

# Committee Report

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**February 17, 2021**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Committee on Election Law to which was referred  
HB 489,**

**AN ACT prohibiting certain political contributions.**

**Having considered the same, report the same with the  
following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is  
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

**Rep. Ross Berry**

**FOR THE COMMITTEE**

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	<b>Election Law</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB 489</b>
Title:	<b>prohibiting certain political contributions.</b>
Date:	<b>February 17, 2021</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>REGULAR</b>
Recommendation:	<b>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</b>

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

This bill proposes to prohibit a political committee from contributing to another political committee if the value or amount is over \$10,000. While the sole sponsor indicated issues with state and federal campaigns, no direct issues in NH were pointed out and it was not clear that some of what was an alleged concern would be avoided. It also appeared from the testimony that this bill might have been anticipatory for speculative future races by current elected officials. The majority of the committee felt that this was not the best way to legislate campaign finance and would result in unnecessary regulation.

Vote 11-9.

Rep. Ross Berry  
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Election Law

**HB 489**, prohibiting certain political contributions. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Ross Berry for Election Law. This bill proposes to prohibit a political committee from contributing to another political committee if the value or amount is over \$10,000. While the sole sponsor indicated issues with state and federal campaigns, no direct issues in NH were pointed out and it was not clear that some of what was an alleged concern would be avoided. It also appeared from the testimony that this bill might have been anticipatory for speculative future races by current elected officials. The majority of the committee felt that this was not the best way to legislate campaign finance and would result in unnecessary regulation. **Vote 11-9.**

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

Committee reports – Ross Berry

HB 489 An act prohibiting certain political contributions. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE Rep. Ross Berry for Election Law.

This bill proposes to prohibit a political committee from contributing to another political committee if the value or amount is over \$10,000. While the sole sponsor indicated issues with state and federal campaigns, no direct issues in NH were pointed out and it was not clear that some of what was an alleged concern would be avoided. It also appeared from the testimony that this bill might have been anticipatory for speculative future races by current elected officials. The majority of the committee felt that this was not the best way to legislate campaign finance and would result in unnecessary regulation.

..submitted for the committee

Rep Ross Berry

**Archived:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:18:23 AM

**From:** [Miriam Simmons](#)

**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 9:54:03 AM


**To:** [Miriam Simmons](#)

**Subject:** CR HB 489 R Berry

**Response requested:** No

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

[Berry - HB 489.docx](#) 

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**From:** Barbara Griffin <Barbara.Griffin@leg.state.nh.us>

**Sent:** Sunday, February 28, 2021 2:24 PM

**To:** [Miriam Simmons](#) <miriam.simmons@leg.state.nh.us>

**Subject:** Re: reminder for Committee Reports (blurbs)

# Voting Sheets

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 489**

**BILL TITLE:** prohibiting certain political contributions.

**DATE:** February 17, 2021

**LOB ROOM:** Remote / Hybrid

**MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Moved by Rep. Berry

Seconded by Rep. Torosian

Vote: 11-9

**CONSENT CALENDAR: NO**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # HB 489

BILL TITLE: Prohibiting certain political contributions.

DATE: 2-17-2021

LOB ROOM: 306

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP

ITL

Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)

Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_ (if offered)

Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. Berry

Seconded by Rep. Tiroshian

Vote: 11/9

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP

OTP/A

ITL

Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)

Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_ (if offered)

Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP

OTP/A

ITL

Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)

Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_ (if offered)

Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP

OTP/A

ITL

Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)

Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_ (if offered)

Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

CONSENT CALENDAR: \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Minority Report? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No If yes, author, Rep: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted: Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk  
Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk



2021 SESSION

Election Law

Bill #: HB 489 Motion: ITL AM #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 2-17-2021

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Griffin, Barbara J. Chairman	✓		
MacDonald, Wayne D. Vice Chairman	✓		
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine J.	✓		
Sweeney, Joe	✓		
Hayward, Peter T.	✓		
Mooney, Maureen C.	✓		
Torosian, Peter E.	✓		
Berry, Ross	✓		
Groen, Fenton	✓		
Qualey, James R.	✓		
Wells, Natalie J. Clerk	✓		
Cote, David E.		✓	
Ward, Gerald W.R.		✓	
Bergeron, Paul R.		✓	
<del>Sandler, Catt</del> <i>Mannie Espitia</i>		✓	
Hamer, Heidi M.		✓	
Lane, Connie B.		✓	
Freitas, Mary C.		✓	
Hamblet, Joan L.		✓	
Muirhead, Russell		✓	
<b>TOTAL VOTE:</b>	11	9	

# Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 489

**BILL TITLE:** prohibiting certain political contributions.

**DATE:** February 5, 2021

**LOB ROOM:** LOB Hybrid      **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:45 p.m.

**Time Adjourned:** 1:52 p.m.

**Committee Members:** Reps. B. Griffin, W. MacDonald, Wells, Prudhomme-O'Brien, Sweeney, Hayward, Mooney, Torosian, Berry, Groen, Qualey, Cote, Ward, Bergeron, Sandler, Hamer, Lane, Freitas, Hamblet and Muirhead

**Bill Sponsors:**

Rep. Schultz

TESTIMONY

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

\* Rep. ~~Kris~~ Schultz

• **Representative Schultz, Merrimack 18**

Under current law if one is Governor and wants to run for Senate, there is a law that prohibits the transfer of monies from a PAC to a federal office. Unfortunately, there is no law, it gets around Federal law, not state war chests. This bill is not to allow funds to go from the state to federal funding.

**Question – Rep Barbara Griffin:** Does this presume party segregate funds it takes in?

**Answer –** As far as I know, there is no efforts to separate accounts, use for different purposes, but no specific funds for federal.

**Question – Rep Barbara Griffin:** This would prohibit “war chests” being used even if didn’t run for Federal office?

**Answer:** - Correct.

Adjourned at 1:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Representative Natalie Wells  
Committee Clerk  
Election Law



ELECTION LAW  
PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 489

DATE: 2/5/21

TESTIMONY

Prohibiting certain political contributions

Open: 1:45pm

Closed 1:52pm

- **Representative Schultz, Merrimack 18**

Under current law if one is Governor and wants to run for Senate, there is a law that prohibits the transfer of monies from a PAC to a federal office. Unfortunately, there is no law, it gets around Federal law, not state war chests. This bill is not to allow funds to go from the state to federal funding.

**Question – Rep Barbara Griffin:** Does this presume party segregate funds it takes in?

**Answer –** As far as I know, there is no efforts to separate accounts, use for different purposes, but no specific funds for federal.

**Question – Rep Barbara Griffin:** This would prohibit “war chests” being used even if didn’t run for Federal office?

**Answer:** - Correct.

Adjourned at 1:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Natalie Wells

# House Remote Testify

## Election Law Committee Testify List for Bill HB489 on 2021-02-05

Support: 48 Oppose: 7 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 1

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>1</u>
Schultz, Kris	kris.schultz@leg.state.nh.us	603.856.7279	An Elected Official	Merrimack 18 (Concord Ward 9)	Support	Yes (2m)	2
Lord, Kit	kitlord@yahoo.com	603.942.5374	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Von Karls, Claire	cvonkarls1@gmail.com	603.823.5948	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Mullin, Mickey	wolf@mickeymullin.com	609.221.8996	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2
Hackmann, Kent	hackmann@uidaho.edu	603.934.3225	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Waterman, Raymond	prwaterman@aol.com	603.424.3692	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Waterman, Patricia	prwaterman@aol.com	603.424.3692	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Grossi, Anne	adgrossi7982@gmail.com	603.674.1181	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Garland, Ann	annhgarland@gmail.com	603.678.8143	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Verschueren, Jim	jd.verschueren@gmail.com	603.978.0398	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Maskwa, Donna	donna.maskwa@gmail.com	603.502.8606	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Kelley, Mary	midgekelly1@gmail.com	603.320.7237	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Leavitt, Deborah	daleavitt77@comcast.net	603.343.4493	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Frasse, Michael	mikefrasse@gmail.com	310.218.7349	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Campbell, Karolyn	kkcampbell43@yahoo.com	603.818.3919	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Reed, Barbara	moragmcp83@outlook.com	603.352.5015	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Martin, Jill	jillwmar@gmail.com	240.481.5116	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Hatcher, Phil	phil.hatcher@gmail.com	603.988.8034	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Heath, Ruth	ruthmheath@comcast.net	603.783.4401	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Farnum, Ellen	Ellenlynnfarnum@gmail.com	603.986.6620	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Farnum, William	williamwfarnum@gmail.com	603.986.0994	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Ackerson, Judith	ackerjack45@gmail.com	603.369.0574	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Ackerson, Kenneth	ken.ackerson14@gmail.com	603.273.1593	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Yacopucci, William	wdycpp@gmail.com	603.707.2211	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Podlipny, Ann	apodlipny57@comcast.net	603.370.1914	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Lawrence, Carol	Carollawrence46@yahoo.com	603.934.6368	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Coon, Katharine	kate2coon@gmail.com	339.793.0686	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Anastasia, Patricia	patti.anastasia@gmail.com	603.818.9991	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Aube, Maureen	mdaube@metrocast.net	603.934.2206	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Lobdell, Sara	slobdell@antioch.edu	973.464.0703	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Cotton, Bev	bevcott@gmail.com	603.529.3456	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Emus, Joanne	jremus0322@aol.com	603.465.9722	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Beihl, Deputy Director, Brian	brian@opendemocracy.me	603.620.8300	A Lobbyist	Open Democracy Action	Support	No	2
Bagshaw, Joseph	bagshaw.joseph@gmail.com	603.447.2697	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Lightfoot, Jean	JnLightfoot@comcast.net	702.596.9317	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Bundy, Linda	n_bundy@mcttelecom.com	603.588.2254	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Jones, Jennifer	jennjones123@hotmail.com	603.734.4123	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
King, Charles	mchking@gmail.com	603.924.3109	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Perry, Bob	perry4nh@gmail.com	603.715.4474	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Moore, Susan	susan.moore.franconia@gmail.com	603.823.8050	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Diamond, Jim	jiminoregon@gmail.com	503.984.2775	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
McLeod, Martha	MMcLeod823@gmail.com	603.491.0542	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2
Monsein, Marilyn	msquared3@gmail.com	603.823.5325	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Gilman, Representative Julie	julie.gilman@leg.state.nh.us	603.957.1348	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	2
Sayess, Polina	psayess@gmail.com	603.988.8796	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2

2/8/2021

House Remote Testify

Mennella, Alexandra	amennella1@protonmail.com	646.610.9858	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	↕
Bruce, Susan	susanb.red@mac.com	603.730.7078	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	↕
DiCicco, Harriet	Hfckd1@gmail.com	603.525.3594	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	↕
Thomas, Nicholas	nicholas.w.thomas@uconn.edu	734.355.3870	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	↕
Rathbun, Eric	ericrathbun@gmail.com	860.912.3751	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	↕
Beene, Holly	holly.beene@yahoo.com	682.225.2425	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	↕
French, Reobert	ref.design@outlook.com	603.444.0268	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	↕
Phillips, Betsey	bphill36@gmail.com	603.869.0127	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	↕
Gericke, Carla	carlagericke@gmail.com	917.607.4353	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	↕
Calitz, Louis	lc_gencourt@free603.org	917.519.2528	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	↕



# Testimony



Bill as  
Introduced

HB 489 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0816

11/06

HOUSE BILL            **489**

AN ACT                prohibiting certain political contributions.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Schultz, Merr. 18

COMMITTEE:          Election Law

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ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits political committees from contributing \$10,000 or more to any other political committee during any election cycle.

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Explanation:        Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~  
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 Twenty One*

AN ACT prohibiting certain political contributions.

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

1 1 New Paragraph; Political Expenditures and Contributions; Prohibited Political Contributions.

2 Amend RSA 664:4 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraph:

3 VI. By any political committee, if made to another political committee and if \$10,000 or more  
4 in value.

5 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2022.