

# Bill as Introduced

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HB 1476 - AS INTRODUCED

2010 SESSION

10-2305

03/09

HOUSE BILL **1476**

AN ACT relative to periodic verification of the checklist.

SPONSORS: Rep. Bates, Rock 4; Rep. Splaine, Rock 16; Rep. Horrigan, Straf 7; Rep. Perry, Straf 3; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Houde, Dist 5

COMMITTEE: Election Law

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ANALYSIS

This bill changes which elections are used to deem a voter reregistered during the 10-year verification of the checklist.

This bill is a request of the department of state.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Ten*

AN ACT           relative to periodic verification of the checklist.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1           1 Verification Every 10 Years; Reregistration. Amend RSA 654:39, IV to read as follows:

2           IV. For the purpose of this section, a person shall be deemed reregistered and need not  
3 appear before the supervisors if:

4           (a) The person voted in [~~either of the 2 previous state general elections~~] **any election**  
5 **within the 4 years** immediately preceding a 10-year verification; or

6           (b) The person [~~voted in the annual town election in the year of a 10-year verification or,~~  
7 ~~if in a city, the most recent regular city election held prior to the verification~~] **has been added to**  
8 **the checklist since the last state general election.**

9           2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

# Speakers



# Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1476

**BILL TITLE:** relative to periodic verification of the checklist.

**DATE:** February 2, 2010

**LOB ROOM:** 308      **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:00 pm

**Time Adjourned:** 1:12 pm

(please circle if present)

**Committee Members:** Reps. Clemons, Pierce, Splaine, C. Chase, Perry, Levesque, Bartlett, Caron, Hodges, Horrigan, Komi, Drisko, Jasper, Maybeck, Hoelzel, Bates, Comerford, Doherty, Scala and Garcia

**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. Bates, Rock 4; Rep. Splaine, Rock 16; Rep. Horrigan, Straf 7; Rep. Perry, Straf 3; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Houde, Dist 5

TESTIMONY

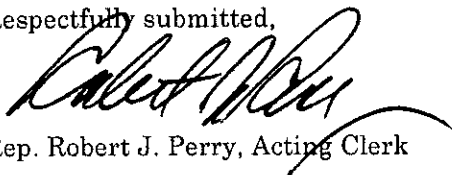
\* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Bates, prime sponsor, introduced bill. 47,000 residents. Explains that current language is complicated. Bill simplifies language and includes no purge if someone has voted in any election in last 4 years and provision for being added to checklist since last state general election

\*Rep. Horrigan. See written testimony. Supports bill.

Anthony Stevens, representing secretary of state. Supports bill. Ten year purge is upcoming. This bill will aid in maintenance of data base and avoid unnecessary costs. Suggests a 5 year purge maybe advantageous. Some towns not following current law re: purging the checklist.

Respectfully submitted,



Rep. Robert J. Perry, Acting Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1476

BILL TITLE: relative to periodic verification of the checklist.

DATE:

2/2/10

LOB ROOM:

308

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 1:00 P.M.

Time Adjourned: 1:12 P.M.

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Clemons, Pierce, Splaine, C. Chase, Perry, Levesque, Bartlett, Caron, Hodges, Horrigan, Komi, Drisko, Jasper, Maybeck, Hoelze, Bates, Comerford, Doherty, Scala and Garcia.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Bates, Rock 4; Rep. Splaine, Rock 16; Rep. Horrigan, Straf 7; Rep. Perry, Straf 3; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Houde, Dist 5

TESTIMONY

\* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.



#1476

2/2/10

1. BATES, REP. ROCK. DIST. #4 47,000  
RESIDENTS

EXPLAINS CURRENT COMPLICATED  
LANGUAGE. BILL SIMPLIFIES LANGUAGE  
AND INCLUDES NO PURGE IF SOMEONE  
HAS VOTED ~~ON~~ IN ANY ELECTION AND  
PROVISION FOR BILL ADDED TO CHECKLIST SINCE LAST  
STATE GENERAL  
ELECTION.

② Tim Horvath -  
WRITTEN TESTIMONY. CONCURS W/ REP. BATES  
AS TO

③ ANTHONY STEVENS - FAVOR OF H.B. 1476  
10 YR PURGE IS UPCOMING. THIS BILL WILL AID IN  
MAINTENANCE OF DATA BASE, AND AVOID UNNECESSARY  
COSTS. SUGGESTS A 5-YR. PURGE MAY BE  
ADVANTAGEOUS. SOME TOWNS NOT FOLLOWING CURRENT  
LAW ARE PURGING THE CHECKLIST.

Bob Perry ACTION CLERK

# Testimony

H.B. 1476  
2/2/10

**Written Testimony in Favor of HB1476**

***AN ACT relative to periodic verification of the checklist***

Rep. Timothy Horrigan (Strafford District 7); House Election Law Committee; February 2, 2010

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This bill was a request of the Secretary of State's office. It makes two changes to the periodic verification of the checklist.

At least once every ten years, the voter list is cleaned up to take out listings for voters who have not recently voted. The deleted voters are free to re-register; and are given ample opportunity to do so—although quite often these voters have died or moved out of state.

This bill makes sure that two groups of active voters do not get deleted by mistake:

- a) Those who missed both of the two previous General Elections, but who did vote in one or more other elections.
- b) Those who registered after the last General Election (e.g., because they just turned 18) but have not actually voted yet.

The checklist must be verified statewide at least once every ten years; and a town or ward's checklist can be verified more frequently after the local supervisors of the checklist request permission from the state. A relatively small group of citizens— 50 or 5% of the registered voters, whichever is smaller— can also petition to have the checklist verified.

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Rep. Timothy Horrigan  
(Strafford County #7)  
7A Faculty Rd; Durham, NH 03824  
ph: 603-868-3342  
email: TimothyHorrigan@mac.com

# Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1476

**BILL TITLE:** relative to periodic verification of the checklist.

**DATE:** February 2, 2010

**LOB ROOM:** 308

**Amendments:**

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Bates

Seconded by Rep. Splaine

Vote: 16-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

**CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: 16-0**

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

**Statement of Intent:** Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Claudia Chase, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1476

BILL TITLE: relative to periodic verification of the checklist.

DATE: 2/2/2010

LOB ROOM: 308

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. *Baker*

Seconded by Rep. *Splaine*

Vote: *16/0* (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: *yle*

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Claudia Chase, Clerk



# Committee Report



**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**February 16, 2010**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Committee on ELECTION LAW to which was referred HB1476,**

**AN ACT relative to periodic verification of the checklist. Having considered the same, report the same with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

**Rep. David Bates**

**FOR THE COMMITTEE**

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	<b>ELECTION LAW</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB1476</b>
Title:	<b>relative to periodic verification of the checklist.</b>
Date:	<b>February 16, 2010</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>YES</b>
Recommendation:	<b>OUGHT TO PASS</b>

### STATEMENT OF INTENT

Every ten years inactive voters are purged from the voter checklist. Currently a person must vote in either of two previous general elections immediately preceding the 10-year verification, an annual town election in the year of the verification or in the most recent regular city election held prior to the verification. This bill changes RSA 654:39 so registered voters will only be removed when they do not vote in any election in the four years preceding 10-year verification.

Vote 16-0.

Rep. David Bates  
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## CONSENT CALENDAR

### ELECTION LAW

**HB1476**, relative to periodic verification of the checklist. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. David Bates for ELECTION LAW. Every ten years inactive voters are purged from the voter checklist. Currently a person must vote in either of two previous general elections immediately preceding the 10-year verification, an annual town election in the year of the verification or in the most recent regular city election held prior to the verification. This bill changes RSA 654:39 so registered voters will only be removed when they do not vote in any election in the four years preceding 10-year verification. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1476

Every ten years inactive voters are purged from the voter checklist.

Currently a person must vote in either of two previous general elections immediately preceding the 10-year verification, an annual town election in the year of the verification or in the most recent regular city election held prior to the verification. This bill changes RSA 654:39 so registered voters will only be removed when they do not vote in any election in the four years preceding 10-year verification.

Rep. Bates

  
Rep. Clemons, Chair

# COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: E.R.

BILL NUMBER: HB 1476

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 2/16/2010 CONSENT CALENDAR: YES  NO

- OUGHT TO PASS
- OUGHT TO PASS W/ AMENDMENT
- INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE
- RE-REFER
- INTERIM STUDY (Available only 2<sup>nd</sup> year of biennium)

Amendment No.

## STATEMENT OF INTENT:

Every ten years inactive voters are purged from the voter check list.  
Currently a person must vote in: either of the 2 previous general elections  
immediately preceding the 10-year verification, or an annual town election  
in the year of the verification, or in the most recent regular city election  
held prior to the verification. This bill changes RSA 654:39 so  
registered voters will only be removed when they do not vote in  
any election in the 4 years preceding the 10 year verification.

COMMITTEE VOTE: 16/0

- Copy to Committee Bill File
- Use Another Report for Minority Report

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Rep. David Bates  
For the Committee