



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 8502



Offered by:  
SEN. SAMPSON, 16<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1535

File No. 663

Cal. No. 372

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE'S  
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO EARLY VOTING."**

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

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Any candidate who (1) claims  
4 that such candidate is aggrieved by any ruling of any election official in  
5 connection with any election for state senator or state representative, or  
6 that there has been a mistake in the count of the votes cast at such  
7 election for a candidate for such office, or that such candidate is  
8 aggrieved by a violation of any provision of section 9-355, sections 9-357  
9 to 9-361, inclusive, section 9-364, 9-364a or 9-365 of the general statutes  
10 in the casting of absentee ballots at such election, or that such candidate  
11 is aggrieved by a violation of any provision of sections 9-700 to 9-716,  
12 inclusive, of the general statutes, and (2) notifies the clerk of the Senate  
13 or the House of Representatives, as applicable, that such candidate  
14 contests the results of the election for such candidate's district, may  
15 bring such candidate's complaint to any judge of the Superior Court, in

16 which such candidate shall set out the claimed errors of such election  
17 official, the claimed errors in the count or the claimed violations of said  
18 sections. In any action brought pursuant to the provisions of this section,  
19 the complainant shall send a copy of the complaint by first-class mail,  
20 or deliver a copy of the complaint by hand, to the State Elections  
21 Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made prior to such  
22 election, such judge shall proceed expeditiously to render judgment on  
23 the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing to be given to the  
24 Secretary of the State and the State Elections Enforcement Commission.  
25 If such complaint is made subsequent to the election, it shall be brought  
26 not later than fourteen days after the election or, if such complaint is  
27 brought in response to the manual tabulation of paper ballots  
28 authorized pursuant to section 9-320f of the general statutes, such  
29 complaint shall be brought not later than seven days after the close of  
30 any such manual tabulation and, in either such circumstance, such judge  
31 shall forthwith order a hearing to be had upon such complaint, upon a  
32 day not more than five nor less than three days from the making of such  
33 order, and shall cause notice of not less than three nor more than five  
34 days to be given to any candidate or candidates whose election may be  
35 affected by the decision upon such hearing, to such election official, the  
36 Secretary of the State, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and  
37 to any other party or parties whom such judge deems proper parties  
38 thereto, of the time and place for the hearing upon such complaint. Such  
39 judge shall, on the day fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary  
40 delay, proceed to hear the parties. Such judge shall thereupon, in case  
41 such judge finds any error in the rulings of the election official, any  
42 mistake in the count of the votes or any violation of said sections, issue  
43 the decision of such judge's findings to the Secretary of the State before  
44 the fifteenth day of the next succeeding December. Such judge may  
45 enjoin the Secretary of the State from certifying the results of such  
46 election for state senator or state representative, and such injunction  
47 shall remain in effect until the Senate or the House of Representatives,  
48 as applicable, resolves the contested election in accordance with section  
49 7 of article third of the state Constitution. Such judge's decision shall be  
50 final and conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the rulings

51 of such election officials, to the correctness of such count, and, for the  
52 purposes of this section only, such claimed violations, unless the same  
53 is appealed from as provided in section 9-325 of the general statutes."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>from passage</i>	New section