

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**February 3, 2022**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Majority of the Committee on Election Law to  
which was referred CACR 19,**

**AN ACT relating to paper ballots. Providing that all  
elections shall be conducted through paper ballots.**

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

**Rep. Katherine Prudhomme-O'Brien**

**FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

## **MAJORITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	<b>Election Law</b>
Bill Number:	<b>CACR 19</b>
Title:	<b>relating to paper ballots. Providing that all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots.</b>
Date:	<b>February 3, 2022</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>REGULAR</b>
Recommendation:	<b>OUGHT TO PASS</b>

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

This CACR provides that all elections shall be conducted through the use of paper ballots. As our long-time, former Secretary of State Bill Gardner famously said, "You can't hack a pencil." Although there are no current known attempts to change the fact that all NH elections are done on a paper ballot, the election security benefits of the use of paper ballots are now abundantly clear. Paper ballots provide a simple way for voters to know that their vote is not only recorded, but they also provide a trusted means of an accurate recount if needed. In a time of much concern nationwide that this might change and, in a time, when New Hampshire must grapple with the impending retirement of the model of electronic ballot counting machines used by most municipalities, CACR 19 is a way to reassure voters that we are deeply committed to the enduring use of paper ballots and will ensure trust in our elections today and for posterity.

Vote 11-9.

Rep. Katherine Prudhomme-O'Brien  
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Election Law

**CACR 19**, relating to paper ballots. Providing that all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Katherine Prudhomme-O'Brien for the **Majority** of Election Law. This CACR provides that all elections shall be conducted through the use of paper ballots. As our long-time, former Secretary of State Bill Gardner famously said, "You can't hack a pencil." Although there are no current known attempts to change the fact that all NH elections are done on a paper ballot, the election security benefits of the use of paper ballots are now abundantly clear. Paper ballots provide a simple way for voters to know that their vote is not only recorded, but they also provide a trusted means of an accurate recount if needed. In a time of much concern nationwide that this might change and, in a time, when New Hampshire must grapple with the impending retirement of the model of electronic ballot counting machines used by most municipalities, CACR 19 is a way to reassure voters that we are deeply committed to the enduring use of paper ballots and will ensure trust in our elections today and for posterity. **Vote 11-9.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**February 3, 2022**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Minority of the Committee on Election Law to  
which was referred CACR 19,**

**AN ACT relating to paper ballots. Providing that all  
elections shall be conducted through paper ballots.**

**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. Russell Muirhead**

**FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

## **MINORITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	<b>Election Law</b>
Bill Number:	<b>CACR 19</b>
Title:	<b>relating to paper ballots. Providing that all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots.</b>
Date:	<b>February 3, 2022</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>REGULAR</b>
Recommendation:	<b>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</b>

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

This bill proposes an amendment to the New Hampshire Constitution that would require all elections in the State to use paper ballots. New Hampshire law already stipulates that “all elections will be conducted using paper ballots” (RSA 656:1-a). No person or group seeks to change existing law, which by all accounts functions perfectly well. Therefore, the minority sees no pressing reason to copy existing law in the State Constitution. To change the Constitution frequently in response to transient causes and fleeting passions diminishes the standing and veneration that all constitutions need and that the New Hampshire Constitution, established in 1783, so richly deserves.

Rep. Russell Muirhead  
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Election Law

**CACR 19**, relating to paper ballots. Providing that all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Russell Muirhead for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill proposes an amendment to the New Hampshire Constitution that would require all elections in the State to use paper ballots.

New Hampshire law already stipulates that “all elections will be conducted using paper ballots” (RSA 656:1-a). No person or group seeks to change existing law, which by all accounts functions perfectly well. Therefore, the minority sees no pressing reason to copy existing law in the State Constitution. To change the Constitution frequently in response to transient causes and fleeting passions diminishes the standing and veneration that all constitutions need and that the New Hampshire Constitution, established in 1783, so richly deserves.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION on CACR 19**

**BILL TITLE:** relating to paper ballots. Providing that all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots.

**DATE:** February 3, 2022

**LOB ROOM:** 306-308

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

Moved by Rep. Prudhomme-O'Brien Seconded by Rep. Torosian

Vote: 11-9

**CONSENT CALENDAR: NO**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk



2021 SESSION

**Election Law**

Bill #: CACR 19 Motion: OTP AM #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 2-3-22

<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. <del>Joe Alexander</del>	✓		
Torosian, Peter E.	✓		
Berry, Ross	✓		
Groen, Fenton	✓		
Qualey, James R.	✓		
Wells, Natalie J. Clerk	✓		
<del>Cote, David E.</del> <u>Matt Wilhelm</u>		✓	
Ward, Gerald W.R.		✓	
Bergeron, Paul R.		✓	
Sandler, <del>Catt</del> <u>Megan Murray</u>		✓	
Hamer, Heidi M.		✓	
Lane, Connie B.		✓	
Freitas, Mary C.		✓	
Hamblet, Joan L.		✓	
Muirhead, Russell		✓	
<b>TOTAL VOTE:</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON CACR 19

**BILL TITLE:** relating to paper ballots. Providing that all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots.

**DATE:** January 13, 2022

**LOB ROOM:** 306-308                      **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:44 p.m.

**Time Adjourned:** 1:53 p.m.

**Committee Members:** Reps. B. Griffin, Wells, Prudhomme-O'Brien, Sweeney, Hayward, Torosian, Berry, Groen, Qualey, Alexander Jr., Ward, Hamer, Lane, Freitas and Hamblet

**Bill Sponsors:**

**Rep. S. Pearson**

**Rep. Milz**

**Rep. Steven Smith**

**Rep. Notter**

**Rep. Rice**

**Sen. Birdsell**

**TESTIMONY**

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

CACR19 – **Rep Steve Pearson** – District 6 Derry

- Move requirement paper ballot from statute to constitutional
- Does not have to do with counting machines

Question – **Rep Berry** – Doesn't codify state status in constitution, correct?

Answer – Takes requirement from paper from statutory to constitutional law.

Question – **Rep Berry** – SOS Accu vote life is soon replaced. Require any new system would have to have some form of paper?

Answer – No physically vote on ballot

Question – **Rep Berry** – Ticket see how voted, then prints out, put in machine, they can see how they vote?

Answer – Don't believe so, ballot can be reviewed, audited, tangible vote. Machine doesn't have this.

Question – **Rep Lane** – Is that the ballot or paper trail?

Answer – We don't do this in NH. Huge difference "receipt" who I voted vs prints copy of who you voted for, then turn it in.

Question – **Rep Muirhead** – What problem does this solve?

Statement by Rep Groen – Election should be conducted using paper ballot, create a stretch using machine printing receipt.

\***Liz Tentarelli** – Newbury – Neutral on this bill

- Sec V, Line 18 – Thought about process, putting on ballot
- Imposing a cross vs oval
- Suggest sponsor make a change



# House Remote Testify

## Election Law Committee Testify List for Bill CACR19 on 2022-01-13

Support: 21 Oppose: 9 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Birdsell, Senator Regina	Hampstead, NH regina.birdsell@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Senate District 19	Support	No	No	1/6/2022 12:22 PM
Tentarelli, Liz	Newbury, NH liz6@kenliz.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/9/2022 1:46 PM
Basilere, Peter	Milford, NH Moderator@Milford.NH.gov	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 10:48 AM
Moulton, Candace	Manchester, NH candaceleighm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:48 AM
Beihl, Brian	Alton Bay, NH brian@opendemocrdacy.me	A Lobbyist	Open Democracy Action	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 2:33 PM
Melvin, Daniel	Auburn, NH DanMelvin@verizon.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 4:03 PM
Dickinson, Jeff	Concord, NH jdickinson@gsil.org	A Member of the Public	Granite State Independent Living	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 4:06 PM
Porter, Hunter	Nashua, NH porterhunter2005@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 4:42 PM
Perry, Darryl	Manchester, NH darryl@nhlibertas.com	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Libertas	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 5:58 PM
Petrusewicz, Carol	Rochester, NH clmcc2befree@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:40 PM
Cembalisty, Clara	Rochester, NH Cqsc43@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:56 PM
Cembalisty, Richard	Rochester, NH taxmanrick@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:07 PM
Carpenter, Penny	Raymond, NH pcarp2627@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:07 PM



Fay, Chris	Litchfield, NH loyalx3@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:12 PM
Doughty, Patrick	Bethlehem, NH patrickdoughty@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:26 PM
Clement, Kathryn	Fremont, NH pixeybob@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:29 PM
Chadwick, Ray	Bedford, NH rfchadwick@juno.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/13/2022 1:04 AM
St. Laurent, Kristi	Windham 03087, NH kristist.laurent@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 1:39 AM
Dargie, Paul	Milford, NH pauldargie@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/13/2022 7:16 AM
Joyce, Michele	Bath, NH mjdigspigs@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 7:46 AM
Barassi, Tina	Brookline, NH Tinams1012@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 7:48 AM
Mayo, Kathy	NOTTINGHAM, NH kathymayo2013@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 8:13 AM
VACHON, Amy	Alton, NH amyngreg08@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 8:38 AM
Bouffard, Darlene	Milford, NH dbouffard@milford.nh.gov	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/13/2022 8:49 AM
Manseau, Denise	Rye, NH ddmanseau@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 11:21 AM
manseau, steven	rye, NH scm321@mail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/13/2022 11:29 AM
manseaur, stephen	pelham, NH scm321@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 12:00 PM
Sweeney, Margaret	Campton, NH ms975@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 1:03 PM
Tiffany, Angela	North Hampton, NH angelatiffany61@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 1:46 PM
Daniels, Timothy	MANCHESTER, NH timd03062@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 3:29 PM

**Archived:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 10:19:20 AM

**From:** Milford Moderator

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:20:20 AM

**To:** ~House Election Law Committee

**Subject:** CACR19 - Written Testimony

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Members of the Election Law Committee,

As the moderator responsible for one of the largest polling places in the state, I am opposed to CACR19.

Milford's 9,955 registered voters cast their ballots at one polling location. Derry and several other towns have even more voters at one polling place. Nevertheless, according to former Secretary of State Bill Gardner, Milford's size still makes us one of the 25 largest polling places in the country.

We use four AccuVote tabulating machines and are testing an alternative, with the Ballot Law Commission's approval, during the March 2022 local elections.

Our polling place is open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The clerk, other election officials and workers, and I arrive at 5:30 a.m. Generally, the results have been counted and checked, and I can announce the results at about 10:00 p.m. The clerk and I accompany the police as they return the tabulators, cast and uncast ballots, and other election material to town hall about 10:30 or 11:00. The clerk and I already work for upwards of 17 hours straight with machine counting.

I am opposed to the proposed constitutional amendment for these reasons:

Present election law stipulates the counting begin immediately after the polls close "and shall not be adjourned nor postponed until it shall have been completed." Imagine asking volunteers to return to the polls at 8:30 p.m., after the polls close, to spend the night counting thousands of ballots with multiple races and warrant articles! And requiring clerks and moderators, who have been at the polls since 5:30 a.m., to manage the overnight hand-counting process.

Milford was one of the first towns to adopt SB2, enabling voters to cast their votes on the town and school district warrants. This year, the town warrant has more than 30 articles - in addition to the races for town officials. The ballot will likely be 4 or 5 double-sided pages. Imagine counting more than 2,000 voters' ballots, each with more than 50 marks for races and questions, by hand, overnight.

Our "first in the nation" Presidential primary would be at risk. Granted, we count one mark on each political party's ballot, but the voter turnout is much higher than at local elections. Candidates expect the results by 10:00 p.m. so they can be on the 11:00 news as the winner and a midnight flight to the following primary state. Hand counting in large communities would jeopardize what the candidates and press expect. We do not want an Iowa caucus debacle to happen here.

Requiring hand-counting while not adjourning or postponing the polls' closing until it is complete will force communities to split their large polling places into multiple smaller ones. The cost of election official and staff time before, during, and after elections will be significant. Wards will have to be created and voters educated.

Hand counting is not inherently more accurate than a machine count, and indeed, the opposite is likely the case. If not done so already, someone should research recounts held by the towns, wards, and the state to determine how many times a hand-count town found different results when a recount occurred.

The proposed amendment essentially forces machine count communities to hand count the Constitutional question: "The ballot containing the question shall include 2 squares next to the question allowing the voter to vote 'Yes' or 'No.'" AccuVote tabulators scan an oval space to determine how to count the vote.

The proposed amendment disqualifies votes made by filling in the square or using a checkmark, which are common voter marks: "If no cross is made in either of the squares, the ballot shall not be counted on the question." Also, moderators often can discern the voter's intent by stray marks adjacent to the oval or square but that would not be allowed.

Forcing large communities to stop machine counting threatens the integrity of their results. We can ensure the continued integrity of machine counts using techniques such as random audits by the Secretary of State's office.

I ask the Committee not to approve this proposed constitutional amendment,

Pete Basiliere

Milford Town & School District Moderator

## Carrie Morris

---

**From:** Ray Chadwick <rfchadwick@juno.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 1:09 AM  
**To:** ~House Election Law Committee  
**Cc:** dmc2015@comcast.net; danmcguire@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Granite State Taxpayers Opposes CACR 19

Election Law Committee Members

### ***Granite State Taxpayers Opposes CACR 19***

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution provides that all elections shall be conducted using paper ballots.

Currently, RSA 656:1-a Paper Ballots, states: “ *all elections shall be conducted using paper ballots*”  
*Since the requirement that all elections be conducted using paper ballots is currently in law, a Constitutional amendment is unnecessary.*

**For that reason, *Granite State Taxpayers* Recommends an ITL vote for CACR 19.**

Thank you for your attention and for your commitment to the citizens of New Hampshire.

Ray Chadwick, Chairman  
Granite State Taxpayers  
101 Powder Hill Road  
Bedford, NH 03110  
1-603-566-9129  
[www.GraniteStateTaxpayers.org](http://www.GraniteStateTaxpayers.org)

## **Carrie Morris**

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**From:** Daniel Richardson <daniel6\_22@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 10, 2022 1:17 PM  
**To:** ~House Election Law Committee  
**Cc:** Steve Pearson; David Milz; Steven Smith; Jeanine Notter; Kimberly Rice; Regina Birdsell; Tom Lanzara  
**Subject:** In Support of CACR 19 all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots

Ref: Jan 13, 2022 Meeting

### **HOUSE ELECTION LAW COMMITTEE**

I write in support of CACR 19. Requiring a hardcopy persistent and durable record of cast votes will go a long way in voter confidence in the integrity of the process and also facilitates tally verification without loss or mutation. Physical records are most compatible with forensic analysis. Ephemeral digital records are subject to tampering and deletion.

I whole-heartedly support this bill. Please find as Ought-to-Pass.

Daniel Richardson, Nashua



Hand counting is not inherently more accurate than a machine count, and indeed, the opposite is likely the case. If not done so already, someone should research recounts held by the towns, wards, and the state to determine how many times a hand-count town found different results when a recount occurred.

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Pete Basiliere

Milford Town & School District Moderator

## **Carrie Morris**

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Our polling place is open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The clerk, other election officials and workers, and I arrive at 5:30 a.m. Generally, the results have been counted and checked, and I can announce the results at about 10:00 p.m. The clerk and I accompany the police as they return the tabulators, cast and uncast ballots, and other election material to town hall about 10:30 or 11:00. The clerk and I already work for upwards of 17 hours straight with machine counting.

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Milford was one of the first towns to adopt SB2, enabling voters to cast their votes on the town and school district warrants. This year, the town warrant has more than 30 articles - in addition to the races for town officials. The ballot will likely be 4 or 5 double-sided pages. Imagine counting more than 2,000 voters' ballots, each with more than 50 marks for races and questions, by hand, overnight.

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Requiring hand-counting while not adjourning or postponing the polls' closing until it is complete will force communities to split their large polling places into multiple smaller ones. The cost of election official and staff time before, during, and after elections will be significant. Wards will have to be created and voters educated.

**Archived:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 10:19:15 AM  
**From:** Ray Chadwick  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 1:09:41 AM  
**To:** ~House Election Law Committee  
**Cc:** dmc2015@comcast.net; danmcguire@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Granite State Taxpayers Opposes CACR 19  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Election Law Committee Members

***Granite State Taxpayers Opposes CACR 19***

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution provides that all elections shall be conducted using paper ballots.

Currently, RSA 656:1-a Paper Ballots, states: “ *all elections shall be conducted using paper ballots*”

*Since the requirement that all elections be conducted using paper ballots is currently in law, a Constitutional amendment is unnecessary.*

**For that reason, Granite State Taxpayers Recommends an ITL vote for CACR 19.**

Thank you for your attention and for your commitment to the citizens of New Hampshire.

Ray Chadwick, Chairman  
Granite State Taxpayers  
101 Powder Hill Road  
Bedford, NH 03110  
1-603-566-9129  
[www.GraniteStateTaxpayers.org](http://www.GraniteStateTaxpayers.org)

**Archived:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 10:19:17 AM

**From:** [Mike & Janet Ward](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 7:22:44 PM

**To:** [~House Election Law Committee](#)

**Subject:** re: HB 1064; HB 1064 FN; CACR 19 = DEMONSTRABLY UNNECESSARY AND DANGEROUS CHANGES to our sound and successful voting system

**Importance:** Normal

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To the Members of the Election Law Committee:

You have a great many bills to consider. Sadly, the goal of many of these bills is to make voting more difficult and to put New Hampshire's safe and accurate election system at risk. However, the attempt by some lawmakers to outlaw ballot counting machines (See HB 1064, HB 1064 FN, and CACR 19.) is especially egregious given that our November 2020 elections saw a record number of New Hampshire citizens safely and securely cast their ballots.

There is absolutely no need to make dangerous changes to New Hampshire's demonstrably sound and successful voting system. A change to hand counting ballots WOULD BE MORE COSTLY, WOULD REQUIRE MORE MUCH MORE TIME, WOULD BE LESS ACCURATE, and MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO POLITICAL MANIPULATION.

Please oppose HB 1064, HB 1064 FN, and CACR 19. These bills are unnecessary and pose a serious threat to NH's reliable voting system.

On a happier note: CACR 15 which recommends pre-registration for 17 year-olds looking forward to voting when they are 18 is a bill which deserves your support.

My thanks to you for your service to our democracy in your important work on the House Election Law Committee.

Sincerely,

Janet Ward  
Contoocook, NH  
603/746-4991

**Archived:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 10:19:21 AM

**From:** Daniel Richardson

**Sent:** Monday, January 10, 2022 1:17:11 PM

**To:** ~House Election Law Committee

**Cc:** Steve Pearson; David Milz; Steven Smith; Jeanine Notter; Kimberly Rice; Regina Birdsell; Tom Lanzara

**Subject:** In Support of CACR 19 all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots

**Importance:** Normal

---

Ref: Jan 13, 2022 Meeting

HOUSE ELECTION LAW COMMITTEE

I write in support of CACR 19. Requiring a hardcopy persistent and durable record of cast votes will go a long way in voter confidence in the integrity of the process and also facilitates tally verification without loss or mutation. Physical records are most compatible with forensic analysis. Ephemeral digital records are subject to tampering and deletion.

I whole-heartedly support this bill. Please find as Ought-to-Pass.

Daniel Richardson, Nashua

CA CR 19 - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2357

11/04

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION **19**

RELATING TO: paper ballots.

PROVIDING THAT: all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots.

SPONSORS: Rep. S. Pearson, Rock. 6; Rep. Milz, Rock. 6; Rep. Steven Smith, Sull. 11;  
Rep. Notter, Hills. 21; Rep. Rice, Hills. 37; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19

COMMITTEE: Election Law

ANALYSIS

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution provides that all elections shall be conducted using paper ballots.

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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 Two*

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

RELATING TO: paper ballots.

PROVIDING THAT: all elections shall be conducted through paper ballots.

*Be it Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, that the Constitution of New Hampshire be amended as follows:*

1 I. That the first part of the constitution be amended by inserting after article 11 the  
2 following new article:

3 [Art.] 11-a. [Paper Ballots Required]. For purposes of facilitating the examination and  
4 recounting of votes cast, all elections shall be conducted using paper ballots.

5 II. That the above amendment proposed to the constitution be submitted to the qualified  
6 voters of the state at the state general election to be held in November, 2022.

7 III. That the selectmen of all towns, cities, wards and places in the state are directed to  
8 insert in their warrants for the said 2022 election an article to the following effect: To decide  
9 whether the amendments of the constitution proposed by the 2022 session of the general court shall  
10 be approved.

11 IV. That the wording of the question put to the qualified voters shall be:  
12 “Are you in favor of amending the first part of the constitution by inserting after article 11 the  
13 following new article:

14 [Art.] 11-a [Paper Ballots Required.] For purposes of facilitating the examination and  
15 recounting of votes cast, all elections shall be conducted using paper ballots.”

16 V. That the secretary of state shall print the question to be submitted on a separate ballot or  
17 on the same ballot with other constitutional questions. The ballot containing the question shall  
18 include 2 squares next to the question allowing the voter to vote “Yes” or “No.” If no cross is made in  
19 either of the squares, the ballot shall not be counted on the question. The outside of the ballot shall  
20 be the same as the regular official ballot except that the words “Questions Relating to Constitutional  
21 Amendments proposed by the 2022 General Court” shall be printed in bold type at the top of the  
22 ballot.

23 VI. That if the proposed amendment is approved by 2/3 of those voting on the amendment, it  
24 becomes effective when the governor proclaims its adoption.

25 VII. Voters' Guide.

26 AT THE PRESENT TIME, there is no duty in the New Hampshire constitution to use  
27 paper ballots in elections.

28 IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED, the New Hampshire constitution will provide

- 1 a duty to use paper ballots in elections.