



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2014

LCO No. 4724

**\*HB0505504724SR0\***

Offered by:

SEN. WITKOS, 8<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. BOUCHER, 26<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5055

File No. 644

Cal. No. 418

**"AN ACT ELIMINATING MUNICIPAL MANDATES."**

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

3 "Sec. 501. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions  
4 of section 9-438 of the general statutes, there is established a pilot  
5 program to permit the registrars of voters for the municipalities of  
6 Avon, Bethel, New Canaan, Redding, Ridgefield, Simsbury, Weston,  
7 Westport and Wilton to reduce the number of polling places required  
8 under section 9-438 of the general statutes. The registrars of voters  
9 shall designate such polling place or places not later than sixty days  
10 prior to a primary held under sections 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, of the  
11 general statutes, the location of which may be the same as or different  
12 from the location of polling places required under section 9-438 of the  
13 general statutes. Not earlier than sixty days prior to such primary, but  
14 not later than forty-five days prior to such primary, the registrars of  
15 voters shall notify the Secretary of the State and the candidates seeking

16 nomination to an office in such primary of the change in the polling  
17 place or places. If a candidate petitions for nomination to an office after  
18 the registrars of voters have notified candidates of such change, the  
19 registrars shall immediately notify the petitioning candidate of such  
20 change. If any candidate objects to a change in the polling place or  
21 places, the candidate shall notify the Secretary of such objection not  
22 later than four o'clock p.m. on the thirtieth day prior to the primary.  
23 Such notification from the candidate shall be in the form of a written  
24 letter, signed by the candidate, and shall be held confidential by the  
25 Secretary. The Secretary shall promptly notify such registrars of voters  
26 and any candidate seeking nomination to an office in such primary  
27 that the Secretary has received a letter of objection, which notification  
28 shall not identify the candidate who objected. If such a candidate so  
29 objects, or if a municipality's registrars of voters cannot agree upon a  
30 polling place or places for a primary, the polling place or places shall  
31 be the same as those used for the election to be held. Not later than  
32 twenty-five days prior to a primary, the registrars of voters shall send  
33 notification of the polling place for the primary, by mail, to each elector  
34 whose polling place for the primary will be different than the elector's  
35 polling place for the election, except that no registrar of voters shall be  
36 required to so notify an elector for any subsequent primary, provided  
37 the primary polling place for such elector remains the same as that  
38 which was provided for in the initial notification. If any polling place  
39 that would otherwise be open pursuant to section 9-438 of the general  
40 statutes is closed pursuant to this subsection, the registrars of voters  
41 shall ensure that a sign is posted at such polling place providing  
42 electors with information to redirect the electors to the open polling  
43 place or places for the primary. When unaffiliated electors are  
44 authorized under section 9-431 of the general statutes to vote in the  
45 primary of either of two parties, both parties shall hold their primaries  
46 in the same room of each such polling place. Notwithstanding any  
47 provision of title 7 or title 9 of the general statutes, any special act,  
48 charter or ordinance, if the number of polling places is reduced  
49 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection, the number of  
50 moderators required for such primary may be reduced, if the registrars

51 of voters so agree, provided at least one certified moderator serves  
52 each polling place.

53 (b) The pilot program established pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
54 section shall terminate July 1, 2016. Not later than January 1, 2017, if  
55 any municipality listed in subsection (a) of this section participated in  
56 said pilot program, the registrars of voters for such municipality shall  
57 report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
58 cognizance of matters relating to elections on any issues encountered  
59 in carrying out the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the  
60 resolution of such issues and the estimated amount of money saved by  
61 the municipality through a reduction of polling places pursuant to  
62 subsection (a) of this section."

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