



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE
165 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06106

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY
September Special Session, HB 7005

AN ACT CONCERNING A MUNICIPAL ELECTION MONITOR AT THE 2020 STATE ELECTION AND
PROCESSING OF ABSNETEE BALLOTS FOR THE 2020 STATE ELECTION

Section 1. Establishes an election monitor for the 2020 state election for any municipality with at least one hundred forty thousand residents who shall detect and prevent irregularity and impropriety in the management of election administration procedures for such election.

Section 2. (1) For the 2020 general election absentee ballots can be sorted and pre-checked (adding "A" next to name of the official checklist) by the town clerk and registrars of voters beginning 14 days prior to the election. (2) Ballots received, sorted and pre-checked prior to 5 PM on the fourth day before the election may be delivered by the municipal clerk to the registrars of voters on such fourth day and each day thereafter with an updated official checklist.

Section 3. For the 2020 general election, absentee ballots may be processed before election day at a central location designated by the registrars of voters in writing to the town clerk at least 10 days before the election and such designation shall be included in the official warning of election by the town clerk. Such designation shall also be submitted to the Secretary of the State and include a plan for the security of the absentee ballots once processed.

Section 4. For the 2020 general election the warning of the election shall be given not more than seven nor less that four days before the election.

Section 5. For the 2020 general election absentee ballots can be processed before election day beginning on the fourth day prior to the election. The registrars of voters shall appoint absentee ballot counters to conduct such processing. To process, the counters shall remove the inner envelope from the outer envelope, shall note the total number of absentee ballots received and shall report such number to the moderator making sure to separately report military, overseas and presidential ballots. If the statement on the inner envelope has not been signed, such inner envelope shall not be opened and shall be replaced in the outer envelope which shall be marked rejected. Absentee ballots shall be counted only on election day.

Section 6. Depository envelopes used to store absentee ballots shall remain sealed and only opened for any necessary recanvass or audit.

Section 7. For the 2020 general election any elector who returned an absentee ballot and who now wants to vote in person must withdraw their ballot with the municipal clerk not later than 5 PM of the fourth day before election day.