



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 5079



Offered by:

SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.

SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 441

File No. 483

Cal. No. 284

**"AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION
OVERSIGHT."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 9-352 of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

5 Any election official who, with intent to cause or permit any voting
6 tabulator to fail to correctly register all votes cast thereon, tampers with
7 or disarranges such tabulator in any way or any part or appliance
8 thereof, or causes such tabulator to be used or consents to its being used
9 for voting at any election with knowledge of the fact that the same is not
10 in order, or not perfectly set and adjusted to correctly register all votes
11 cast thereon, or who, for the purpose of defrauding or deceiving any
12 elector or of causing it to be doubtful for what candidate or candidates
13 or proposition any vote is cast, or causing it to appear upon such
14 tabulator that votes cast for one candidate or proposition were cast for

15 another candidate or proposition, removes, changes or mutilates any
16 ballot, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of
17 imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

18 Sec. 502. Section 9-353 of the general statutes is repealed and the
19 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

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

27 Sec. 503. Section 9-354 of the general statutes is repealed and the
28 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

29 Any person who prints or causes to be printed upon any official ballot
30 the name of any person not a candidate of a party whose name is printed
31 at the head of the column containing such nominees, or who prints or
32 causes to be printed any authorized ballot in any manner other than that
33 prescribed by the Secretary of the State, shall be guilty of a class D felony
34 with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not
35 be suspended or reduced.

36 Sec. 504. Section 9-355 of the general statutes is repealed and the
37 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

38 Any person who, without reasonable cause, neglects to perform any
39 of the duties required of him by the laws relating to elections or
40 primaries and for which neglect no other punishment is provided, and
41 any person who is guilty of fraud in the performance of any such duty,
42 and any person who makes any unlawful alteration in any list required
43 by law, shall be fined not more than three hundred dollars or be
44 imprisoned not more than [one year] twelve months or be both fined
45 and imprisoned. Any official who is convicted of fraud in the

46 performance of any duty imposed upon him by any law relating to the
47 registration or admission of electors or to the conduct of any election
48 shall be disfranchised. Any public officer or any election official upon
49 whom any duty is imposed by part I of chapter 147 and sections 9-308
50 to 9-311, inclusive, who wilfully omits or neglects to perform any such
51 duty or does any act prohibited therein for which punishment is not
52 otherwise provided shall be guilty of a class E felony with a minimum
53 term of imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or
54 reduced.

55 Sec. 505. Section 9-359 of the general statutes is repealed and the
56 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

57 (a) Any [(1)] person who executes an absentee ballot for the purpose
58 of informing any other person how he votes, or who procures any
59 absentee ballot to be prepared for such purpose, [(2)] shall be guilty of a
60 class D felony.

61 (b) Any (1) municipal clerk or moderator, elector appointed to count
62 any absentee ballot or other person who wilfully attempts to ascertain
63 how any elector marked his absentee ballot or how it was cast, [(3)] (2)
64 person who unlawfully opens or fills out, except as provided in section
65 9-140a with respect to a person unable to write, any elector's absentee
66 ballot signed in blank, [(4)] (3) person designated under section 9-140a
67 who executes an absentee ballot contrary to the elector's wishes, or [(5)]
68 (4) person who wilfully violates any provision of chapter 145, shall be
69 guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of
70 twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

71 Sec. 506. Section 9-359a of the general statutes is repealed and the
72 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

73 (a) (1) A person is guilty of false statement in absentee balloting in the
74 first degree when such person intentionally signs the name of another
75 person to the application for an absentee ballot or the inner envelope
76 accompanying any such ballot, which such person does not believe to
77 be true and which signature is intended to mislead a public servant in

78 the performance of such public servant's official function.

79 (2) False statement in absentee balloting in the first degree is a class
80 D felony with a minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months that
81 may not be suspended or reduced.

82 [(a)] (b) (1) A person is guilty of false statement in absentee balloting
83 in the second degree when [he] such person intentionally makes a false
84 written statement in or on [or signs the name of another person to] the
85 application for an absentee ballot or the inner envelope accompanying
86 any such ballot, which [he] such person does not believe to be true and
87 which statement [or signature] is intended to mislead a public servant
88 in the performance of [his] such public servant's official function.

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

91 Sec. 507. Section 9-363 of the general statutes is repealed and the
92 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

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

104 Sec. 508. Section 9-364 of the general statutes is repealed and the
105 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

106 Any person who, with intent to disenfranchise any elector, influences
107 or attempts to influence by force or threat, bribery or corrupt, fraudulent

108 or deliberately deceitful means any elector to stay away from any
109 election shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of
110 imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

111 Sec. 509. Section 9-365 of the general statutes is repealed and the
112 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

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

122 Sec. 510. Section 9-366 of the general statutes is repealed and the
123 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

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

140 he or she will be enabled to see or know how any elector other than
 141 himself or herself votes, or does any act which invades or interferes with
 142 the secrecy of the voting or causes the same to be invaded or interfered
 143 with, shall be guilty of a class D felony with a minimum term of
 144 imprisonment of twelve months that may not be suspended or reduced.

145 Sec. 511. Section 9-368c of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
 146 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
 147 *October 1, 2024*):

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. 501	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	9-352
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Sec. 505	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	9-359
Sec. 506	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	9-359a
Sec. 507	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	9-363
Sec. 508	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	9-364
Sec. 509	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	9-365
Sec. 510	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	9-366
Sec. 511	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	9-368c