



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 10742



Offered by:

REP. CANDELORA, 86th Dist.

REP. YACCARINO, 87th Dist.

SEN. CICARELLA, 34th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6651

File No. 510

Cal. No. 377

**"AN ACT RESPONDING TO ISSUES RELATED TO COVID-19 AND
GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding the
4 provisions of section 7-192a of the general statutes, the Secretary of the
5 State shall establish a pilot program through which municipalities
6 provide a system for the return of absentee ballots, by means of the
7 Internet and with electronic devices, by electors described in section 9-
8 153d of the general statutes or persons with physical disabilities who
9 apply for absentee ballots pursuant to section 9-140 of the general
10 statutes.

11 (b) The Secretary shall select five municipalities for participation in
12 such pilot program, in accordance with the following: (1) One

13 municipality with a population of less than ten thousand; (2) one
14 municipality with a population of ten thousand or greater, but less than
15 twenty-five thousand; (3) one municipality with a population of twenty-
16 five thousand or greater, but less than fifty thousand; (4) one
17 municipality with a population of fifty thousand or greater, but less than
18 one hundred thousand; and (5) one municipality with a population of
19 one hundred thousand or greater. For the purposes of this section,
20 "population" means the estimated number of people according to the
21 most recent version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant
22 to section 3-90 of the general statutes.

23 (c) (1) Any system described in subsection (a) of this section shall, at
24 a minimum, (A) provide security that encrypts information over a
25 secure network; (B) provide for secure identification and authentication
26 of information transmitted on such system; (C) provide protection
27 against abuse, tampering, fraudulent use and illegal manipulation of
28 such system by any individual or group; (D) ensure secure return of
29 each ballot, including verification that each ballot cast is private and
30 secure and has not been altered by any individual, such system or any
31 third party between such elector's or person's electronic device and the
32 destination at which such ballot is to be counted; (E) provide each such
33 authorized elector or person with notice that such elector's or person's
34 ballot has been cast and received; (F) verify that each ballot cast by each
35 such authorized elector or person is timely received by the applicable
36 deadline; (G) ensure that only one ballot is counted for each such
37 authorized elector or person; (H) provide a means of re-examining any
38 cast ballot for the purpose of any recanvass or audit; (I) provide the
39 ability to spoil a ballot, in which case a subsequent ballot shall be issued
40 and only the final ballot of such elector or person may be cast; and (J)
41 provide for the automatic preparation of ballots that can be printed and
42 inserted into any tabulator used at any election, primary or referendum.

43 (2) Any elector or person using the system described in subsection (a)
44 of this section shall certify such elector's or person's agreement to the
45 use of such system and any terms of such use.

46 (d) Any municipality providing a system described in subsection (a)
 47 of this section shall, not later than fifteen days after the election, primary
 48 or referendum for which absentee ballots are returned using such
 49 system, report in writing to the Secretary of the State (1) the number of
 50 absentee ballots delivered to an elector or person described in said
 51 subsection; (2) the number of such absentee ballots returned to the clerk
 52 of such municipality; and (3) the number of such absentee ballots that
 53 were counted and the number of such absentee ballots that were
 54 rejected.

55 (e) Not later than January 1, 2023, the Secretary of the State shall
 56 submit a report on results of the pilot program described in subsection
 57 (a) of this section and recommendations for legislation to the joint
 58 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 59 matters relating to elections, in accordance with the provisions of section
 60 11-4a of the general statutes."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section