

# Committee Report

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**March 5, 2021**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Majority of the Committee on Election Law to  
which was referred HB 523-FN,**

**AN ACT requiring a person who registers to vote  
without any identification to have his or her photo  
taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.**

**Having considered the same, report the same with the  
recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

**Rep. Ross Berry**

**FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

## **MAJORITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Committee:        | <b>Election Law</b>   |
| Bill Number:      | <b>HB 523-FN</b>  |
| Title:            | <b>requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.</b> |
| Date:             | <b>March 5, 2021</b>  |
| Consent Calendar: | <b>REGULAR</b>  |
| Recommendation:   | <b>OUGHT TO PASS</b>  |

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

This bill will restore some faith in our elections. Currently a person may walk into the polling location and register to vote on Election Day with no photo identification or proof of domicile. If a voter chooses to exercise this option, the poll worker will ask to take the voter's photograph. The voter then may decline the photograph if they cite a religious exemption; this is rarely used. The concept that someone may register to vote on Election Day without any ID or proof of domicile while leaving behind nothing more than a signature is troublesome to many citizens. It breeds distrust in our election process and creates an environment where people lose faith in our elections. By requiring newly registered voters who present no photo ID to have their photograph taken, we restore some faith in our elections and do not create a real barrier to the ballot box. Furthermore, it is nearly impossible to go into a polling place without ever being on some camera somewhere. Thus, it is highly unlikely that voters choosing to exercise this option would be doing so in good faith.

Vote 11-9.

Rep. Ross Berry  
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Election Law

**HB 523-FN**, requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Ross Berry for the **Majority** of Election Law. This bill will restore some faith in our elections. Currently a person may walk into the polling location and register to vote on Election Day with no photo identification or proof of domicile. If a voter chooses to exercise this option, the poll worker will ask to take the voter's photograph. The voter then may decline the photograph if they cite a religious exemption; this is rarely used. The concept that someone may register to vote on Election Day without any ID or proof of domicile while leaving behind nothing more than a signature is troublesome to many citizens. It breeds distrust in our election process and creates an environment where people lose faith in our elections. By requiring newly registered voters who present no photo ID to have their photograph taken, we restore some faith in our elections and do not create a real barrier to the ballot box. Furthermore, it is nearly impossible to go into a polling place without ever being on some camera somewhere. Thus, it is highly unlikely that voters choosing to exercise this option would be doing so in good faith. **Vote 11-9.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**March 5, 2021**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Minority of the Committee on Election Law to  
which was referred HB 523-FN,**

**AN ACT requiring a person who registers to vote  
without any identification to have his or her photo  
taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.**

**Having considered the same, and being unable to agree  
with the Majority, report with the following resolution:**

**RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

**Rep. Joan Hamblet**

**FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

## **MINORITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Committee:        | <b>Election Law</b>   |
| Bill Number:      | <b>HB 523-FN</b>  |
| Title:            | <b>requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.</b> |
| Date:             | <b>March 5, 2021</b>  |
| Consent Calendar: | <b>REGULAR</b>  |
| Recommendation:   | <b>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</b>   |

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

There are at least 3 groups of citizens who would be disenfranchised if this bill passes: 1. Some citizens subscribe to a religion that prohibits them from having a photo of themselves taken (RSA 659:13-b). Under this bill, they would not be allowed to vote. 2. Some citizens who reside in nursing homes do not have a recent form of photo identification. An administrator of the nursing home can verify their identity without a photo ID to allow them to register and vote (RSA 654:12, III). A requirement for photo identification is not reasonable or necessary. 3. A “confidential voter” can be allowed to vote if he or she presents a valid protective order (RSA 173-B:4) or evidence that he or she is a participant in the address confidentiality program (RSA 7:46). Such a voter might be prohibited from voting under this bill. In addition, our voting laws include layers of checks and balances in the specific duties of our local election officials, Supervisors of the Checklist, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General who document and verify the voters before, during and after our elections. This bill would wrongfully prevent legitimate voters from voting and would do nothing to make our elections safer.

Rep. Joan Hamblet  
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Election Law

**HB 523-FN**, requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Joan Hamblet for the **Minority** of Election Law. There are at least 3 groups of citizens who would be disenfranchised if this bill passes: 1. Some citizens subscribe to a religion that prohibits them from having a photo of themselves taken (RSA 659:13-b). Under this bill, they would not be allowed to vote. 2. Some citizens who reside in nursing homes do not have a recent form of photo identification. An administrator of the nursing home can verify their identity without a photo ID to allow them to register and vote (RSA 654:12, III). A requirement for photo identification is not reasonable or necessary. 3. A “confidential voter” can be allowed to vote if he or she presents a valid protective order (RSA 173-B:4) or evidence that he or she is a participant in the address confidentiality program (RSA 7:46). Such a voter might be prohibited from voting under this bill. In addition, our voting laws include layers of checks and balances in the specific duties of our local election officials, Supervisors of the Checklist, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General who document and verify the voters before, during and after our elections. This bill would wrongfully prevent legitimate voters from voting and would do nothing to make our elections safer.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

**Archived:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:18:25 AM

**From:** [Bgriffinlo](#)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 25, 2021 11:38:43 AM

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

**Cc:** [Bgriffinlo](#); [berryrm0@gmail.com](mailto:berryrm0@gmail.com)

**Subject:** Fwd: HB523 Blurb

**Response requested:** No

**Importance:** Normal

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Sorry to do this piece meal but this is appoved for Berry 523

HB 523 will restore some faith in our elections. Currently a person may walk into the polling location and register to vote on election day with no photo identification or proof of domicile. If a voter chooses to exercise this option, the poll worker will ask to take the voter's photograph. The voter then may decline the photograph if they cite a religious exemption. This is rarely used, however the concept that someone may register to vote on election day without any ID or proof of domicile while leaving behind nothing more than a signature is troublesome to many citizens. It breeds distrust in our election process and creates an environment where people lose faith in our elections. By requiring newly registered voters who present no photo ID to have their photograph taken we restore some faith in our elections and do not create a real barrier to the ballot box. Furthermore, it is nearly impossible to go into a polling place without ever being on some camera somewhere. Thus, it is highly skeptical that voters choosing to exercise this option would be doing so in good faith.

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**Archived:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:18:24 AM

**From:** [Bgriffinlo](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021 1:08:11 PM

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

**Cc:** [Bgriffinlo](#)

**Subject:** Fwd: reports 2

**Response requested:** Yes

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

[HB 516 - Maj - Mooney.docx](#)  [Minority Report HB516 - Muirhead.docx](#)  [in HB 523 - Bergeron.docx](#)  [B 43.docx](#)  [HB570 - Consent - Qualey.docx](#) 

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Batch 2

-----Original Message-----

From: Bgriffinlo <[bgriffinlo@aol.com](mailto:bgriffinlo@aol.com)>

To: Bgriffinlo <[bgriffinlo@aol.com](mailto:bgriffinlo@aol.com)>

Sent: Wed, Mar 24, 2021 8:52 am

Subject: reports 2

Rep. Cote has approved the following Minority Report for HB 523:

Minority Report: HB 523-FN, requiring a person who registers to vote without identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.

Rep. Paul R. Bergeron for the Minority of Election Law. This bill will require that a citizen, who registers to vote at the polls without a photo ID, to have his or her photo taken twice: once at the voter registration table and again at the checklist table. There is no provision to allow election officials to verify the identity of a person registering to vote without an ID, as can occur at the checklist table. The bill is discriminatory, as there is no provision to allow a citizen to register to vote without an ID if they object to having their photo taken due to religious beliefs, as can occur at the checklist table. In addition, requiring poll workers to take two photos of the same voter at two different stations in the voting process is redundant, time consuming, and wholly unnecessary.

**Archived:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:18:24 AM

**From:** [Joan Hamblet](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:37:28 AM

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

**Subject:** Minority report on HB 523

**Response requested:** No

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

[Minority report on HB-523 - Requiring photo ID2.docx](#)

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Miriam,

Attached please find my minority report for HB 523. David Cote has approved it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Joan

Joan Hamblet  
State Representative  
Rockingham District 31  
(Greenland, Newington, North Hampton, Portsmouth Ward 3)

# Voting Sheets

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 523-FN**

**BILL TITLE:** requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.

**DATE:** March 5, 2021

**LOB ROOM:** Remote / Hybrid

**MOTIONS:** **OUGHT TO PASS**

Moved by Rep. Berry

Seconded by Rep. Sweeney

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 523

BILL TITLE: Requiring Photo ID of register and no ID  
DATE: 3/5/21  
LOB ROOM: 306

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP       ITL       Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)       Adoption of Amendment # 11:9  
    Interim Study (2nd year)      (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Rosaberry      Seconded by Rep. Joe Sweeney      Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP       OTP/A       ITL       Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)       Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_  
    Interim Study (2nd year)      (if offered)

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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
    Interim Study (2nd year)      (if offered)

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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
    Interim Study (2nd year)      (if offered)

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  
Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk



2021 SESSION

**Election Law**

Bill #: 523 Motion: OTP AM #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 3-5-21

| <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.                 |             | ✓           |           |
| Sandler, Catt                     |             | ✓           |           |
| Hamer, Heidi M.                   |             | ✓           |           |
| Lane, Connie B.                   |             | ✓           |           |
| Freitas, Mary C.                  |             | ✓           |           |
| Hamblet, Joan L.                  |             | ✓           |           |
| Muirhead, Russell                 |             | ✓           |           |
| <b>TOTAL VOTE:</b>                | <b>11</b>   | <b>9</b>    |           |

# Hearing Minutes



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 523-FN

**BILL TITLE:** requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.

**DATE:** February 12, 2021

**LOB ROOM:** LOB Hybrid      **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 12:00 p.m.

**Time Adjourned:** 12:13 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. Gay      | Rep. M. Pearson   | Rep. Janigian          |
| Rep. Love     | Rep. W. MacDonald | Rep. Cushman           |
| Rep. Elliott  | Rep. Sweeney      | Rep. Prudhomme-O'Brien |
| Rep. Doucette |                   |                        |

TESTIMONY

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

**\*Sponsor – Representative Betty Gay; introduced the bill**

“Right now if you register to vote, you don’t have to provide a photo ID. You fill out an affidavit, then when it comes to taking a picture, you can refuse if it’s against your religion. This Bill would 1) have photo required 2) take away restrictions because of religion.

The reason for this was due to a group of young voters who refused to have their pictures taken claiming due to their religious beliefs.”

**Q Representative Barbara Griffin:** As compared to the current law, this is when voters register to vote – to have photo ID?

**A:** Yes

**Q – Representative Muirhead:** What town did that happen in?

**A –** I don’t know, I’ll put a call in today.

**Q –** Is it your intention to then take pictures twice, one at the Registration table and then at the check list table?

**A –** That would be silly, but the state provides the cameras. Deputy Scanlon can you make a guess how many cameras would be needed? I think it’s a moderator question.

**Deputy Scanlan – This might need a fiscal note.** The cost of the cameras in 2012 worked well, with very few voters without acceptable forms of ID. With this legislation, more photos would be taken that otherwise an affidavit is in place. It would be easier to take a picture at the Registration Table. Because more photos might need to be replaced, a minimal cost for additional cameras would be needed.

**Q – Representative Katherine Prudhomme-O’Brien:** Deputy Scanlan, do you know how many people were exempt last election who voted without a picture.

**A –** Probably very low.

**Q – Representative Prudhomme-O’Brien:** When you say low, 100, 1,000?

**A –** Less than 100, a fraction of 1% voters don’t have ID’s.

**Q – Representative Ross Berry:** Last time I asked you about a person could walk into the polling place and in less than 30 seconds, walk in with no ID, no proof of ID, but can vote. Would this bill at least move us an inch closer to voter integrity?

**A –** It’s a balancing act. It is a tool to verify.

**Q – Representative Lane:** Even though it is a balancing act, Deputy Scanlan, do you see any fraud?

**A –** I know there are isolated cases, recently the AG prosecuted voters who voted more than once in an election.

**Q Representative Torosian:** So in your opinion, this legislation would be helpful to be a check on the system, to have a photo at the Registration Table, provide some type of ID.

**Q Representative Sweeney –** In 2016, a man came into the West Lebanon town hall, voted. He left the polling place, put on a wig and went back in, made up a story and voted twice. If we had this legislation in place, would it not of taken 4 years of voter fraud?

**A –** Not sure if I can answer that, but to ask the AG office.

Hearing adjourned: 12:13 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Representative Natalie Wells  
Committee Clerk

**TESTIMONY**

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

XRep Betty Gray  
Deputy SOS - Dave Scanlan

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING on Bill # HB 523 FN

BILL TITLE: Requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his/her photo taken before registers to vote  
DATE: 2-12-21  
is complete

ROOM: 306

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 12:00

Time Adjourned: 12:13 PM

(please circle if present)

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

TESTIMONY

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

X Rep Betty Gray  
Deputy SOS - Dave Seanlan

February 12, 2021

HB-523-FN

Starting Time: 12:00pm

“Requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.”

\*Sponsor – Representative Betty Gay

“Right now if you register to vote, you don’t have to provide a photo ID. You fill out an affidavit, then when it comes to taking a picture, you can refuse if it’s against your religion. This Bill would 1) have photo required 2) take away restrictions because of religion. The reason for this was due to a group of young voters who refused to have their pictures taken claiming due to their religious beliefs.”

Q Representative Barbara Griffin: As compared to the current law, this is when voters register to vote – to have photo ID?

A: Yes

Q – Representative Muirhead: What town did that happen in?

A – I don’t know, I’ll put a call in today.

Q – Is it your intention to then take pictures twice, one at the Registration table and then at the check list table?

A – That would be silly, but the state provides the cameras. Deputy Scanlon can you make a guess how many cameras would be needed? I think it’s a moderator question.

Deputy Scanlan – This might need a fiscal note. The cost of the cameras in 2012 worked well, with very few voters without acceptable forms of ID. With this legislation, more photos would be taken that otherwise an affidavit is in place. It would be easier to take a picture at the Registration Table. Because more photos might need to be replaced, a minimal cost for additional cameras would be needed.

Q – Representative Katherine Prudhomme-O’Brien: Deputy Scanlan, do you know how many people were exempt last election who voted without a picture.

A – Probably very low.

Q – Representative Prudhomme-O’Brien: When you say low, 100, 1,000?

A – Less than 100, a fraction of 1% voters don’t have ID’s.

Q – Representative Ross Berry: Last time I asked you about a person could walk into the polling place and in less than 30 seconds, walk in with no ID, no proof of ID, but can vote. Would this bill at least move us an inch closer to voter integrity?

A – It’s a balancing act. It is a tool to verify.

Q – Representative Lane: Even though it is a balancing act, Deputy Scanlan, do you see any fraud?

A – I know there are isolated cases, recently the AG prosecuted voters who voted more than once in an election.

Q Representative Tiroian: So in your opinion, this legislation would be helpful to be a check on the system, to have a photo at the Registration Table, provide some type of ID.

Q Representative Sweeney – In 2016, a man came into the West Lebanon town hall, voted. He left the polling place, put on a wig and went back in, made up a story and voted twice. If we had this legislation in place, would it not of taken 4 years of voter fraud?

A – Not sure if I can answer that, but to ask the AG office.

Adjourned: 12:13pm

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Natalie Wells

# House Remote Testify

## Election Law Committee Testify List for Bill HB523 on 2021-02-12

Support: 30 Oppose: 17 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

| <u>Name</u>          | <u>Email Address</u>            | <u>Phone</u> | <u>Title</u>           | <u>Representing</u>      | <u>Position</u> | <u>Testifying</u> | <u>§</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------|
| Potucek, John        | potucek1@comcast.net            | 603.432.9049 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Pearson, Mark        | canonpearson@yahoo.com          | 603.571.0205 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Hatcher, Phil        | phil.hatcher@gmail.com          | 603.988.8034 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Moulton, Candace     | candaceleighm@gmail.com         | 603.782.6470 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Fordey, Nicole       | nikkif610@gmail.com             | 516.318.2296 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Gould, Rep. Linda    | lgouldr@myfairpoint.net         | 603.472.3877 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Larson, Ruth         | ruthlarson@msn.com              | 603.364.4003 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Frost, Sherry        | sherry.frost@leg.state.nh.us    | 978.255.3924 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Bruce, Susan         | susanb.red@mac.com              | 603.730.7078 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Beaudoin, Jennifer   | jenniferbeaudoin@comcast.net    | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| House, Don           | donhouse@metrocast.net          | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Healey, Barbara      | Barbara3821@aol.com             | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Jakows, Linds        | ljjakows@gmail.com              | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Connolly, Brenna     | connolly.brenna@gmail.com       | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| demark, richard      | demarknh114@gmail.com           | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Osborne, Jason       | houserepoffice@leg.state.nh.us  | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Aronson, Laura       | laura@mlans.net                 | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Love, RepDavid       | davidlove4rep@gmail.com         | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Rockingham 6             | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Johnston, Cordell    | cjohnston@nhmunicipal.org       | 111.111.1111 | A Lobbyist             | NH Municipal Association | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| McCalley, Jennifer   | jenniferamccalley@gmail.com     | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Anastasia, Patricia  | patti.anastasia@gmail.com       | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Rathbun, Eric        | ericrathbun@gmail.com           | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| Ankarberg, Aidan     | Aidan201@yahoo.com              | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Kaczynski, Thomas    | hampoul@metrocast.net           | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Shaw, Autumn         | autumncshaw@gmail.com           | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Oppose          | No                | 2        |
| McConkey, Mark       | mrkmcconkey@gmail.com           | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Terry, Paul          | paul.terry@leg.state.nh.us      | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Greene, Bob          | bob.greene@leg.state.nh.us      | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Abbas, Daryl         | daryl.abbas@leg.state.nh.us     | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Rockingham / District 8  | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Berezhny, Rep. Lex   | lex@berezhny.com                | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Grafton District 9       | Support         | No                | 2        |
| greeson, jeffrey     | jeffrey.greeson@leg.state.nh.us | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Lewicke, John        | john.lewicke@leg.state.nh.us    | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| LaMalva, Judith      | jlamalva@aim.com                | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Lynn, Bob            | rlynn4@gmail.com                | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Sheehan, Vanessa     | vsheehan16@yahoo.com            | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Chadwick, Ray        | rfchadwick@juno.com             | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| dostie, donald       | dadostietrucking@gmail.com      | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Folsom, Beth         | beth.folsom@leg.state.nh.us     | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Smith, Jonathan      | jhsmithnh5@gmail.com            | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Littlefield, Richard | littlefieldfornh@outlook.com    | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Binford, David       | david.binford@leg.state.nh.us   | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself and Constituents  | Support         | No                | 2        |
| THEBERGE,<br>ROBERT  | rolath@hotmail.com              | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Harley, Tina         | tianalh@hotmail.com             | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Pray, Danielle       | dapsrp@gmail.com                | 111.111.1111 | A Member of the Public | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Piemonte, Tony       | tony.piemonte@leg.state.nh.us   | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |
| Gay, Betty           | Betty.Gay@leg.state.nh.us       | 111.111.1111 | An Elected Official    | Myself                   | Support         | No                | 2        |



# Testimony



**Archived:** Monday, April 12, 2021 9:43:19 AM  
**From:** Ray Chadwick  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 11:40:13 AM  
**To:** ~House Election Law Committee  
**Subject:** Granite State Taxpayers Supports HB523  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee Members

Granite State Taxpayers (GST) supports election laws that make our system of elections easy to understand, resistant to fraud, and available exclusively to residents of New Hampshire.

The election strategy that has the least opportunity for fraud is one where:

- individuals themselves, in person, go to a polling place and
- they show proof of identity, citizenship, and residence in New Hampshire in order to vote.

New Hampshire allows people to register to vote, and vote, without showing proof of identity, citizenship, or residency.

They can do so by filing affidavits where voters self identify and vote without providing any proof.

This ability provides a cleat opportunity for mischief.

In Massachusetts, for example, if a person won't present proof of residency, they are not allowed to vote.

In the past, when letters were sent to the addresses of people who provided affidavits, a portion were returned as not deliverable.

After the 2012 election, letters were sent to addresses provided on affidavits, and 8% were returned as not deliverable.

Opponents of election law reform often opine that there is no election fraud.

Actually, our use of affidavits makes fraud easy to do and make it difficult to investigate when, where and by whom.

The real solution would be to eliminate the use of affidavits.

Failing that, requiring any form of identification, including a picture, is a helpful improvement.

It has the potential to provide a disincentive to anyone intending to vote fraudulently by using affidavits.

For that reason, Granite State Taxpayers supports HB523 requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.

HB523 will increase the likelihood that only eligible voters are able to exercise their right to vote. Granite State Taxpayers supports passage of HB523.

Thank you for your attention and your work on behalf of the citizens of New Hampshire.  
Ray

Ray Chadwick, Chairman  
Granite State Taxpayers  
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Bedford, NH 03110  
1-603-566-9129  
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Bill as  
Introduced

HB 523-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0757

11/08

HOUSE BILL **523-FN**

AN ACT requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.

SPONSORS: Rep. Gay, Rock. 8; Rep. M. Pearson, Rock. 34; Rep. Janigian, Rock. 8; Rep. Love, Rock. 6; Rep. W. MacDonald, Rock. 5; Rep. Cushman, Hills. 2; Rep. Elliott, Rock. 8; Rep. Sweeney, Rock. 8; Rep. Prudhomme-O'Brien, Rock. 6; Rep. Doucette, Rock. 8

COMMITTEE: Election Law

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ANALYSIS

This bill requires voters who register to vote by using a qualified voter affidavit or sworn statement on the election day registration form instead of other approved identification to have their photograph taken at the time of registration.

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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 Twenty One*

AN ACT                    requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.

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

1            1 New Paragraph; Elections; Determining Qualifications of Applicant; Photograph Required.

2 Amend RSA 654:12 by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

3            III-a. The supervisors of the checklist, town or city clerk, or election day official shall take a  
4 photograph of any person who registers using a qualified voter affidavit or sworn statement on the  
5 general election day registration form. Such photograph shall be retained in the same manner as  
6 qualified voter affidavits pursuant to RSA 33-A:3-a, CXLI(e).

7            2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

# **Fiscal Note**

**HB 523-FN- FISCAL NOTE  
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT requiring a person who registers to vote without any identification to have his or her photo taken before his or her registration to vote is complete.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**     State             County             Local             None

| STATE:                 | Estimated Increase / (Decrease)             |                                    |                                  |                                |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                        | FY 2021                                     | FY 2022                            | FY 2023                          | FY 2024                        |
| <b>Appropriation</b>   | \$0   | \$0                                | \$0                              | \$0                            |
| <b>Revenue</b>         | \$0   | \$0                                | \$0                              | \$0                            |
| <b>Expenditures</b>    | \$0   | \$33,000                           | \$0                              | \$3,300                        |
| <b>Funding Source:</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Highway | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

**LOCAL:**

|                     |     |                |                |                |
|---------------------|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>      | \$0 | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            |
| <b>Expenditures</b> | \$0 | Indeterminable | Indeterminable | Indeterminable |

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill requires the supervisors of the checklist, town or city clerk, or election day official to take a photograph of any person who registers using a qualified voter affidavit or sworn statement on the general election day registration form. Such photograph shall be retained in the same manner as qualified voter affidavits pursuant to RSA 33-A:3-a, CXLI(e).

The Department of State indicates this bill would require that a Polaroid style camera and film be purchased by the state for each of 330 polling places. The Department estimates each camera would cost \$80 and film for each camera would cost \$20. Replacement film would cost \$10 for each camera. Total expenditure for FY 2022 is estimated at \$33,000 (330 cameras x \$100 cost per camera including film). Total expenditure for FY 2024 for replacement film is \$3,300 (330 cameras x \$10 for replacement film).

The New Hampshire Municipal Association states this bill could result in a small expenditure if municipal officials do not already have a camera available for such purpose. It is unknown how many municipalities, if any, would be affected, so any additional municipal expenditures are indeterminable. There is no expected impact on municipal revenues.

It is assumed this bill would be effective July 1, 2021.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of State and New Hampshire Municipal Association