

Bill No. 1790

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Referred to Committee on ELECTIONS

LCO No. 5764

Introduced by SEN. IVES, 32nd Dist.; ~~SEN. CALDWELL, 23rd Dist.~~

General Assembly,

January Session, A.D., 1971

AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.

CONNECTICUT
STATE LIBRARY
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE
SECTION

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in
General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 9-135 of the 1969 supplement to the
general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in
lieu thereof: Any elector who is unable to appear at his polling
place during the hours of voting of any state, municipal or
special election, (1) because of absence from the [state] TOWN OF
HIS VOTING RESIDENCE during all of the hours between the opening
of the polls in the town [of his voting residence] in the morning
and the closing thereof in the evening of the day of such
election, or (2) [because of absence from the town of his voting
residence during all of such hours because of his status as a
student in a college, university, nurses' training school or any
other institution of higher learning located within this state
other than such town of his voting residence, or because he is
the spouse of, and lives with, such a student, or (3) because of
absence from the town of his voting residence during all of such
hours because he has a temporary place of abode in a town other
than the town of his voting residence because of membership in a
religious community, or [(4) because of absence during all of
such hours from the town in which he qualifies for and has
requested a continuance of his registration under section 9-40,
or [(5)] (3) because of illness, or [(6)] (4) because of physical
disability, or [(7)] (5) because the tenets of his religion
forbid secular activity, may cause his vote to be cast at such

election, in the manner and subject to the conditions hereinafter stated. 39

Sec. 2. Section 9-137 of said supplement is repealed and 40
the following is substituted in lieu thereof: Such absentee 42
ballot shall be returned to the municipal clerk, inserted in an 43
inner envelope which shall have endorsed on the face thereof a
form containing statements as follows: "I, the undersigned, do 44
hereby state under the penalties of perjury (1) that I am a 45
citizen of the United States, and a resident and elector, or have 46
made application to become an elector, of the town, city or 47
borough of in the state of Connecticut, in which town, city 48
or borough I desire to vote; (2) that I expect to be absent from 49
the town of my voting residence [during the hours of voting of
the day of election at which the enclosed ballot is to be cast 50
because of membership in the armed forces; or that I expect to be 51
absent from the state] during all of the hours between the 52
opening of the polls in the town [of my voting residence] in the 53
morning and the closing thereof in the evening of the day of such 54
election; [or that I expect to be absent from the town of my 55
voting residence during all of such hours because of my status as 56
a student in a college, university, nurses' training school or
any other institution of higher learning located within 57
Connecticut other than such town of my voting residence; or that 58
I expect to be absent from the town of my voting residence during 59
all of such hours because I am the spouse of, and live with, such 60
a student; or that I expect to be absent from the town of my 61
voting residence during all of such hours because I have a 62
temporary place of abode in a town other than the town of my
voting residence because of my membership in a religious 63
community;] or that I expect to be absent during all of such 64
hours from the town in which I qualify for and have requested a 65
continuance of my registration under section 9-40; or that I 66
expect to be unable to appear at my polling place on the day of 67
such election by reason of illness or physical disability; or
because the tenets of my religion forbid secular activity on the 68

day of such election.

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Dated this(day) of(month)....(year)
....(Elector's Signature)." The municipal clerk, before issuance
of the ballot and envelopes to an absentee ballot applicant,
shall inscribe the name of the town, city or borough, in the
space provided therefor, in the foregoing form.

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Sec. 3. This act shall take effect with respect to all
elections held after January 1, 1972.

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To extend the absentee voting privilege to
persons who will be absent from the town of their voting
residences during all hours of voting on election day
irrespective of the reason for their absence.

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[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets and proposed
additions are all capitalized, or underlined where appropriate.]

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