A PROCLAMATION FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR



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WHEREAS, Connecticut's presidential primary is currently held on the last Tuesday in April of each year in which the President of the Unites States is to be elected; and

WHEREAS, moving the date for presidential primaries in Connecticut to the first Tuesday in April of each year in which the President of the Unites States is to be elected will give Connecticut voters a greater voice in the presidential primary outcome; and

WHEREAS, under current law, the terms of any elected official that are set to expire before the next regular election because of an election date change must be extended to the date of such election; and

WHEREAS, extending the term of any incumbent municipal elected official to conform to the beginning of the succeeding term will allow for incumbent municipal elected officials in towns where the term would have expired prior to the next regular election to continue serving and representing such municipality until the beginning of the succeeding term; and

WHEREAS, after a primary or election, a recanvass of the vote generally takes place when there is a discrepancy, close vote, or tie and improvements to the procedures related to recanvasses are needed; and

WHEREAS, improvements to the procedure related to recanvasses include ensuring that each voting district at any such election uses a dedicated voting tabulator or tabulators that only registers and counts votes cast for such voting district, requiring the Secretary of State to develop an instructional training video on recanvass procedures that will be distributed to recanvass officials before a recanvas begins, allowing any party representative to have the right to view each ballot as it is being recanvassed and authorizing the moderator to remove individuals causing disorder during a recanvass; and

WHEREAS, the effective date for requiring EMS personnel, under specified conditions, to administer epinephrine using automatic prefilled cartridge injectors, similar automatic injectable equipment, or prefilled vials and syringes should be changed from October 1, 2023, to July 1, 2024, to provide more time for implementation; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for an election monitor to detect and prevent irregularity and impropriety in the management of election administration procedures and the conduct of elections in certain municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the State should be authorized to retain such election monitor to conduct inspections and investigations, have access to all records and data, and be authorized to immediately report to the Secretary of the State any irregularity or impropriety related to the election process; and

WHEREAS, the act of solicitation over the internet for a contribution to any committee, as defined under current campaign financing law, should not be considered an expenditure under the law.

NOW THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me under Article III of the Amendments to the Constitution of Connecticut and Section 2-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I, in order to preserve orderly and decent government, do hereby:

Convene the General Assembly in Special Session in Hartford no earlier than September 26, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. to:

- 1. Enact legislation to change the date of Connecticut's presidential preference primary to the first Tuesday in April of each year in which the President of the United States is to be elected; and
- 2. Enact legislation extending the term of any incumbent municipal elected official to conform to the beginning of the succeeding term; and
- 3. Enact legislation improving the procedure related to recanvasses including ensuring that each voting district at any such election uses a dedicated voting tabulator or tabulators that only registers and counts votes cast for such voting district, requiring the Secretary of the State to develop am instructional training video on recanvas procedures that will be distributed recanvass officials before a recanvas begins, allowing any party representative to have the right to view each ballot as it is being recanvassed and authorizing the moderator to remove individuals causing disorder during a recanvass; and
- 4. Enact legislation changing the effective date from October 1, 2023, to July 1, 2024, for requiring EMS personnel, under specified conditions, to administer epinephrine using automatic prefilled cartridge injectors, similar automatic injectable equipment, or prefilled vials and syringes; and
- 5. Enact legislation authorizing the Secretary of the State to retain an election monitor to detect and prevent irregularity and impropriety in the management of election administration procedures and the conduct of elections in certain municipalities; and
- 6. Enact legislation clarifying that a solicitation over the internet for a contribution to any committee, as defined under current campaign financing law, shall not be considered an expenditure under the law.

Given under my hand and Seal of the State at the City of Hartford, this 22nd Day of September in the year two thousand and twenty-three.

Ned Lamont Governor