



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4492



Offered by:  
REP. MASTROFRANCESCO, 80<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5001      File No. 528      Cal. No. 348

(As Amended)

**"AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL AND VARIOUS OTHER REFORMS TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS."**

1      Strike section 24 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu  
2 thereof:

3      "Sec. 24. Section 9-359a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5      (a) (1) A person is guilty of false statement in absentee balloting in the  
6 first degree when such person intentionally signs the name of another  
7 person to the application for an absentee ballot or the return envelope  
8 accompanying any such ballot, which such person does not believe to  
9 be true and which signature is intended to mislead a public servant in  
10 the performance of such public servant's official function.

11      (2) False statement in absentee balloting in the first degree is a class  
12 D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that

13 may not be suspended or reduced.

14 [(a)] (b) (1) A person is guilty of false statement in absentee balloting  
15 in the second degree when [he] such person intentionally makes a false  
16 written statement in or on [or signs the name of another person to] the  
17 application for an absentee ballot or the [inner] return envelope  
18 accompanying any such ballot, which [he] such person does not believe  
19 to be true and which statement or signature is intended to mislead a  
20 public servant in the performance of [his] such public servant's official  
21 function.

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

24 Strike section 59 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu  
25 thereof:

26 "Sec. 59. Section 9-352 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
27 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

28 (a) Any election official who, with intent to cause or permit any  
29 voting tabulator to fail to correctly register all votes cast thereon, (1)  
30 tampers with or disarranges [such tabulator] in any way such tabulator  
31 or any part or appliance thereof, or (2) causes such tabulator to be used  
32 or consents to its being used for voting at any election with knowledge  
33 of the fact that the same is (A) not in order, or (B) not perfectly set and  
34 adjusted to correctly register all votes cast thereon, [or] shall be guilty of  
35 a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve  
36 months that may not be suspended or reduced.

37 (b) Any election official who, for the purpose of (1) defrauding or  
38 deceiving any elector, or [of] (2) causing it to (A) be doubtful for what  
39 candidate or candidates or proposition any vote is cast, or [causing it to]  
40 (B) appear upon such tabulator that votes cast for one candidate or  
41 proposition were cast for another candidate or proposition, removes,  
42 changes or mutilates any ballot shall be guilty of a class D felony with a  
43 minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be

44 suspended or reduced.

45 (c) Any election official who provides to any third party that has not  
46 been authorized by the Secretary of the State any tabulator or any part  
47 or appliance thereof shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum  
48 term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or  
49 reduced. "

50 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
51 internal references accordingly:

52 "Sec. 501. Section 9-353 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
53 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

61 Sec. 502. Section 9-354 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
62 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

63 Any person who prints or causes to be printed upon any official ballot  
64 the name of any person not a candidate of a party whose name is printed  
65 at the head of the column containing such nominees or who prints or  
66 causes to be printed any authorized ballot in any manner other than that  
67 prescribed by the Secretary of the State, shall be guilty of a class D felony  
68 with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not  
69 be suspended or reduced.

70 Sec. 503. Section 9-355 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
71 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

72 Any person who, without reasonable cause, neglects to perform any

73 of the duties required of him by the laws relating to elections or  
74 primaries and for which neglect no other punishment is provided, and  
75 any person who is guilty of fraud in the performance of any such duty,  
76 and any person who makes any unlawful alteration in any list required  
77 by law, shall be fined not more than three hundred dollars or be  
78 imprisoned not more than [one year] twelve months or be both fined  
79 and imprisoned. Any official who is convicted of fraud in the  
80 performance of any duty imposed upon him by any law relating to the  
81 registration or admission of electors or to the conduct of any election  
82 shall be disfranchised. Any public officer or any election official upon  
83 whom any duty is imposed by part I of chapter 147 and sections 9-308  
84 to 9-311, inclusive, who wilfully omits or neglects to perform any such  
85 duty or does any act prohibited therein for which punishment is not  
86 otherwise provided shall be guilty of a class E felony with a minimum  
87 term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or  
88 reduced.

89 Sec. 504. Section 9-363 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
90 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

91 Any person who, with intent to defraud any elector of his or her vote  
92 or cause any elector to lose his or her vote or any part thereof, gives in  
93 any way, or prints, writes or circulates, or causes to be written, printed  
94 or circulated, any improper, false, misleading or incorrect instructions  
95 or advice or suggestions as to the manner of voting on any tabulator, the  
96 following of which or any part of which would cause any elector to lose  
97 his or her vote or any part thereof, or would cause any elector to fail in  
98 whole or in part to register or record the same on the tabulator for the  
99 candidates of his or her choice, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a  
100 minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be  
101 suspended or reduced.

102 Sec. 505. Section 9-364 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
103 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

104 Any person who, with intent to disenfranchise any elector, influences

105 or attempts to influence by force or threat, bribery or corrupt, fraudulent  
106 or deliberately deceitful means any elector to stay away from any  
107 election or otherwise refrain from voting, whether such voting is by  
108 mail, by deposit in a secure drop box or in person at a polling place or  
109 designated early voting or same-day election registration location, shall  
110 be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of  
111 twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

112 Sec. 506. Section 9-365 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
113 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

123 Sec. 507. Section 9-366 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
124 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

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

146 Sec. 508. Section 9-368c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
 147 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

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

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 24	<i>from passage</i>	9-359a
Sec. 59	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	9-352
Sec. 501	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	9-353
Sec. 502	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	9-354
Sec. 503	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	9-355
Sec. 504	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	9-363
Sec. 505	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	9-364
Sec. 506	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	9-365
Sec. 507	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	9-366
Sec. 508	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	9-368c