



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 5461

LCO No. 3062



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY BALLOT
PLACEMENT OF REFERENDUM QUESTIONS.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study the guaranteed placement of referendum questions on the front
3 side of ballots. The task force shall (1) review (A) the placement of each
4 referendum question that has appeared on any ballot in the state on and
5 after November 4, 2014, but prior to November 3, 2021, and (B) the vote
6 totals for such referendum question, including in comparison to the vote
7 totals for each office appearing on the same ballot, and (2) consider the
8 impact of guaranteeing the placement of future referendum questions
9 on the front side of ballots on all such vote totals.

10 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

11 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

12 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

13 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
14 Representatives;

15 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

16 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
17 Representatives;

18 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

19 (7) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee;

20 (8) Two designated by the president of the Registrars of Voters
21 Association of Connecticut, each of whom shall be enrolled in a different
22 political party from the other; and

23 (9) One designated by the president of the Connecticut Town Clerks
24 Association.

25 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
26 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
27 of the General Assembly.

28 (d) All initial appointments or designations, as applicable, to the task
29 force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of
30 this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing or
31 designating, as applicable, authority.

32 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
33 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
34 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
35 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
36 days after the effective date of this section.

37 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
38 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections
39 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

40 (g) Not later than January 1, 2023, the task force shall submit a report

41 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
42 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
43 elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
44 general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
45 submits such report or January 1, 2023, whichever is later.

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

To establish a task force to study the guaranteed placement of referendum questions on the front side of ballots.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]