

Report of Committee of Conference

S.86

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The Committee of Conference, to which were referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon Senate Bill, entitled:

S.86. An act relating to miscellaneous changes to election laws.

Respectfully reports that it has met and considered the same and recommends that the Senate accede to the House's proposal of amendment with the following amendments thereto:

First: In Sec. 3, in 17 V.S.A. § 2154 (statewide voter checklist), by striking out in its entirety subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read:

(b)(1) A registered voter's month and day of birth, driver's license number, and the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number, and street address if different from the applicant's mailing address shall not be considered a public record as defined in 1 V.S.A. § 317(b) exempt from public inspection and copying pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(31). A registered voter's street address, if different from the applicant's or voter's mailing address, shall also be exempt from public inspection and copying pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(31) if the applicant or voter certifies in a form prepared by the

Secretary of State that exempting the street address from public inspection and copying is required for his or her safety or the safety of his or her family.

(2) Any person wishing to obtain a copy of ~~all of~~ the statewide voter checklist must swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury pursuant to 13 V.S.A. chapter 65, that the person will not use the checklist for commercial purposes. The affirmation shall be filed with the ~~secretary of state~~ Secretary of State.

Second: By striking out in its entirety Sec. 4, 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(31), and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 4 to read:

Sec. 4. 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(31) is amended to read:

(31) records of a registered voter's month and day of birth, motor vehicle operator's license number, the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number, and, if the applicant or voter certifies that safety requires it as set forth in 17 V.S.A. § 2154, his or her street address if different from the applicant's or voter's mailing address contained in an application to the statewide voter checklist or the statewide voter checklist established under 17 V.S.A. § 2154;

Third: In Sec. 15, 17 V.S.A. § 2351 (primary election), following "A primary election shall be held on the ~~fourth~~" by striking out "first" and inserting in lieu thereof second

Fourth: In Sec. 16, 17 V.S.A. § 2356 (time for filing petitions and statements of nomination), by striking out in its entirety subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read:

(a) Primary petitions for major party candidates and statements of nomination ~~from~~ for minor party candidates ~~and independent candidates~~ shall be filed no sooner than the ~~second~~ fourth Monday in ~~May~~ April and not later than 5:00 p.m. on the ~~second~~ fourth Thursday after the first Monday in ~~June~~ May preceding the primary election prescribed by section 2351 of this ~~title~~ chapter, and not later than 5:00 p.m. of the 62nd day prior to the day of a special primary election.

Fifth: By adding a new section to be Sec. 17a to read:

Sec. 17a. 17 V.S.A. § 2402 is amended to read:

§ 2402. REQUISITES OF STATEMENT

* * *

(d)(1) A statement of nomination and a completed and signed consent form shall be filed ~~as set forth in section 2356 of this title;~~

(A) in the case of nomination for President or Vice President of the United States, no sooner than the fourth Monday in April and not later than 5:00 p.m. on August 1 in the year preceding the presidential general election; or

(B) in the case of any other independent candidate, no sooner than the fourth Monday in April and not later than 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday preceding the primary election prescribed by section 2351 of this chapter, and not later than 5:00 p.m. of the seventh day prior to the day of a special primary election.

(2) No public official receiving nominations shall accept a petition unless a completed and signed consent form is filed at the same time.

(3) A statement of nomination shall apply only to the election cycle in which the statement of nomination is filed.

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Sixth: In Sec. 42, in 17 V.S.A. § 2602 (petitions for recounts), in subsection (b), in the second sentence, following “filed within ~~40~~ seven”, by inserting calendar

Seventh: In Sec. 74 (effective dates), by striking out in its entirety subdivision (3) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (3) to read:

(3) Secs. 15, 17 V.S.A. § 2351 (primary election), 16, 17 V.S.A. § 2356 (time for filing petitions and statements of nomination), and 17a, 17 V.S.A. § 2402 (requisites of statement), shall take effect on January 1, 2016; and

COMMITTEE ON THE PART OF
THE SENATE

SEN. JEANETTE K. WHITE

SEN. NORMAN H. MCALLISTER

SEN. ELDRED M. FRENCH

COMMITTEE ON THE PART OF
THE HOUSE

REP. LINDA J. MARTIN

REP. RONALD E. HUBERT

REP. MICHEL A. CONSEJO