

Bill No. 5029

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Referred to Committee on Elections

LCO No. 293

Introduced by Rep. Oliver, 104th Dist.

General Assembly,

January Session, A.D., 1971

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LITERACY REQUIREMENT FOR VOTING.

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

Section 9-12 of the 1969 supplement to the general statutes
is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
Each citizen of the United States who has attained the age of
twenty-one years, who has resided in the town in which he applies
for admission to the privileges of an elector at least six months
next preceding the time he so applies, and who, at the time of so
applying, EITHER is able to read in the English language any
article of the constitution or any section of the statutes of the
state OR HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE SIXTH PRIMARY GRADE IN A
PUBLIC SCHOOL OR PRIVATE SCHOOL ACCREDITED BY ANY STATE OR
TERRITORY, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, OR THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PUERTO RICO IN WHICH THE PREDOMINANT CLASSROOM LANGUAGE WAS OTHER
THAN ENGLISH, and sustains a good moral character, shall, on
taking the oath prescribed by law, be an elector. No idiot or
mentally ill person shall be admitted as an elector.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To conform the state literacy requirements 34
with those under the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 42 U. S. C. 35
section 1973b, subsection (e). 36

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets and proposed 38
additions are all capitalized, or underlined where appropriate.] 40