provided by an
1992 outpatient surgical facility, as defined in section 19a-493b, except as
1993 provided in subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of this section and section
1994 19a-639e;

1995 (21) The termination of services for which the Department of Public
1996 Health has requested the facility to relinquish its license;

1997 (22) Acquisition of any equipment by any person that is to be used
1998 exclusively for scientific research that is not conducted on humans;

1999 (23) On or before June 30, 2026, an increase in the licensed bed
2000 capacity of a mental health facility, provided (A) the mental health
2001 facility demonstrates to the unit, in a form and manner prescribed by
2002 the unit, that it accepts reimbursement for any covered benefit provided
2003 to a covered individual under: (i) An individual or group health
2004 insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in
2005 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469; (ii) a self-
2006 insured employee welfare benefit plan established pursuant to the
2007 federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended
2008 from time to time; or (iii) HUSKY Health, as defined in section 17b-290,
2009 and (B) if the mental health facility does not accept or stops accepting
2010 reimbursement for any covered benefit provided to a covered
2011 individual under a policy, plan or program described in clause (i), (ii) or
2012 (iii) of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, a certificate of need for such
2013 increase in the licensed bed capacity shall be required; [.]

2014 (24) The establishment at harm reduction centers through the pilot
2015 program established pursuant to section 17a-673c; [or]

2016 (25) On or before June 30, 2028, a birth center, as defined in section
2017 19a-490, that is enrolled as a provider in the Connecticut medical
2018 assistance program, as defined in section 17b-245g; or

2019 (26) On or before June 30, 2026, an increase in the licensed bed
2020 capacity of a hospital owned or operated by the state, provided all such
2021 added licensed beds are dedicated to inpatient behavioral health
2022 services and, if any of such added licensed beds are converted to any
2023 other inpatient service, a certificate of need for such increase in the
2024 licensed bed capacity shall be required.

2025 Sec. 67. Subsection (d) of section 52-362d of the general statutes is
2026 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2027 *passage*):

2028 (d) Whenever an order of the Superior Court or a family support
2029 magistrate of this state, or an order of another state that has been
2030 registered in this state, for support of a minor child or children is issued
2031 and such payments have been ordered through the IV-D agency, or
2032 when a request from another state for assistance enforcing an order that
2033 has not been registered in this state is received by the IV-D agency and
2034 such request meets the requirements of 42 USC 666(a)(14), and the
2035 obligor against whom such support order was issued owes overdue
2036 support under such order in the amount of five hundred dollars or
2037 more, the IV-D agency, as defined in subdivision (12) of subsection (b)
2038 of section 46b-231, or Support Enforcement Services of the Superior
2039 Court may notify (1) any state or local agency or officer with authority
2040 (A) to hold assets or property for such obligor including, but not limited
2041 to, any property unclaimed or presumed abandoned under part III of
2042 chapter 32, or (B) to distribute benefits to such obligor including, but not
2043 limited to, unemployment compensation and workers' compensation,
2044 (2) any person having or expecting to have custody or control of or
2045 authority to distribute any amounts due such obligor under any
2046 judgment or settlement, (3) any financial institution holding assets of
2047 such obligor, and (4) any public or private entity administering a public
2048 or private retirement fund in which such obligor has an interest that
2049 such obligor owes overdue support in a IV-D support case. Upon receipt
2050 of such notice, such agency, officer, person, institution or entity shall
2051 withhold delivery or distribution of any such property, benefits,
2052 amounts, assets or funds until receipt of further notice from the IV-D
2053 agency.

2054 Sec. 68. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 46b-215e of the
2055 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2056 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

2057 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, whenever
2058 a child support obligor is institutionalized or incarcerated, the Superior
2059 Court or a family support magistrate shall establish an initial order for
2060 current support, or modify an existing order for current support, upon

2061 proper motion, based upon the obligor's present income and substantial
2062 assets, if any, in accordance with the child support guidelines
2063 established pursuant to section 46b-215a. [Downward modification of
2064 an existing support order based solely on a loss of income due to
2065 incarceration or institutionalization shall not be granted in the case of a
2066 child support obligor who is incarcerated or institutionalized for an
2067 offense against the custodial party or the child subject to such support
2068 order.]

2069 (b) In IV-D support cases, as defined in section 46b-231, when the
2070 child support obligor is institutionalized or incarcerated for more than
2071 ninety days, any existing support order, as defined in section 46b-231,
2072 shall be modified to zero dollars effective upon the date that a support
2073 enforcement officer files an affidavit in the Family Support Magistrate
2074 Division. The affidavit shall include: (1) The beginning and expected
2075 end dates of such obligor's institutionalization or incarceration; and (2)
2076 a statement by such officer that (A) a diligent search failed to identify
2077 any income or assets that could be used to satisfy the child support order
2078 while the obligor is incarcerated or institutionalized, [(B) the offense for
2079 which the obligor is institutionalized or incarcerated was not an offense
2080 against the custodial party or the child subject to such support order,]
2081 and [(C)] (B) a notice in accordance with subsection (c) of this section
2082 was provided to the custodial party and an objection form was not
2083 received from such party.

2084 (c) Prior to filing an affidavit under subsection (b) of this section, the
2085 support enforcement officer shall provide notice to the custodial party
2086 in accordance with section 52-57 or by certified mail, return receipt
2087 requested. The notice shall state in clear and simple language that: (1)
2088 Such child support order shall be modified unless the custodial party
2089 objects not later than fifteen calendar days after receipt of such notice on
2090 the grounds that [(A)] the obligor has sufficient income or assets to
2091 comply with the support order; [or (B) the obligor is incarcerated or
2092 institutionalized for an offense against the custodial party or the child
2093 subject to such support order;] and (2) the custodial party may object to

2094 the proposed modification by delivering a signed objection form, or
2095 other written notice or motion, indicating the nature of the objection or
2096 grounds of the motion, to the support enforcement officer not later than
2097 fifteen calendar days after receipt of such notice. Upon receipt of any
2098 objection or motion, the support enforcement officer shall promptly
2099 arrange with the clerk of the Family Support Magistrate Division to
2100 enter the appearance of the custodial party, set the matter for a hearing,
2101 send a file-stamped copy of the objection or motion to the IV-D agency
2102 of the state to whom the support order is payable, and notify all parties
2103 of the hearing date set. The court or family support magistrate shall
2104 promptly hear the objection or motion and determine whether the child
2105 support order should be modified in accordance with subsection (b) of
2106 this section.

2107 Sec. 69. Section 9-163aa of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
2108 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2109 *passage*):

2110 (a) (1) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a regular
2111 election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a
2112 period of early voting at each regular election held on or after April 1,
2113 2024.

2114 (B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this
2115 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2,
2116 commence on the fifteenth day prior to and conclude on the second day
2117 prior to such regular election, and (ii) consist of such days between and
2118 inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, except any legal
2119 holiday designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4, and
2120 at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section
2121 9-174.

2122 (2) (A) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection,
2123 any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a primary, other than a
2124 presidential preference primary, in accordance with the provisions of

2125 this section, during a period of early voting at each primary, other than
2126 a presidential preference primary, held on or after April 1, 2024.

2127 (B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this
2128 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2,
2129 commence on the eighth day prior to and conclude on the second day
2130 prior to such primary, other than a presidential preference primary, and
2131 (ii) consist of such days between and inclusive of such commencement
2132 and conclusion, except any legal holiday designated, appointed or
2133 recommended under section 1-4, and at such times as provided in
2134 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-174.

2135 (3) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a special
2136 election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a
2137 period of early voting at each special election held on or after April 1,
2138 2024.

2139 (B) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection, any
2140 eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a presidential preference
2141 primary, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a
2142 period of early voting at each presidential preference primary held on
2143 or after April 1, 2024.

2144 (C) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) or (B) of this
2145 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2,
2146 commence on the fifth day prior to and conclude on the second day
2147 prior to such special election or such presidential preference primary,
2148 except that such commencing and concluding days shall be adjusted to
2149 exclude from such period April 20, 2025, and any legal holiday
2150 designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4, and (ii)
2151 consist of four total days between and inclusive of such commencement
2152 and conclusion, as may be adjusted pursuant to subparagraph (C)(i) of
2153 this subdivision, and at such times as provided in subdivision (2) of
2154 subsection (c) of section 9-174.

2155 (4) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9-19e, 9-23a, 9-26,

2156 9-31a, 9-55, 9-56, as amended by this act, and 9-57:

2157 (i) In the case of an unaffiliated elector who wishes to vote during the
2158 period of early voting at a primary, such elector shall be eligible to so
2159 vote if such elector's application for enrollment with the political party
2160 holding such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve
2161 o'clock noon on the business day immediately preceding the day on
2162 which such period of early voting commences.

2163 (ii) In the case of a person who is not admitted as an elector and who
2164 wishes to vote during the period of early voting at a primary, such
2165 person shall be eligible to so vote if such person's application for
2166 admission as an elector and enrollment with the political party holding
2167 such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve o'clock noon
2168 on the business day immediately preceding the day during such period
2169 of early voting on which such person offers to vote at such primary.

2170 (B) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an individual
2171 who enrolls in a political party during a period of early voting at a
2172 primary from voting by absentee ballot, if eligible, or in person on the
2173 day of such primary.

2174 (b) (1) (A) The registrars of voters of each municipality shall designate
2175 a location for the conduct of early voting [, which] but, if the registrars
2176 fail to agree as to such location, the legislative body or, in a municipality
2177 where the legislative body is a town meeting, the board of selectmen,
2178 shall designate such location. Such location shall be the same for the
2179 duration of the period of early voting except as otherwise specified in
2180 this subdivision, provided [(A)] (i) the registrars of voters have access to
2181 the state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location,
2182 and [(B)] (ii) such location is certified in writing to the Secretary of the
2183 State. [not later than sixty days prior to the day of an election or a
2184 primary.] The written certification under subparagraph [(B)] (A)(ii) of
2185 this subdivision shall be submitted annually by the registrars of voters
2186 to the Secretary not later than February fifteenth, except that for an

2187 election or a primary held in 2026, such written certification shall be so
2188 submitted not later than sixty days prior to the day of such election or
2189 primary. Any change to such written certification shall be made and
2190 submitted, and approved or disapproved, in accordance with the
2191 provisions of subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. Such written
2192 certification shall provide [(i)] (I) the name, street address and relevant
2193 contact information associated with such location, [(ii)] (II) the number
2194 of election or primary officials to be appointed by the registrars of voters
2195 to serve at such location and the roles of such officials, and [(iii)] (III) a
2196 description of the design of such location and a plan for effective
2197 conduct of such early voting, and shall include the information required
2198 for same-day election registration under subdivision (1) of subsection
2199 (c) of section 9-19j, as amended by this act. The Secretary shall approve
2200 or disapprove such written certification annually not later than [forty-
2201 five days prior to the day of an election or a primary] March first, except
2202 that for an election or a primary held in 2026, the Secretary shall so
2203 approve or disapprove not later than forty-five days prior to the day of
2204 such election or primary. If the Secretary disapproves such certification,
2205 the Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons for such disapproval
2206 and shall issue an order for such corrective action as the Secretary deems
2207 necessary, including, but not limited to, the appointment of additional
2208 election or primary officials or the alteration of such design or plan.
2209 After having received approval of such certification or having complied
2210 with any order for corrective action to the Secretary's satisfaction, as
2211 applicable, the registrars of voters shall determine the site of such
2212 location designated for the conduct of early voting at least thirty-one
2213 days prior to an election or a primary. Such location shall not be changed
2214 within such period, except, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters
2215 unanimously find that such location has been rendered unusable within
2216 such period, such clerk and registrars shall forthwith designate another
2217 location for the conduct of early voting to be used in place of the location
2218 so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such location
2219 has been so changed. The provisions of sections 9-168d and 9-168e shall
2220 apply to such location designated for the conduct of early voting.

2221 (B) If, after the registrars of voters annually submit the written
2222 certification under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the registrars
2223 make any change to any part of such written certification, such registrars
2224 shall submit to the Secretary of the State an updated written
2225 certification, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, as soon
2226 as practicable but in no case later than seven days after such change. The
2227 registrars shall clearly indicate on such updated written certification the
2228 information that has changed since the prior submission. The Secretary
2229 shall approve or disapprove such updated written certification as soon
2230 as practicable but in no case later than seven days after submission
2231 thereof. If the Secretary disapproves such updated certification, the
2232 Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons for such disapproval and
2233 shall issue an order for such corrective action as the Secretary deems
2234 necessary, in accordance with subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

2235 (2) In any municipality with a population of at least twenty thousand,
2236 the legislative body may hold a public hearing on whether to designate
2237 any additional location in such municipality for the conduct of early
2238 voting, which public hearing, if any, shall be held not later than fifteen
2239 days prior to the time for designating any such location set forth in
2240 subdivision (1) of this subsection. Any legislative body holding such a
2241 public hearing shall properly notice such public hearing not later than
2242 ten days prior to such public hearing in a newspaper having general
2243 circulation in such municipality and on the Internet web site of the
2244 municipality. For any such municipality in which such a public hearing
2245 was not held, the legislative body thereof shall determine whether to
2246 designate any such additional location and shall notify the Secretary of
2247 the State with a detailed explanation for such determination. For any
2248 municipality in which such a public hearing was held, not later than
2249 three days after the conclusion of such public hearing, the legislative
2250 body thereof shall determine whether to designate any such additional
2251 location and shall notify the Secretary with a detailed explanation for
2252 such determination. If the legislative body determines that any such
2253 additional location be designated, the [registrars of voters] legislative

2254 body or, in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting,
2255 the board of selectmen, shall so designate such additional location and
2256 the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to such
2257 additional location. The Secretary shall take no action on any detailed
2258 explanation submitted under this subdivision with regard to the
2259 number of additional locations designated in such a municipality, and
2260 shall preserve each such detailed explanation as a public record open to
2261 public inspection. For the purposes of this subdivision, "population"
2262 means the estimated number of people according to the most recent
2263 version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant to section
2264 3-90.

2265 (3) In any municipality containing any campus of a constituent unit,
2266 as defined in section 10a-1, with at least one thousand students living in
2267 housing that is on such campus or is owned or operated by, or affiliated
2268 with, such constituent unit, the registrars of voters of such municipality
2269 shall designate an additional location on such campus for the conduct
2270 of early voting and the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection
2271 shall apply to such additional location.

2272 (4) At each location designated for the conduct of early voting, the
2273 registrars of voters shall provide to prospective electors during the early
2274 voting period the opportunity to apply for same-day election
2275 registration, in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 9-19j,
2276 as amended by this act, for such application and for the completion and
2277 processing of any such application.

2278 (5) (A) The registrars of voters shall appoint, for each day on which
2279 early voting is conducted, a moderator and such other election or
2280 primary officials to serve at each location designated for such conduct.
2281 The moderator so appointed shall perform any duty required, and may
2282 exercise any power authorized, under this title related to the conduct of
2283 early voting at such location. On any such day and solely for purposes
2284 related to the conduct of early voting, the registrars of voters of a
2285 municipality may, upon agreement, appoint one of the registrars from

2286 such municipality as moderator in accordance with the provisions of
2287 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. The registrars of voters may
2288 delegate to each other election or primary official so appointed any of
2289 the responsibilities assigned to the registrars of voters. The registrars of
2290 voters shall supervise each such official and train each such official to be
2291 an early voting election or primary official.

2292 (B) Whenever the registrars of voters of a municipality appoint,
2293 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, one of the registrars
2294 of such municipality as moderator to serve at a location designated for
2295 the conduct of early voting, such registrars of voters shall jointly submit
2296 to the Secretary of the State (i) a certification that the registrars of voters
2297 of such municipality are in agreement as to such appointment, and (ii)
2298 a written plan detailing alternative coverage of the duties normally
2299 carried out by the registrar so appointed to ensure that such registrar
2300 abstains, on each day in which such registrar serves as moderator, from
2301 any such duties that conflict with those of the moderator.

2302 (C) Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the commencement
2303 of the period of early voting, the registrars of voters shall provide to the
2304 Secretary of the State a written report setting forth the name, address
2305 and, if available, cellular mobile telephone number of the moderator
2306 appointed to serve at each location designated for the conduct of early
2307 voting pursuant to this subdivision. Such written report shall be
2308 included as part of the written report provided by the registrars to the
2309 Secretary under section 9-228a, as amended by this act.

2310 (c) Any elector who wishes to vote during a period of early voting at
2311 an election or primary, and is eligible to so vote at such election or
2312 primary, shall (1) appear in person at such times as provided in
2313 subsection (c) of section 9-174, at the location designated by the
2314 registrars of voters for early voting, and (2) identify such elector as
2315 required by subsection (a) of section 9-261. [, and (3) declare under oath
2316 that such elector has not previously voted in such election or primary,
2317 as provided in subsection (e) of this section.]

2318 (d) If the registrars of voters determine that an elector is eligible to
2319 vote in the election or primary, the registrars of voters shall check the
2320 state-wide centralized voter registration system before allowing such
2321 elector to cast an early voting ballot as provided in subsection (e) of this
2322 section.

2323 (1) If the registrars of voters determine that the elector has not already
2324 voted, or if there is no report that the elector has already voted, the
2325 registrars shall allow such elector to vote.

2326 (2) If the registrars of voters believe that the elector may have already
2327 voted, such matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters. After
2328 completion of such review, if a resolution of the matter cannot be made
2329 and such elector claims to have neither in fact voted nor offered to vote
2330 in person or by absentee ballot, such elector may request a challenged
2331 ballot in accordance with section 9-232d and may cast such challenged
2332 ballot in accordance with section 9-232e. Such matter shall be reported
2333 to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, which shall conduct an
2334 investigation of the matter. The provisions of section 9-232f shall apply
2335 to any challenged ballot cast under this subdivision.

2336 (e) If the elector is allowed to vote, the registrars of voters shall
2337 provide such elector with an early voting ballot, [and early voting
2338 envelope and shall make a record of such issuance. The] shall make a
2339 record of such issuance and shall announce to such elector the voting
2340 district in which such elector resides and the ballot, corresponding to
2341 such voting district, that such elector should properly receive. Prior to
2342 marking the early voting ballot, the elector shall complete [an] a printed
2343 affirmation [printed upon the back of the early voting envelope] in a log
2344 book provided by the registrars of voters and shall declare under oath
2345 that the [voter] elector has not previously voted in the election or
2346 primary. The Secretary of the State shall prescribe the form of such log
2347 book and shall make a sample thereof available on the Internet web site
2348 of the office of the Secretary of the State. Such printed affirmation shall
2349 be in the form substantially as follows and signed by the [voter] elector:

2350 AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty
2351 of false statement (perjury), that:

2352 1. I am the elector appearing in person to vote early at [an] this
2353 election or primary. [prior to the day of such election or primary.]

2354 2. I am eligible to vote in [the] this election or primary. [indicated for
2355 today.]

2356 3. I have identified myself to the satisfaction of the registrars of voters.

2357 4. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not vote
2358 otherwise than by this ballot at this election or primary.

2359 5. I have received an early voting ballot for the purpose of [so] voting.

2360 (Signature of voter)

2361 (Printed name of voter)

2362 (f) The elector shall forthwith mark the early voting ballot in the
2363 presence of the registrars of voters in such a manner that the registrars
2364 of voters shall not know how the early voting ballot is marked. The
2365 elector shall place the early voting ballot [in the early voting ballot
2366 envelope provided and deposit such envelope in a secured early voting
2367 ballot depository receptacle] into the voting tabulator. At the conclusion
2368 of each day during the early voting period, the registrars of voters shall
2369 publicly open the voting tabulator, secure and seal such day's early
2370 voting ballots in a secure receptacle and transport such receptacle
2371 [containing such day's early voting ballots] to the municipal clerk, who
2372 shall retain and securely store such ballots in as near a manner as
2373 possible to that for the retention and secure storage of absentee ballots,
2374 as provided in subsection (g) of this section, except that, if such manner
2375 is not practicable, then such early voting ballots shall be retained and
2376 securely stored as provided in an alternate plan submitted by the
2377 registrars of voters to the Secretary of the State and approved by the
2378 Secretary. On the day of the election or primary, the early voting ballots

2379 shall be delivered to the registrars of voters for the purpose of counting
2380 such ballots. A section of the head moderator's return shall show the
2381 number of early voting ballots received from electors. The registrars of
2382 voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for early voting ballots in a
2383 depository envelope with the early voting ballots and store such early
2384 voting depository envelope with the other election or primary results
2385 materials. The early voting depository envelope shall be preserved by
2386 the registrars of voters for the period of time required to preserve
2387 counted ballots for elections or primaries.

2388 (g) Except as provided in section 9-163bb, as amended by this act, the
2389 provisions of this title and any regulation adopted under this title
2390 concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of
2391 absentee ballots shall apply, as nearly as possible, to the custody, control
2392 and counting of early voting ballots under this section.

2393 (h) (1) No person shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to any
2394 candidate or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being
2395 submitted at the election or primary, or loiter or peddle or offer any
2396 advertising matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius
2397 of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any
2398 building that contains any location designated by the registrars of voters
2399 for early voting or in any corridor, passageway or other approach
2400 leading from any such outside entrance to any such location or in any
2401 room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach.

2402 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, no person
2403 shall be allowed within any location designated by the registrars of
2404 voters for early voting for any purpose other than casting such person's
2405 vote, except (A) primary officials under section 9-436, (B) election
2406 officials under section 9-258, including (i) a municipal clerk or registrar
2407 of voters, who is a candidate for the same office, and (ii) a deputy
2408 registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters,
2409 performing such official's duties, and (C) unofficial checkers under
2410 section 9-235.

2411 (3) A person, including any candidate or any campaign or party
2412 employee or volunteer, may be within the seventy-five-foot radius
2413 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection (A) only for purposes
2414 related to the performance of such person's official duties or to the
2415 conduct of government business within such radius, (B) only for as long
2416 as necessary to perform such duties or conduct such business, and (C)
2417 provided such person is not engaged in any conduct described in
2418 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

2419 (i) The provisions of subsections (a) to (h), inclusive, of this section
2420 shall not apply to any primary held for the purpose of choosing town
2421 committee members.

2422 (j) No election or primary official shall perform services for any party
2423 or candidate on any day during the period of early voting on which such
2424 election or primary official is appointed to serve under this section, nor
2425 appear at any political party headquarters prior to the hour prescribed
2426 under subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (c) of section 9-174, as
2427 applicable, for the closing of the location designated for early voting on
2428 such day.

2429 Sec. 70. Section 9-163bb of the general statutes is repealed and the
2430 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

2431 (a) (1) Early voting ballots received by the municipal clerk prior to the
2432 day of an election or primary, and same-day election registration ballots
2433 received by the municipal clerk prior to the day of a regular election,
2434 shall be delivered by the municipal clerk to the registrars between six
2435 o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m. on the day of the election or primary.

2436 ~~[(b)]~~ (2) The ballot counters for such early voting ballots and same-day
2437 election registration ballots shall proceed to the central counting
2438 location or to the respective polling places when counting is to take
2439 place pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a at the time, between
2440 six o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m. on the day of the election or primary,
2441 designated by the registrars of voters. At the time such ballots are

2442 delivered to the ballot counters pursuant to subsection (a) of this section,
2443 the ballot counters shall perform any checking of such ballots and
2444 proceed, as nearly as possible, as provided in section 9-150a, as
2445 amended by this act.

2446 (b) On the first day of the early voting period, before the opening of
2447 the polls, the moderator for the location designated for the conduct of
2448 early voting shall unlock the voting tabulator for use and confirm that
2449 the counter, which indicates the number of ballots that have been
2450 inserted into the voting tabulator, is set at zero (000). Upon the close of
2451 the polls each day during the early voting period, such moderator shall
2452 record the number of ballots inserted into the voting tabulator, lock the
2453 voting tabulator against voting and store the voting tabulator in
2454 accordance with the written certification approved, or order for
2455 corrective action issued, as applicable, by the Secretary of the State
2456 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 9-163aa, as
2457 amended by this act. On each subsequent day of the early voting period,
2458 before the opening of the polls, the moderator shall unlock the voting
2459 tabulator for use and confirm that the counter is set to the same number
2460 that the moderator had recorded upon the close of the polls the prior
2461 day for the number of ballots inserted into the voting tabulator. Upon
2462 the close of the polls on the day of the election, the moderator shall cause
2463 the vote totals for all candidates and questions to be produced by the
2464 early voting tabulators.

2465 Sec. 71. Section 9-19j of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is
2466 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2467 *passage*):

2468 (a) As used in this section:

2469 (1) "Election day" means the day on which a regular election, as
2470 defined in section 9-1, as amended by this act, is held; and

2471 (2) "Same-day election registration" means admission as an elector
2472 during the period of early voting at a regular election, as provided in

2473 section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, or on election day.

2474 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person who (1)
2475 is (A) not an elector, or (B) an elector registered in a municipality who
2476 wishes to change such elector's registration to another municipality
2477 pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this
2478 section, and (2) meets the eligibility requirements under subsection (a)
2479 of section 9-12, may apply for same-day election registration pursuant
2480 to the provisions of this section.

2481 (c) (1) ~~(A)~~ The registrars of voters shall designate a location for the
2482 completion and processing of same-day election registrations on
2483 election day, provided ~~[(A)]~~ (i) the registrars of voters have access to the
2484 state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location, and
2485 [(B)] (ii) such location is certified in writing to the Secretary of the State,
2486 [not later than forty-five days before election day.] The written
2487 certification under subparagraph [(B)] (A)(ii) of this subdivision shall
2488 [(i) include] be submitted annually by the registrars of voters to the
2489 Secretary not later than February fifteenth as part of such registrars'
2490 submission under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b)
2491 of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, except that for election day
2492 in 2026, such written certification shall be so submitted not later than
2493 forty-five days before such election day. Any change to such written
2494 certification shall be made and submitted, and approved or
2495 disapproved, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (B) of
2496 this subdivision. Such written certification shall provide (I) the name,
2497 street address and relevant contact information associated with such
2498 location, [(ii) list the name and address of each election official who
2499 shall] (II) the number of election officials to be appointed by the
2500 registrars of voters to serve at such location [, if any] and the roles of
2501 such officials, and [(iii) provide] (III) a description of the design of such
2502 location and a plan for effective completion and processing of [such
2503 applications] same-day election registrations. The Secretary shall
2504 approve or disapprove such written certification annually not later than
2505 [twenty-nine days before election day] March first, except that for

2506 election day in 2026, the Secretary shall so approve or disapprove not
2507 later than twenty-nine days before such election day, and may require
2508 the registrars of voters to appoint one or more additional election
2509 officials or alter such design or plan.

2510 (B) If, after the registrars of voters annually submit the written
2511 certification under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the registrars
2512 make any change to any part of such written certification, including for
2513 any additional location designated pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
2514 subsection, such registrars shall submit to the Secretary of the State an
2515 updated written certification, in a form and manner prescribed by the
2516 Secretary, as soon as practicable but in no case later than seven days
2517 after such change. The registrars shall clearly indicate on such updated
2518 written certification the information that has changed since the prior
2519 submission. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such updated
2520 written certification as soon as practicable but in no case later than seven
2521 days after submission thereof. If the Secretary disapproves such
2522 updated certification, the Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons
2523 for such disapproval and shall issue an order for such corrective action
2524 as the Secretary deems necessary, in accordance with subparagraph (A)
2525 of this subdivision.

2526 (2) The legislative body of the municipality may apply to the
2527 Secretary of the State not later than seventy-four days before election
2528 day, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, to designate any
2529 additional location for the completion and processing of same-day
2530 election [registration applications] registrations on election day. The
2531 Secretary shall approve or disapprove such application not later than
2532 fifty-nine days before election day. If the Secretary approves such
2533 application, the registrars of voters may so designate any such
2534 additional location. The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection
2535 shall apply to any such additional location.

2536 (3) (A) The registrars of voters shall appoint, for each day on which
2537 same-day election registrations are completed and processed, a

2538 moderator and such other election officials to serve at each location
2539 designated for such completion and processing. The moderator so
2540 appointed shall perform any duty required, and may exercise any
2541 power authorized, under this title related to the completion and
2542 processing of same-day election registrations at such location. On any
2543 such day and solely for purposes related to the completion and
2544 processing of same-day election registrations, the registrars of voters of
2545 a municipality may, upon agreement, appoint one of the registrars from
2546 such municipality as moderator in accordance with the provisions of
2547 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. The registrars of voters may
2548 delegate to each other election official so appointed [pursuant to
2549 subdivision (1) of this subsection] any of the responsibilities assigned to
2550 the registrars of voters. The registrars of voters shall supervise each such
2551 election official and train each such official to be a same-day election
2552 registration election official.

2553 (B) Whenever the registrars of voters of a municipality appoint,
2554 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, one of the registrars
2555 of such municipality as moderator to serve at a location designated for
2556 the completion and processing of same-day election registrations, such
2557 registrars of voters shall jointly submit to the Secretary of the State (i) a
2558 certification that the registrars of voters of such municipality are in
2559 agreement as to such appointment, and (ii) a written plan detailing
2560 alternative coverage of the duties normally carried out by the registrar
2561 so appointed to ensure that such registrar abstains, on each day in which
2562 such registrar serves as moderator, from any such duties that conflict
2563 with those of the moderator.

2564 (C) Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the commencement
2565 of the period of early voting prior to election day, the registrars of voters
2566 shall provide to the Secretary of the State a written report setting forth
2567 the name, address and, if available, cellular mobile telephone number of
2568 the moderator appointed to serve at each location designated for the
2569 completion and processing of same-day election registrations pursuant
2570 to this subdivision. Such written report shall be included as part of the

2571 written report provided by the registrars to the Secretary under section
2572 9-228a, as amended by this act.

2573 (d) Any person applying for same-day election registration under the
2574 provisions of this section shall make application in accordance with the
2575 provisions of section 9-20, provided (1) (A) on election day, the applicant
2576 shall appear in person not later than eight o'clock p.m., in accordance
2577 with subsection (b) of section 9-174, at the location designated by the
2578 registrars of voters for same-day election registration, and (B) during the
2579 period of early voting prior to election day, the applicant shall appear
2580 in person at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c)
2581 of section 9-174, at such location, (2) an applicant who is a student
2582 enrolled at an institution of higher education may submit a current
2583 photo identification card issued by such institution in lieu of the
2584 identification required by section 9-20, and (3) the applicant shall
2585 declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the
2586 election, as provided in subsection (f) of this section. If the information
2587 that the applicant is required to provide under section 9-20 and this
2588 section does not include proof of the applicant's residential address, the
2589 applicant shall also [(i)] (A) submit identification that shows the
2590 applicant's bona fide residence address, including, but not limited to, a
2591 learner's permit issued under section 14-36 or a utility bill that has the
2592 applicant's name and current address and that has a due date that is not
2593 later than thirty days after the election or, in the case of a student
2594 enrolled at an institution of higher education, a registration or fee
2595 statement from such institution that has the applicant's name and
2596 current address, or [(ii)] (B) prove the applicant's bona fide residence
2597 address by the testimony under oath of at least one elector.

2598 (e) If the registrars of voters determine that an applicant satisfies the
2599 application requirements set forth in subsection (d) of this section, the
2600 registrars of voters shall check the state-wide centralized voter
2601 registration system before admitting such applicant as an elector.

2602 (1) If the registrars of voters determine that the applicant is not

2603 already an elector, the registrars of voters shall admit the applicant as
2604 an elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.

2605 (2) If the registrars of voters determine that such applicant is an
2606 elector in another municipality and such applicant wants to change the
2607 municipality in which the applicant is an elector, notwithstanding the
2608 provisions of section 9-21, the registrars of voters of the municipality in
2609 which such elector now seeks to register shall immediately notify the
2610 registrars of voters in such other municipality that such elector is
2611 changing the municipality in which the applicant is an elector. The
2612 registrars of voters in such other municipality shall notify the election
2613 officials in such municipality to remove such elector from the official
2614 voter list of such municipality. Such election officials shall cross through
2615 the elector's name on such official voter list and mark "off" next to such
2616 elector's name on such official voter list.

2617 (A) If it is reported that such applicant already voted in such other
2618 municipality, the registrars of voters of such other municipality shall
2619 immediately notify the registrars of voters of the municipality in which
2620 such elector now seeks to register. In such event, such elector shall not
2621 receive a same-day election registration ballot from the registrars of
2622 voters of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register.
2623 For any such elector, the same-day election registration process shall
2624 cease in the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register and
2625 such matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters in the
2626 municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. After
2627 completion of such review, if a resolution of the matter cannot be made,
2628 such matter shall be reported to the State Elections Enforcement
2629 Commission which shall conduct an investigation of the matter.

2630 (B) If there is no such report that such applicant already voted in the
2631 other municipality, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which
2632 the applicant seeks to register shall admit the applicant as an elector and
2633 the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.

2634 (f) If the applicant is admitted as an elector, the registrars of voters
2635 shall provide the elector with a same-day election registration ballot and
2636 same-day election registration envelope and shall make a record of such
2637 issuance. The elector shall complete an affirmation imprinted upon the
2638 back of the same-day election registration envelope and shall declare
2639 under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the election.
2640 The affirmation shall be in the form substantially as follows and signed
2641 by the [voter] elector:

2642 AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty
2643 of false statement, (perjury) that:

2644 1. I am the person admitted here as an elector in the town indicated.

2645 2. I am eligible to vote in the election indicated for today in the town
2646 indicated.

2647 3. The information on my voter registration card is correct and
2648 complete.

2649 4. I reside at the address that I have given to the registrars of voters.

2650 5. If previously registered at another location, I have provided such
2651 address to the registrars of voters and hereby request cancellation of
2652 such prior registration.

2653 6. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not vote
2654 otherwise than by this ballot at this election.

2655 7. I completed an application for a same-day election registration
2656 ballot and received a same-day election registration ballot.

2657 (Signature of voter)

2658 (Printed name of voter)

2659 (g) The elector shall forthwith mark the same-day election
2660 registration ballot in the presence of the registrars of voters in such a

2661 manner that the registrars of voters shall not know how the same-day
2662 election registration ballot is marked. The elector shall place the same-
2663 day election registration ballot in the same-day election registration
2664 ballot envelope provided, and deposit such envelope in a secured same-
2665 day election registration ballot depository receptacle. At the conclusion
2666 of each day during the early voting period, the registrars of voters shall
2667 transport such receptacle containing such day's same-day election
2668 registration ballots to the municipal clerk, who shall retain and securely
2669 store such ballots in as near a manner as possible to that for the retention
2670 and secure storage of absentee ballots, as provided in subsection (h) of
2671 this section, except that, if such manner is not practicable, such same-
2672 day election registration ballots shall be retained and securely stored as
2673 provided in an alternate plan submitted by the registrars of voters to the
2674 Secretary of the State and approved by the Secretary. On election day,
2675 the previously retained and securely stored same-day election
2676 registration ballots shall be delivered to the registrars of voters and, at
2677 the time designated by the registrars of voters and noticed to election
2678 officials, the registrars of voters shall transport such receptacle
2679 containing the same-day election registration ballots received on such
2680 election day to the central location or polling place, pursuant to
2681 subsection (b) of section 9-147a, where absentee ballots are counted and
2682 such same-day election registration ballots shall be counted by the
2683 election officials present at such central location or polling place. A
2684 section of the head moderator's return shall show the number of same-
2685 day election registration ballots received from electors. The registrars of
2686 voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for same-day election
2687 registration ballots in a depository envelope with the same-day election
2688 registration ballots and store such same-day election registration
2689 depository envelope with the other election results materials. The same-
2690 day election registration depository envelope shall be preserved by the
2691 registrars of voters for the period of time required to preserve counted
2692 ballots for elections.

2693 (h) Except as provided in section 9-163bb, as amended by this act, the

2694 provisions of this title and any regulation adopted under this title
2695 concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of
2696 absentee ballots shall apply, as nearly as possible, to the custody, control
2697 and counting of same-day election registration ballots under this
2698 section.

2699 (i) After the acceptance of a same-day election registration, the
2700 registrars of voters shall forthwith send a registration confirmation
2701 notice to the residential address of each applicant who was admitted as
2702 an elector on election day or during the period of early voting prior to
2703 election day under this section. Such confirmation shall be sent by first
2704 class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not
2705 deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. If a confirmation
2706 notice is returned undelivered, the registrars shall forthwith take the
2707 necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43, as applicable,
2708 notwithstanding the May first deadline in section 9-35.

2709 (j) (1) No person shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to any
2710 candidate or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being
2711 submitted at the election, or loiter or peddle or offer any advertising
2712 matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius of seventy-
2713 five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any building that
2714 contains any location designated by the registrars of voters for same-
2715 day election registration balloting or in any corridor, passageway or
2716 other approach leading from any such outside entrance to any such
2717 location or in any room opening upon any such corridor, passageway
2718 or approach.

2719 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, no person
2720 shall be allowed within any location designated by the registrars of
2721 voters for same-day election registration balloting for any purpose other
2722 than casting such person's vote, except (A) primary officials under
2723 section 9-436, (B) election officials under section 9-258, including (i) a
2724 municipal clerk or registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same
2725 office, and (ii) a deputy registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the

2726 office of registrar of voters, performing such official's duties, and (C)
2727 unofficial checkers under section 9-235.

2728 (3) A person, including any candidate or any campaign or party
2729 employee or volunteer, may be within the seventy-five-foot radius
2730 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection (A) only for purposes
2731 related to the performance of such person's official duties or to the
2732 conduct of government business within such radius, (B) only for as long
2733 as necessary to perform such duties or conduct such business, and (C)
2734 provided such person is not engaged in any conduct described in
2735 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

2736 (k) No election official shall perform services for any party or
2737 candidate on any day on which such election official is appointed to
2738 serve under this section, nor appear at any political party headquarters
2739 prior to the hour prescribed under subsection (b) or subdivision (1) of
2740 subsection (c) of section 9-174, as applicable, for the closing of the
2741 location designated for same-day election registration on such day.

2742 Sec. 72. Section 9-228a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2743 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

2744 (a) [The] Not later than the thirty-first day preceding the day of each
2745 municipal, state or federal election or primary, the registrars of voters of
2746 each municipality shall [, not later than thirty-one days prior to each
2747 municipal, state or federal election or primary,] certify to the Secretary
2748 of the State, in writing, the location of each polling place that will be
2749 used for such election or primary. Such certification shall detail the
2750 name, address, relevant contact information and corresponding federal,
2751 state and municipal districts associated with each polling place used for
2752 such election or primary.

2753 (b) [The] Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the
2754 commencement of the period of early voting at each municipal, state or
2755 federal election or primary, in accordance with the provisions of
2756 subsection (a) of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, the registrars

2757 of voters of each municipality shall [, prior to each municipal, state or
2758 federal election or primary,] provide a written report to the Secretary of
2759 the State setting forth the names, [and] addresses and, if available,
2760 cellular mobile telephone numbers of each moderator for each (1)
2761 polling place location disclosed pursuant to subsection (a) of this
2762 section, (2) location designated for the conduct of early voting pursuant
2763 to subsection (b) of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, and (3)
2764 location designated for the completion and processing of same-day
2765 election registrations pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-19j, as
2766 amended by this act.

2767 (c) The Secretary of the State shall have the authority to disqualify
2768 any moderator appointed by the registrars of voters if, after consultation
2769 with both registrars of voters, the Secretary determines such moderator
2770 has committed material misconduct, material neglect of duty or material
2771 incompetence in the discharge of his or her duties as a moderator. If the
2772 Secretary disqualifies a moderator, the Secretary shall share his or her
2773 findings upon which the disqualification was based with the registrars
2774 of voters.

2775 Sec. 73. Section 9-247 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2776 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

2777 The registrars of voters shall, before [the day of the] the
2778 commencement of the period of early voting at each election, cause test
2779 ballots to be inserted in each voting tabulator to ensure that each voting
2780 tabulator is prepared and read and cause each other voting system
2781 approved by the Secretary of the State for use in the election, including,
2782 but not limited to, voting devices equipped for individuals with
2783 disabilities that comply with the provisions of the Help America Vote
2784 Act, P.L. 107-25, as amended from time to time, to be put in order in
2785 every way and set and adjust the same so that it shall be ready for use
2786 in voting when delivered at the polling place, location designated for
2787 the conduct of early voting or location designated for the conduct of
2788 same-day election registration, as applicable. Such registrars of voters

2789 shall cause each voting system to be in order and set and adjusted, to be
2790 delivered at the polling place, location designated for the conduct of
2791 early voting or location designated for the conduct of same-day election
2792 registration, as applicable, together with all necessary furniture and
2793 appliances that go with the same, at the room where [the election is to
2794 be held] voting at such election is to take place, and to be tested and
2795 operable not later than one hour prior to the opening of the polling
2796 place, location designated for the conduct of early voting or location
2797 designated for the conduct of same-day election registration, as
2798 applicable.

2799 Sec. 74. Section 9-56 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2800 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

2801 Except as otherwise provided in the case of an elector whose name
2802 has not been placed on or has been removed from the enrollment list
2803 under section 9-59, 9-60, 9-61 or 9-62, any elector not enrolled on any
2804 enrollment list may at any time make a written and signed application
2805 for enrollment to the registrars of voters on an application form for
2806 admission as an elector, in accordance with the requirements of this
2807 section. The application shall be effective as of the date it is filed with
2808 the registrars of voters of the town of residence of the applicant and any
2809 person making application for enrollment in such manner shall
2810 immediately be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment unless the
2811 application for enrollment (1) is filed in person by the applicant with the
2812 registrars of voters after twelve o'clock noon on the last business day
2813 before a primary, in which case he shall be entitled to the privileges of
2814 party enrollment immediately after the primary, (2) is otherwise filed
2815 with the registrar after the [fifth] eighteenth day before the primary, in
2816 which case he shall be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment
2817 immediately after the primary, except as provided in section 9-23a, or
2818 (3) is filed with the registrars of voters after 5:00 p.m. on the last business
2819 day before a caucus or convention, in which case he shall be entitled to
2820 the privileges of party enrollment immediately after the caucus or
2821 convention. The application shall be signed or initialed by the registrar,

2822 deputy, assistant or registrar's clerk receiving it, or by such other
2823 personnel as such registrar or deputy may appoint for the purpose,
2824 showing the date when such application is received and, in the case of
2825 an applicant not immediately eligible under section 9-59, 9-60, 9-61 or 9-
2826 62 to the privileges accompanying enrollment in the party named in his
2827 application, the date upon which such applicant becomes so eligible. In
2828 municipalities divided into voting districts in which an enrollment
2829 session is held in each district thereof under section 9-51, application for
2830 enrollment shall be made to the registrar or assistant registrar, as the
2831 case may be, in the voting district in which such elector is entitled to
2832 vote at the time of making such application. If any registrar or assistant
2833 registrar fails to add any name to any such list on written application or
2834 adds any name to any such list except as herein provided, he shall be
2835 guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

2836 Sec. 75. Subsection (d) of section 9-229 of the general statutes is
2837 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2838 *passage*):

2839 (d) If the person designated as moderator is unable to serve for any
2840 reason, a certified alternate moderator shall serve as moderator. If such
2841 certified alternate moderator is not called upon to serve as moderator,
2842 he shall serve in another capacity as an election official on election or
2843 primary day. If any town or voting district lacks a moderator due to the
2844 death, disability or withdrawal of a certified moderator or alternate
2845 moderator, or due to the disqualification of a moderator for any reason,
2846 including failure to attend an instructional session as required by this
2847 section, the registrars of voters shall appoint a new moderator for such
2848 town or voting district in the manner provided in this section, except
2849 that the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has,
2850 in a court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or
2851 nolo contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny,
2852 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. Such
2853 new moderator shall attend an instructional session and a certification
2854 session conducted in accordance with the provisions of this section. If

2855 all such sessions have been conducted at the time of appointment of the
2856 new moderator, the new moderator shall receive instruction from the
2857 registrars who appointed the new moderator.

2858 Sec. 76. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2859 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

2860 The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or
2861 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time,
2862 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of voters
2863 of any municipality taking such action shall provide a suitable polling
2864 place in each district but, if the registrars fail to agree as to the location
2865 of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall determine the
2866 location thereof. Polling places to be used in an election shall be
2867 determined at least thirty-one days before such election, and such
2868 polling places shall not be changed within said period of thirty-one days
2869 except that, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a
2870 municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such
2871 municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall
2872 forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of the one
2873 so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling
2874 place has been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate
2875 lists of the electors residing in each district and shall appoint for each
2876 district a moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229,
2877 as amended by this act, and such other election officials as are required
2878 by law, and shall designate one of the moderators so appointed or any
2879 other elector of such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of
2880 declaring the results of elections in the whole municipality, except that
2881 the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has, in a
2882 court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo
2883 contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny,
2884 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. The
2885 registrars may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the
2886 head moderator in the performance of his duties provided the deputy
2887 head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled in the

2888 same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372. The
2889 selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and all other officers of the
2890 municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with
2891 respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance with
2892 this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn by a municipality so
2893 as to conflict with the lines of congressional districts, senate districts or
2894 assembly districts as established by law, except [(1)] (A) as provided in
2895 section 9-169d, and [(2)] (B) that as to municipal elections, any part of a
2896 split voting district containing less than two hundred electors may be
2897 combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from which all
2898 and the same officers are elected at such municipal election. Any change
2899 in the boundaries of voting districts made within ninety days prior to
2900 any election or primary shall not apply with respect to such election or
2901 primary. The provisions of this section shall prevail over any contrary
2902 provision of any charter or special act.

2903 Sec. 77. Section 9-322a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2904 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

2905 (a) Not later than forty-eight hours following each regular election,
2906 the registrars of voters shall provide the results of the votes cast at such
2907 election to the town clerk. Not later than nine o'clock a.m. on the third
2908 day following each regular election, the head moderator, registrars of
2909 voters and town clerk for each town [divided into voting districts] shall
2910 meet to identify any error in the returns. Not later than one o'clock p.m.
2911 on the third day following each regular election, the head moderator
2912 shall correct any error identified and file an amended return with the
2913 Secretary of the State, the town clerk and the registrars of voters.

2914 (b) Not later than twenty-one days following each regular state
2915 election, the town clerk of each town [divided into voting districts] shall
2916 file with the Secretary of the State a consolidated listing, in tabular
2917 format, as prescribed by the Secretary of the State, of the official returns
2918 [of each such voting district] for all offices voted on at such election,
2919 including the total number of votes cast for each candidate, the total

2920 number of names on the registry list, and the total number of names
2921 checked as having voted. [, in each such district.] The town clerk of such
2922 town shall certify that he or she has examined the lists transmitted under
2923 this section to determine whether there are any discrepancies between
2924 the total number of votes cast for a candidate at such election in such
2925 town, including for any recanvass conducted pursuant to section 9-311,
2926 as amended by this act, or 9-311a, as amended by this act, and the sum
2927 of the votes cast for the same candidate in all voting districts in such
2928 town if such town has been divided into voting districts. In the case of
2929 any such discrepancy, the town clerk shall notify the head moderator
2930 and certify that such discrepancy has been rectified. Each listing filed
2931 under this section shall be retained by the Secretary of the State not less
2932 than ten years after the date of the election for which it was filed.

2933 Sec. 78. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
2934 "municipality", "government enforcement action", "federal Voting
2935 Rights Act" and "protected class" have the same meanings as provided
2936 in section 9-368i of the general statutes.

2937 (b) The corporation counsel of any municipality that has been subject
2938 to any court order or government enforcement action described in
2939 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-368m
2940 of the general statutes shall provide to the office of the Secretary of the
2941 State all details pertaining to such matter not later than one month after
2942 the effective date of this section, the issuance of such court order or the
2943 commencement of such government enforcement action, whichever is
2944 latest.

2945 (c) If an action filed in a court of competent jurisdiction alleges a
2946 violation of the provisions of sections 9-368j to 9-368q, inclusive, of the
2947 general statutes, the federal Voting Rights Act, any state or federal civil
2948 rights law, the fifteenth amendment to the United States Constitution or
2949 the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution, which
2950 violation concerns the right to vote or a pattern, practice or policy of
2951 discrimination against any protected class, the party that filed such

2952 action shall cause notice of the hearing on such action to be given to the
2953 Secretary of the State.

2954 Sec. 79. Section 9-388 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2955 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

2956 (a) Whenever a convention of a political party is held for the
2957 endorsement of candidates for nomination to state or district office, each
2958 candidate endorsed at such convention shall file with the Secretary of
2959 the State a certificate, signed by him, stating that he was endorsed by
2960 such convention, his name as he authorizes it to appear on the ballot, his
2961 full residence address and the title and district, if applicable, of the office
2962 for which he was endorsed. Such certificate shall be attested by either
2963 (1) the chairman or presiding officer, or (2) the secretary of such
2964 convention and shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later
2965 than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of such
2966 convention. Such certificate shall either be mailed to the Secretary of the
2967 State by certified mail, return receipt requested, or delivered in person,
2968 in which case a receipt indicating the date and time of delivery shall be
2969 provided by the Secretary of the State to the person making delivery. If
2970 a certificate of a party's endorsement for a particular state or district
2971 office is not received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such
2972 certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of [section 9-
2973 416 and section 9-416a] sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to
2974 have made no endorsement of any candidate for such office. If
2975 applicable, the chairman of a party's state convention shall, forthwith
2976 upon the close of such convention, file with the Secretary of the State the
2977 names and full residence addresses of persons selected by such
2978 convention as the nominees of such party for electors of President and
2979 Vice-President of the United States in accordance with the provisions of
2980 section 9-175.

2981 (b) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of a party's endorsement
2982 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which contains an error or
2983 omission that would operate to invalidate such endorsement, the

2984 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
2985 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
2986 person at the office of the Secretary of the State, on a day other than a
2987 Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, not later than four o'clock p.m. on
2988 the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district convention, as
2989 applicable, and amending such certificate to make such correction. If
2990 such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend such
2991 certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party,
2992 for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to have
2993 made no such endorsement.

2994 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
2995 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of a
2996 party's endorsement to correct any such error or omission, and shall
2997 keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
2998 subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require
2999 the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission
3000 in any such certificate.

3001 Sec. 80. Subsection (c) of section 9-391 of the general statutes is
3002 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3003 *passage*):

3004 (c) (1) Each endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the
3005 nomination of candidates for a municipal office to be voted upon at a
3006 state election shall be made under the provisions of section 9-390 not
3007 earlier than the eighty-fourth day or later than the seventy-seventh day
3008 preceding the day of such primary. Each certification to be filed under
3009 this subsection shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later
3010 than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of the town
3011 committee meeting, caucus or convention, as the case may be. If such a
3012 certificate of a party's endorsement is not received by the Secretary of
3013 the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party,
3014 for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-418, shall be deemed to have
3015 neither made nor certified any endorsement of any candidate for such

3016 office. The candidate so endorsed for a municipal office to be voted upon
3017 at a state election, other than the office of justice of the peace, shall file
3018 with the Secretary of the State a certificate, signed by that candidate,
3019 stating that such candidate was so endorsed, the candidate's name as
3020 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
3021 street address and the title and district of the office for which the
3022 candidate was endorsed. Such certificate may be filed by a candidate
3023 whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such
3024 party within the senatorial district within which the candidate is
3025 endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of
3026 state senator, or the assembly district within which the candidate is
3027 endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of
3028 state representative, or the municipality or political subdivision within
3029 which the candidate is to run for nomination for other municipal offices
3030 to be voted on at a state election. Such certificate shall be attested by
3031 either the chairperson or presiding officer or the secretary of the town
3032 committee, caucus or convention which made such endorsement. The
3033 endorsement of any candidate for the office of justice of the peace shall
3034 be certified to the clerk of the municipality by either the chairperson or
3035 presiding officer or the secretary of the town committee, caucus or
3036 convention, and shall contain the name and street address of each
3037 candidate so endorsed and the title of the office for which each such
3038 candidate is endorsed. Such certification shall be made on a form
3039 prescribed by the Secretary of the State or on such other form as may
3040 comply with the provisions of this subsection.

3041 (2) (A) In the case of a timely filed certificate of a party's endorsement
3042 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, which contains an error
3043 or omission that would operate to invalidate such endorsement, the
3044 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
3045 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
3046 person at the office of the Secretary of the State, on a day other than a
3047 Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, not later than four o'clock p.m. on
3048 the nineteenth day after the close of the town committee meeting.

3049 caucus or convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to
3050 make such correction. If such candidate or individual does not appear
3051 to so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be
3052 invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-418,
3053 shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified such endorsement.

3054 (B) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
3055 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, amend a timely filed certificate of
3056 a party's endorsement to correct any such error or omission, and shall
3057 keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
3058 subparagraph. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to
3059 require the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or
3060 omission in any such certificate.

3061 Sec. 81. Section 9-400 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3062 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3063 (a) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a state office
3064 may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon
3065 the last-completed enrollment list of such party in any municipality
3066 within the state and who has either (1) received at least fifteen per cent
3067 of the votes of the convention delegates present and voting on any roll-
3068 call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a
3069 candidate for such state office, whether or not the party-endorsed
3070 candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on the last ballot,
3071 or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of at least two
3072 per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the state, in accordance
3073 with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive. Candidacies
3074 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed by
3075 submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m.
3076 on the fourteenth day following the close of the state convention, a
3077 certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the
3078 chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that
3079 such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that
3080 such candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for

3081 such state office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as
3082 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
3083 residence address and the title of the office for which the candidacy is
3084 being filed. If such certificate for a state office is not received by the
3085 Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and
3086 such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be
3087 deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination
3088 by a political party [for] to such state office. A single such certificate or
3089 petition for state office may be filed on behalf of two or more candidates
3090 for different state offices who consent to have their names appear on a
3091 single row of the primary ballot under subsection (b) of section 9-437.
3092 Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed
3093 by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-
3094 third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar
3095 of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were
3096 circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the
3097 Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c.
3098 A petition filed by or on behalf of a candidate for state office shall be
3099 invalid for such candidate if such candidate is certified as the party-
3100 endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act,
3101 or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such
3102 office pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a,
3103 upon the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and
3104 circulation and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or
3105 more candidacies for such state office have been filed pursuant to the
3106 provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town
3107 clerks and registrars of voters in accordance with the provisions of
3108 section 9-433, that a primary for such state office shall be held in each
3109 municipality in accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

3110 (b) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a district office
3111 may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon
3112 the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the district the
3113 person seeks to represent that is in the office of the Secretary of the State

3114 at the end of the last day prior to the convention for the party from
3115 which the person seeks nomination and who has either (1) received at
3116 least fifteen per cent of the votes of the convention delegates present and
3117 voting on any roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed
3118 endorsement of a candidate for such district office, whether or not the
3119 party-endorsed candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on
3120 the last ballot, or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of
3121 at least two per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district
3122 for the district office of representative in Congress, and at least five per
3123 cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district for the district
3124 offices of state senator, state representative and judge of probate, in
3125 accordance with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive.
3126 Candidacies described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed
3127 by submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
3128 p.m. on the fourteenth day following the close of the district convention,
3129 a certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the
3130 chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that
3131 such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that
3132 the candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for
3133 such district office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as
3134 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
3135 residence address and the title and district of the office for which the
3136 candidacy is being filed. If such certificate for a district office is not
3137 received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall
3138 be invalid and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-
3139 416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy
3140 for nomination by a political party [~~for~~] to such district office.
3141 Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed
3142 by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-
3143 third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar
3144 of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were
3145 circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the
3146 Secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c. A petition
3147 may only be filed by or on behalf of a candidate for the district office of

3148 state senator, state representative or judge of probate who is not certified
3149 as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended
3150 by this act, or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote
3151 for such office pursuant to this subsection. A petition filed by or on
3152 behalf of a candidate for the district office of representative in Congress
3153 shall be invalid if said candidate is certified as the party-endorsed
3154 candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act, or as
3155 receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such office
3156 pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a, upon
3157 the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and circulation
3158 and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or more
3159 candidacies for such district office have been filed pursuant to the
3160 provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town
3161 clerks within the district, in accordance with the provisions of section 9-
3162 433, that a primary for such district office shall be held in each
3163 municipality and each part of a municipality within the district in
3164 accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

3165 (c) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of candidacy for
3166 nomination by a political party pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this
3167 section, which contains an error or omission that would operate to
3168 invalidate such candidacy for nomination, the person so certified or an
3169 agent of such person may correct such error or omission by appearing
3170 in person at the office of the Secretary of the State, on a day other than a
3171 Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, not later than four o'clock p.m. on
3172 the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district convention, as
3173 applicable, and amending such certificate to make such correction,
3174 provided neither failure of such person to timely file such certificate
3175 pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section nor failure of the
3176 chairperson, presiding officer or secretary of the convention to attest
3177 such certificate shall be an error or omission that may be corrected
3178 pursuant to this subsection. If such person or agent does not appear to
3179 so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid
3180 and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be

3181 deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination
3182 by a political party. As used in this subsection, "agent" means an
3183 individual authorized to act on behalf of a person.

3184 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
3185 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of
3186 candidacy for nomination to correct any such error or omission, and
3187 shall keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
3188 subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require
3189 the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission
3190 in any such certificate.

3191 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) For the purposes of this section, the number of enrolled
3192 members of a party shall be determined by the latest enrollment records
3193 in the office of the Secretary of the State prior to the earliest date that
3194 primary petitions were available. The names of electors on the inactive
3195 registry list compiled under section 9-35 shall not be counted for
3196 purposes of computing the number of petition signatures required
3197 under this section, as provided in section 9-35c.

3198 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) On the last day for filing primary petition candidacies in
3199 accordance with the provisions of this section, the office or office
3200 facilities of the registrars of voters shall open not later than one o'clock
3201 p.m., and remain open until at least four o'clock p.m., and such
3202 registrars or the deputy or assistant registrars shall be present.

3203 Sec. 82. Section 9-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3204 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3205 (a) All minor parties nominating candidates for any elective office
3206 shall make such nominations and certify and file a list of such
3207 nominations, as required by this section, not later than the sixty-second
3208 day prior to the day of the election at which such candidates are to be
3209 voted for. A list of nominees in printed or typewritten form that includes
3210 each candidate's name as authorized by each candidate to appear on the
3211 ballot, the signature of each candidate, the full street address of each

3212 candidate and the title and district of the office for which each candidate
3213 is nominated shall be certified by the presiding officer of the committee,
3214 meeting or other authority making such nomination and shall be filed
3215 by such presiding officer with the Secretary of the State, in the case of
3216 any state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election,
3217 or with the clerk of the municipality, in the case of any municipal office
3218 to be voted upon at a municipal election, not later than the sixty-second
3219 day prior to the day of the election. The registrars of voters of such
3220 municipality shall promptly verify and correct the names on any such
3221 list filed with him, or the names of nominees forwarded to the clerk of
3222 the municipality by the Secretary of the State, in accordance with the
3223 registry list of such municipality and endorse the same as having been
3224 so verified and corrected. For the purposes of this section, a list of
3225 nominations shall be deemed to be filed when it is received by the
3226 Secretary of the State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate. If such
3227 certificate of a party's nomination is not received by the Secretary of the
3228 State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate, by such time, such
3229 certificate shall be invalid and such party, for purposes of sections 9-460,
3230 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any
3231 nomination of any candidate for such office. A candidacy for
3232 nomination by a minor party to a district or municipal office may be
3233 filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed
3234 registry list of the district or municipality represented by such office, as
3235 the case may be. A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a state
3236 office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the
3237 last-completed registry list of the state.

3238 (b) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of nomination for any
3239 state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election
3240 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which contains an error or
3241 omission that would operate to invalidate such nomination, the
3242 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
3243 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
3244 person at the office of the Secretary of the State, on a day other than a

3245 Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, not later than four o'clock p.m. on
3246 the fifty-seventh day prior to the day of the election and amending such
3247 certificate to make such correction, provided neither failure of the
3248 presiding officer of the committee, meeting or other authority to timely
3249 file such certificate pursuant to subsection (a) of this section nor failure
3250 of the candidate to sign such certificate shall be an error or omission that
3251 may be corrected pursuant to this subsection. If such candidate or
3252 individual does not appear to so amend such certificate by such time,
3253 such certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of
3254 sections 9-460, 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to have neither made
3255 nor certified any such nomination.

3256 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
3257 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of
3258 nomination to correct any such error or omission, and shall keep a
3259 record of any such amendment made pursuant to this subdivision.
3260 Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require the Secretary
3261 to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission in any such
3262 certificate.

3263 Sec. 83. Section 9-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3264 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3265 (a) Ballots shall be printed in plain clear type and on material of such
3266 size as will fit the tabulator, and shall be furnished by the registrar of
3267 voters. The size and style of the type used to print the name of a political
3268 party on a ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type
3269 used to print the names of all other political parties appearing on such
3270 ballot. The name of each major party candidate for a municipal office, as
3271 defined in section 9-372, except for the municipal offices of state senator
3272 and state representative, shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each
3273 candidate. The name of each major party candidate for a state or district
3274 office, as defined in section 9-372, or for the municipal office of state
3275 senator or state representative shall appear on the ballot as it appears on
3276 the certificate or statement of consent filed under section 9-388, as

3277 amended by this act, subsection (b) of section 9-391, or section 9-400, as
3278 amended by this act, or 9-409. The name of each minor party candidate
3279 shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each candidate. The name of
3280 each nominating petition candidate shall appear on the ballot as it is
3281 verified by the town clerk on the application filed under section 9-453b.
3282 The size and style of the type used to print the name of a candidate on a
3283 ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type used to print
3284 the names of all other candidates appearing on such ballot. Such ballot
3285 shall contain the names of the offices and the names of the candidates
3286 arranged thereon. The names of the political parties and party
3287 designations shall be arranged on the ballots and followed by the word
3288 "party", either in columns or horizontal rows as set forth in section 9-
3289 249a, immediately adjacent to the column or row occupied by the
3290 candidate or candidates of such political party or organization. The
3291 ballot shall be printed in such manner as to indicate how many
3292 candidates the elector may vote for each office, provided in the case of a
3293 town adopting the provisions of section 9-204a, such ballot shall indicate
3294 the maximum number of candidates who may be elected to such office
3295 from any party. If two or more candidates are to be elected to the same
3296 office for different terms, the term for which each is nominated shall be
3297 printed on the official ballot as a part of the title of the office. If, at any
3298 election, one candidate is to be elected for a full term and another to fill
3299 a vacancy, the official ballot containing the names of the candidates in
3300 the foregoing order shall, as a part of the title of the office, designate the
3301 term which such candidates are severally nominated to fill. No column,
3302 under the name of any political party or independent organization, shall
3303 be printed on any official ballot, which contains more candidates for any
3304 office than the number for which an elector may vote for that office.

3305 (b) Not later than ten days prior to the commencement of the period
3306 of early voting at an election, the town clerk of each municipality shall
3307 file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting district in such
3308 municipality, the official ballot to be used for such voting district. No
3309 such official ballot shall be used at any election unless it has been

3310 approved by the Secretary of the State.

3311 Sec. 84. Subsection (j) of section 9-437 of the general statutes is
3312 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3313 *passage*):

3314 (j) (1) All ballots used at a primary shall be prepared by the clerk of
3315 the municipality in which such primary is held and shall be printed at
3316 the expense of the municipality. Not later than ten days prior to the
3317 commencement of the period of early voting at a primary, such clerk
3318 shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting district in such
3319 municipality at which such primary is held, the ballot to be used for
3320 such voting district. No such ballot shall be used at any primary unless
3321 it has been approved by the Secretary of the State.

3322 (2) Each municipality shall provide for all polling places:

3323 [(1)] (A) At least forty-eight hours before the primary, [such clerk
3324 shall have] sample ballots for general distribution by such clerk, which
3325 shall contain the offices or positions and names of candidates to be voted
3326 upon. Each such sample ballot shall also include printed instructions
3327 approved by the Secretary of the State concerning the use of the voting
3328 tabulator and information concerning the date of the primary and the
3329 hours during which polling places will be open. Such clerk shall have
3330 available for distribution such number of sample ballots as such clerk
3331 deems advisable, but in no event less than three which shall be posted
3332 inside the polling place so as to be visible to those within the polling
3333 place during the whole day of the primary. At least one of such sample
3334 ballots shall be posted so as to be visible to an elector being instructed
3335 on the demonstrator device, pursuant to section 9-260. If paper ballots
3336 are used in any primary, such sample paper ballots shall be overprinted
3337 with the word "Sample";

3338 [(2)] (B) Instructions on how to cast a provisional ballot, as prescribed
3339 by the Secretary of the State;

3340 [(3)] (C) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters who
3341 register to vote by mail on or after January 1, 2003, as prescribed by the
3342 Secretary of the State;

3343 [(4)] (D) General information concerning voting rights under federal
3344 and Connecticut laws, including information on the right of an
3345 individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how to contact
3346 the appropriate officials if such rights are alleged to have been violated,
3347 as prescribed by the Secretary of the State; and

3348 [(5)] (E) General information on federal and state laws concerning
3349 prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation, as prescribed by
3350 the Secretary of the State.

3351 Sec. 85. Subsection (a) of section 9-135a of the general statutes is
3352 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3353 *passage*):

3354 (a) Each absentee ballot shall be arranged to resemble the appropriate
3355 ballot and sample ballot as prescribed by law, and shall include, as
3356 applicable, the offices, party designations, names of candidates and
3357 questions to be voted upon and spaces for write-in votes. A replica of
3358 the state seal shall be printed on the ballot. The size, type, form,
3359 instructions, specifications for paper and printing and other
3360 specifications shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the State. Prior to
3361 printing such absentee ballots pursuant to this section, the clerk of the
3362 municipality shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting
3363 district in such municipality, the absentee ballot to be used for such
3364 voting district. No such absentee ballot shall be used at any election or
3365 primary unless it has been approved by the Secretary of the State.

3366 Sec. 86. Section 9-135b of the general statutes is repealed and the
3367 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3368 (a) Immediately after the deadline for certification of all candidates
3369 whose names are to appear on the ballot, and in sufficient time to begin

3370 issuing absentee ballots on the day prescribed by law, the municipal
3371 clerk shall prepare the absentee ballots and have them printed. Prior to
3372 printing such ballots, the registrars of voters of the municipality may
3373 provide comments concerning the content and form of such ballots to
3374 the clerk, provided no such ballot shall be printed unless the Secretary
3375 of the State has approved of such ballot in accordance with section 9-
3376 135a, as amended by this act.

3377 (b) A layout model of each different absentee ballot shall be available
3378 for public inspection at the clerk's office prior to printing. The model
3379 shall indicate the type face to be used, the spelling and placement of
3380 names and other information to be printed on the ballots.

3381 (c) Immediately upon receiving the printed absentee ballots, the
3382 municipal clerk shall file one with the Secretary of the State or, if there
3383 are different ballots for different political subdivisions, one ballot for
3384 each subdivision. The clerk shall also file his affidavit with the Secretary,
3385 stating the number of ballots printed. The form of affidavit shall be
3386 prescribed by the Secretary. If any correction or alteration is
3387 subsequently made on any absentee ballot the clerk shall immediately
3388 file a corrected or altered ballot and, using the prescribed form, his
3389 affidavit stating the number of such ballots printed, with the Secretary.

3390 (d) If a vacancy in candidacy occurs after the ballots have been
3391 printed, the clerk may either reprint the ballots or cause printed stickers
3392 to be affixed to them so that the name of any candidate who has vacated
3393 his candidacy is deleted and the name of any candidate chosen to fill the
3394 vacancy as provided in section 9-428 or section 9-460 appears in the
3395 same position as that in which the vacated candidacy appeared except
3396 as provided in section 9-426 or 9-453s. If no candidate is chosen to fill
3397 such vacancy as so provided, the clerk shall cause the name of the
3398 candidate whose candidacy has been vacated to be obscured in such
3399 manner that such name is no longer visible.

3400 (e) [The] Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the

3401 Secretary of the State [shall examine each absentee ballot required to be
3402 filed pursuant to this section and if a ballot contains an omission or
3403 error, the Secretary shall order] from ordering the municipal clerk to
3404 reprint a corrected absentee ballot or to take such other action as the
3405 Secretary may deem appropriate in the case of an absentee ballot that
3406 contains an omission or error.

3407 Sec. 87. Section 9-256 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3408 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3409 [The registrars of voters of each municipality shall, not less than ten
3410 days prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at an
3411 election, file with the Secretary of the State a sample ballot identical with
3412 those to be provided for each polling place under section 9-255. The
3413 Secretary of the State shall examine the sample ballot required to be filed
3414 under this section, and if such sample ballot contains an error, the
3415 Secretary of the State shall order] Notwithstanding the provisions of
3416 subsection (b) of section 9-250, as amended by this act, the Secretary of
3417 the State may order the registrars of voters to reprint a corrected
3418 [sample] ballot or to take other such action as the Secretary may deem
3419 appropriate in the case of any ballot that contains an omission or error.

3420 Sec. 88. Subsection (a) of section 9-140b of the general statutes is
3421 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3422 *passage*):

3423 (a) An absentee ballot shall be cast at a primary, election or
3424 referendum only if: (1) It is mailed by (A) the ballot applicant, (B) a
3425 designee of a person who applies for an absentee ballot because of
3426 illness or physical disability, or (C) a member of the immediate family
3427 of an applicant who is a student, so that it is received by the clerk of the
3428 municipality in which the applicant is qualified to vote not later than the
3429 close of the polls; (2) it is returned by the applicant in person to the clerk
3430 by the day before [a regular election, special] the election or primary or
3431 prior to the opening of the polls on the day of [a] the referendum; (3) it

3432 is returned by a designee of an ill or physically disabled ballot applicant,
3433 in person, to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of
3434 the election, primary or referendum; (4) it is returned by a member of
3435 the immediate family of the absentee voter, in person, to said clerk not
3436 later than the close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or
3437 referendum; (5) in the case of a presidential or overseas ballot, it is
3438 mailed or otherwise returned pursuant to the provisions of section 9-
3439 158g; or (6) it is returned with the proper identification as required by
3440 the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time,
3441 if applicable, inserted in the outer envelope so such identification can be
3442 viewed without opening the inner envelope. A person returning an
3443 absentee ballot to the municipal clerk pursuant to subdivision (3) or (4)
3444 of this subsection shall present identification and, on the outer envelope
3445 of the absentee ballot, sign his name in the presence of the municipal
3446 clerk, and indicate his address, his relationship to the voter or his
3447 position, and the date and time of such return. As used in this section,
3448 "immediate family" means a dependent relative who resides in the
3449 individual's household or any spouse, child, parent or sibling of the
3450 individual.

3451 Sec. 89. Section 9-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3452 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3453 (a) The Secretary of the State, by virtue of the office, shall be the
3454 Commissioner of Elections of the state, with such powers and duties
3455 relating to the conduct of elections as are prescribed by law and, unless
3456 otherwise provided by state statute, the Secretary's regulations,
3457 declaratory rulings, instructions and opinions, if in written form, and
3458 any order issued under subsection (b) of this section, shall be presumed
3459 as correctly interpreting and effectuating the administration of elections
3460 and primaries under this title, except for chapters 155 to 158, inclusive,
3461 and shall be executed, carried out or implemented, as the case may be,
3462 provided nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the right of
3463 appeal provided under the provisions of chapter 54. Any such written
3464 instruction or opinion shall be labeled as an instruction or opinion

3465 issued pursuant to this section, as applicable, and any such instruction
3466 or opinion shall cite any authority that is discussed in such instruction
3467 or opinion.

3468 (b) During any municipal, state or federal election, primary or
3469 recanvass, or any audit conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, the
3470 Secretary of the State may issue an order, whether orally or in writing,
3471 to any registrar of voters or moderator to correct any irregularity or
3472 impropriety in the conduct of such election, primary or recanvass or
3473 audit. Any such order shall be effective upon issuance. As soon as
3474 practicable after issuance of an oral order pursuant to this subsection,
3475 the Secretary shall reduce such order to writing, cite within such order
3476 any applicable provision of law authorizing such order and cause a copy
3477 of such written order to be delivered to the individual who is the subject
3478 of such order or, in the case that such order was originally issued in
3479 writing, issue a subsequent written order that conforms to such
3480 requirements. The Superior Court, on application of the Secretary or the
3481 Attorney General, may enforce by appropriate decree or process any
3482 such order issued pursuant to this subsection.

3483 (c) Whenever, during the ninety days preceding the day of an election
3484 or primary, one or more electors have alleged aggrievement under this
3485 title, the Secretary of the State may commence a declaratory judgment
3486 action under section 52-29 for a determination as to whether such elector
3487 or electors have been so aggrieved and for an order to ensure election
3488 administration procedures are properly executed and electors' rights are
3489 adequately protected under this title.

3490 Sec. 90. Subsection (d) of section 9-150a of the general statutes is
3491 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3492 *passage*):

3493 (d) (1) If the statement on the inner envelope has not been signed as
3494 required by section 9-140a, such inner envelope shall not be opened or
3495 the ballot removed therefrom, and such inner envelope shall be replaced

3496 in the opened outer envelope which shall be marked "Rejected" and the
3497 reason therefor endorsed thereon by the counters. The moderator shall
3498 maintain a log of each absentee ballot applicant whose ballot was
3499 marked "Rejected" under this subdivision and include thereon for each
3500 such applicant the reason for the rejection. The moderator shall transmit
3501 such log to the Secretary of the State at the same time and in the same
3502 manner as the duplicate list to be transmitted to the Secretary by
3503 electronic means in accordance with section 9-314.

3504 (2) If such statement is signed but the individual completing the
3505 ballot is an individual described in subsection (a) of section 9-23r and
3506 has not met the requirements of subsection (e) of section 9-23r, the
3507 counters shall replace the ballot in the opened inner envelope, replace
3508 the inner envelope in the opened outer envelope and mark "Rejected as
3509 an Absentee Ballot" and endorse the reason for such rejection on the
3510 outer envelope, and the ballot shall be treated as a provisional ballot for
3511 federal offices only, pursuant to sections 9-232i to 9-232o, inclusive. The
3512 moderator shall maintain a log of each absentee ballot applicant whose
3513 ballot was marked "Rejected as an Absentee Ballot" under this
3514 subdivision and include thereon for each such applicant the reason for
3515 the rejection. The moderator shall transmit such log to the Secretary of
3516 the State at the same time and in the same manner as the duplicate list
3517 to be transmitted to the Secretary by electronic means in accordance
3518 with section 9-314.

3519 Sec. 91. Subsection (a) of section 9-311 of the 2026 supplement to the
3520 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3521 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3522 (a) If, within three days after an election, it appears to the moderator
3523 that there is a discrepancy in the returns of any voting district, such
3524 moderator shall forthwith within said period summon, by written
3525 notice delivered personally, the recanvass officials, consisting of at least
3526 two checkers of different political parties and at least two absentee ballot
3527 counters of different political parties who served at such election, and

3528 the registrars of voters of the municipality in which the election was
3529 held and such other officials as may be required to conduct such
3530 recanvass. Such written notice shall require the clerk or registrars of
3531 voters, as the case may be, to bring with them the depository envelopes
3532 required by section 9-150a, as amended by this act, the package of write-
3533 in ballots provided for in section 9-310, the absentee ballot applications,
3534 the list of absentee ballot applications, the registry list and the
3535 moderators' returns and shall require such recanvass officials to meet at
3536 a specified time not later than the fifth business day after such election
3537 to recanvass the returns of [a] each voting tabulator [or voting tabulators
3538 or] and all absentee ballots [or] and write-in ballots used in [such
3539 district] the municipality in such election. If any of such recanvass
3540 officials are unavailable at the time of the recanvass, the registrar of
3541 voters of the same political party as that of the recanvass official unable
3542 to attend shall designate another elector having previous training and
3543 experience in the conduct of elections to take such recanvass official's
3544 place. Before such recanvass is made, such moderator shall give notice,
3545 in writing, to the chairperson of the town committee of each political
3546 party which nominated candidates for the election, and, in the case of a
3547 state election, not later than twenty-four hours after a determination is
3548 made regarding the need for a recanvass to the Secretary of the State, of
3549 the time and place where such recanvass is to be made; and each such
3550 chairperson may send party representatives to be present at such
3551 recanvass. Such party representatives may observe, but no one other
3552 than a recanvass official may take part in the recanvass. If a party
3553 representative notes any irregularity in the recanvass procedure, such
3554 party representative shall be permitted to present evidence of such
3555 irregularity in any contest relating to the election.

3556 Sec. 92. Subsection (d) of section 9-311 of the 2026 supplement to the
3557 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3558 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3559 (d) (1) The moderator may, when any disorder arises that interferes
3560 with the conduct of a recanvass, including any attempt by a person other

3561 than a recanvass official to take part in such recanvass or by such a
3562 person to communicate with a recanvass official, [other than the
3563 moderator,] and the offender refuses to submit to the moderator's lawful
3564 authority, order that the offender be removed by the recanvass officials
3565 from such recanvass until the offender conforms to order or, if need be,
3566 until such recanvass is completed.

3567 (2) Each political party or, in the case of an office subject to recanvass
3568 for which there is more than one candidate from a political party, each
3569 candidate may appoint one representative to communicate directly with
3570 the moderator during a recanvass.

3571 Sec. 93. Section 9-311a of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
3572 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3573 *passage*):

3574 For purposes of this section, state, district and municipal offices shall
3575 be as defined in section 9-372 except that the office of presidential elector
3576 shall be deemed a state office. Forthwith after a regular or special
3577 election for municipal office, or forthwith upon tabulation of the vote
3578 for state and district offices by the Secretary of the State, when at any
3579 such election the plurality of an elected candidate for an office over the
3580 vote for a defeated candidate receiving the next highest number of votes
3581 was either (1) less than a vote equivalent to one-half of one per cent of
3582 the total number of votes cast for the office but not more than two
3583 thousand votes, or (2) less than twenty votes, there shall be a recanvass
3584 of the returns of the voting tabulator or voting tabulators and absentee
3585 ballots used in such election for such office unless such defeated
3586 candidate or defeated candidates, as the case may be, for such office file
3587 a written statement waiving this right to such canvass with the
3588 municipal clerk in the case of a municipal office, or with the Secretary of
3589 the State in the case of a state or district office. In the case of state and
3590 district offices, the Secretary of the State upon tabulation of the votes for
3591 such offices shall notify the town clerks in the state or district, as the case
3592 may be, of the state and district offices which qualify for an automatic

3593 recanvass and shall also notify each candidate for any such office. When
3594 a recanvass is to be held, the municipal clerk shall promptly notify the
3595 moderator, as defined in section 9-311, as amended by this act, who shall
3596 proceed forthwith to cause a recanvass of such returns of the office in
3597 question in the same manner as is provided in section 9-311, as amended
3598 by this act. In addition to the notice required under section 9-311, as
3599 amended by this act, the moderator shall before such recanvass is made
3600 give notice in writing of the time when, and place where, such recanvass
3601 is to be made to each candidate for a municipal office which qualifies for
3602 an automatic recanvass under this section. Nothing in this section shall
3603 preclude the right to judicial proceedings on behalf of a candidate under
3604 any provision of chapter 149. For the purposes of this section, "the total
3605 number of votes cast for the office" means, in the case of multiple
3606 openings for the same office, the total number of electors checked as
3607 having voted in the state, district, municipality or political subdivision,
3608 as the case may be. When a recanvass of the returns for an office for
3609 which there are multiple openings is required by the provisions of this
3610 section, the returns for all candidates for all openings for the office shall
3611 be recanvassed. [No one other than a recanvass official shall take part in
3612 the recanvass.] If a candidate notes any irregularity in the recanvass
3613 procedure, such candidate shall be permitted to present evidence of
3614 such irregularity in any contest relating to the election.

3615 Sec. 94. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Each ballot that has been cast at
3616 an election, primary or referendum, including any write-in ballot, shall
3617 be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.
3618 Nothing in this section shall be construed to impair the ability to
3619 conduct any recanvass or audit under chapter 147, 148, 152 or 153 of the
3620 general statutes. As used in this section, "ballot", "election",
3621 "referendum" and "write-in ballot" have the same meanings as provided
3622 in section 9-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, "primary"
3623 has the same meaning as provided in section 9-372 of the general
3624 statutes and "Freedom of Information Act" has the same meaning as
3625 provided in section 1-200 of the general statutes.

3626 Sec. 95. Subsection (n) of section 9-1 of the general statutes is repealed
3627 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3628 (n) "Referendum" means (1) a question or proposal which is
3629 submitted to a vote of the electors or voters of a municipality at any
3630 regular or special state or municipal election, as defined in this section,
3631 (2) a question or proposal which is submitted to a vote of the electors or
3632 voters, as the case may be, of a municipality at a meeting of such electors
3633 or voters, which meeting is not an election, as defined in subsection (d)
3634 of this section, and is not a town meeting, or (3) a question or proposal
3635 which is submitted to a vote of the electors or voters, as the case may be,
3636 of a municipality at a meeting of such electors or voters pursuant to
3637 section 7-7 or pursuant to charter, home rule ordinance or special act;

3638 Sec. 96. Section 9-50d of the general statutes is repealed and the
3639 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3640 (a) (1) Whenever voter registration information maintained under
3641 this title by the Secretary of the State or any registrar of voters is
3642 provided pursuant to any provision of the general statutes, disclosure
3643 of a voter's date of birth shall be limited to only the [month and] year of
3644 birth, unless such voter registration information is requested and used
3645 for a state governmental purpose, as determined by the Secretary, in
3646 which case the voter's complete date of birth shall be provided. As used
3647 in this [section, a] subdivision, a state governmental purpose shall
3648 include, but not be limited to, jury administration.

3649 (2) (A) Voter registration information described in subdivision (1) of
3650 this subsection (i) may only be used for election-related, scholarly,
3651 journalistic, political or governmental purposes, and (ii) shall not be
3652 used for any personal, private or commercial purpose, including, but
3653 not limited to, (I) harassment, as described in section 53a-183, of any
3654 voter or voter's household, (II) advertising, solicitation, sale or
3655 marketing of products or services to any voter or voter's household, and
3656 (III) reproduction in print, digital or broadcast visual or audio, or

3657 display in any other format, of such information.

3658 (B) Any person who violates the provisions of subparagraph (A) of
3659 this subdivision shall be subject only to a civil penalty imposed by the
3660 State Elections Enforcement Commission pursuant to subsection (a) of
3661 section 9-7b, as amended by this act.

3662 (3) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordance
3663 with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning the use of voter
3664 registration information.

3665 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any motor
3666 vehicle operator's license number, identity card number or Social
3667 Security number on a voter registration record shall be confidential and
3668 shall not be disclosed to any person.

3669 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, if a voter
3670 submits to [the Secretary of the State] a registrar of voters of the town of
3671 such voter's voting residence a signed statement that nondisclosure of
3672 such voter's name from the official registry list is necessary for the safety
3673 of such voter or the voter's family, the name and address of such voter
3674 on his or her voter registration record shall be confidential and shall not
3675 be disclosed, except that an election, primary or referendum official may
3676 view such information on the official registry list when such list is used
3677 by any such official at a polling place on the day of an election, primary
3678 or referendum. Such signed statement shall be sworn under penalty of
3679 false statement, as provided in section 53a-157b.

3680 Sec. 97. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-7b of the 2026
3681 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
3682 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3683 (2) To levy a civil penalty not to exceed (A) two thousand dollars per
3684 offense against any person the commission finds to be in violation of
3685 any provision of chapter 145, part V of chapter 146, part I of chapter 147,
3686 chapter 148, section 7-9, section 9-12, subsection (a) of section 9-17,

3687 section 9-19b, 9-19e, 9-19g to 9-19k, inclusive, 9-20, 9-21, 9-23a, 9-23g, 9-
3688 23h, 9-23j to 9-23o, inclusive, 9-23r, 9-26, 9-31a, 9-32, 9-35, 9-35b, 9-35c,
3689 9-40a, 9-42, 9-43, 9-50a, 9-50d, as amended by this act, 9-56, 9-59, 9-163aa,
3690 as amended by this act, 9-168d, 9-170, 9-171, 9-172, 9-232i to 9-232o,
3691 inclusive, 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive, 9-409, 9-410, 9-412, 9-436, 9-436a,
3692 9-453e to 9-453h, inclusive, 9-453k or 9-453o, (B) two thousand dollars
3693 per offense against any town clerk, registrar of voters, an appointee or
3694 designee of a town clerk or registrar of voters, or any other election or
3695 primary official whom the commission finds to have failed to discharge
3696 a duty imposed by any provision of chapter 146 or 147, (C) two
3697 thousand dollars per offense against any person the commission finds
3698 to have (i) improperly voted in any election, primary or referendum,
3699 and (ii) not been legally qualified to vote in such election, primary or
3700 referendum, or (D) two thousand dollars per offense or twice the
3701 amount of any improper payment or contribution, whichever is greater,
3702 against any person the commission finds to be in violation of any
3703 provision of chapter 155 or 157. The commission may levy a civil penalty
3704 against any person under subparagraph (A), (B), (C) or (D) of this
3705 subdivision only after giving the person an opportunity to be heard at a
3706 hearing conducted in accordance with sections 4-176e to 4-184,
3707 inclusive. In the case of failure to pay any such penalty levied pursuant
3708 to this subsection within thirty days of written notice sent by certified
3709 or registered mail to such person, the superior court for the judicial
3710 district of Hartford, on application of the commission, may issue an
3711 order requiring such person to pay the penalty imposed and such court
3712 costs, state marshal's fees and attorney's fees incurred by the
3713 commission as the court may determine. Any civil penalties paid,
3714 collected or recovered under subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for a
3715 violation of any provision of chapter 155 applying to the office of the
3716 Treasurer shall be deposited on a pro rata basis in any trust funds, as
3717 defined in section 3-13c, affected by such violation.

3718 Sec. 98. Section 10-234gg of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
3719 *from passage*)

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

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	PA 25-168, Sec. 140
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	PA 21-111, Sec. 122
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	PA 25-168, Sec. 36(UU)
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	PA 25-174, Sec. 169
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	PA 25-174, Sec. 156
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	PA 25-174, Sec. 174
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	PA 25-174, Sec. 149
Sec. 19	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-5(g)
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-221a(m)
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-10a(c)
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-17o(a)
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-16b(d)
Sec. 25	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-15c
Sec. 27	<i>July 1, 2027</i>	10-15c
Sec. 28	<i>from passage</i>	10-226b
Sec. 29	<i>from passage</i>	10-226c
Sec. 30	<i>from passage</i>	10-226d
Sec. 31	<i>January 1, 2027</i>	New section
Sec. 32	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-222
Sec. 33	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-51(a)
Sec. 34	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-233m
Sec. 35	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-51(d)(2)
Sec. 36	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-214(a)

Sec. 37	July 1, 2026	10-266aa(c)
Sec. 38	July 1, 2026	10-153d(a)
Sec. 39	July 1, 2026	10-206
Sec. 40	July 1, 2026	10-233c(g)
Sec. 41	July 1, 2026	10-233d(d)
Sec. 42	July 1, 2026	10-236b(h)
Sec. 43	July 1, 2026	10-357e
Sec. 44	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 45	July 1, 2026	10-231
Sec. 46	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 47	July 1, 2026	10-222m(c)
Sec. 48	<i>from passage</i>	7-450c
Sec. 49	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 50	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 51	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 52	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 53	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 54	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 55	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 56	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 57	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 58	<i>from passage</i>	51-198
Sec. 59	<i>from passage</i>	52-434c
Sec. 60	<i>from passage</i>	7-294v
Sec. 61	July 1, 2026	4b-3(a)
Sec. 62	<i>from passage</i>	16-256l
Sec. 63	<i>from passage</i>	29-256f
Sec. 64	<i>from passage</i>	17b-340(h)(1)
Sec. 65	<i>from passage</i>	19a-638(a)(12)
Sec. 66	<i>from passage</i>	19a-638(b)
Sec. 67	<i>from passage</i>	52-362d(d)
Sec. 68	<i>from passage</i>	46b-215e(a) to (c)
Sec. 69	<i>from passage</i>	9-163aa
Sec. 70	<i>from passage</i>	9-163bb
Sec. 71	<i>from passage</i>	9-19j
Sec. 72	<i>from passage</i>	9-228a
Sec. 73	<i>from passage</i>	9-247
Sec. 74	<i>from passage</i>	9-56
Sec. 75	<i>from passage</i>	9-229(d)

Sec. 76	<i>from passage</i>	9-169
Sec. 77	<i>from passage</i>	9-322a
Sec. 78	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 79	<i>from passage</i>	9-388
Sec. 80	<i>from passage</i>	9-391(c)
Sec. 81	<i>from passage</i>	9-400
Sec. 82	<i>from passage</i>	9-452
Sec. 83	<i>from passage</i>	9-250
Sec. 84	<i>from passage</i>	9-437(j)
Sec. 85	<i>from passage</i>	9-135a(a)
Sec. 86	<i>from passage</i>	9-135b
Sec. 87	<i>from passage</i>	9-256
Sec. 88	<i>from passage</i>	9-140b(a)
Sec. 89	<i>from passage</i>	9-3
Sec. 90	<i>from passage</i>	9-150a(d)
Sec. 91	<i>from passage</i>	9-311(a)
Sec. 92	<i>from passage</i>	9-311(d)
Sec. 93	<i>from passage</i>	9-311a
Sec. 94	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 95	<i>from passage</i>	9-1(n)
Sec. 96	<i>from passage</i>	9-50d
Sec. 97	<i>from passage</i>	9-7b(a)(2)
Sec. 98	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section