

CONSENT CALENDAR

March 9, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on Election Law to which was referred
HB 1522-FN,**

**AN ACT requiring the use of ballots with embedded
security and relative to chain of custody of absentee
ballots. Having considered the same, report the same
with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Wayne MacDonald

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Election Law
Bill Number:	HB 1522-FN
Title:	requiring the use of ballots with embedded security and relative to chain of custody of absentee ballots.
Date:	March 9, 2022
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill proposes requires paper ballots with embedded security and new ballot chain of custody. Ballot security and integrity are very important. However, the level of technology to produce and validate the ballots required in this bill is not readily available and is still only being explored by the State of New Hampshire. Validating any encryption or security on the ballot itself would be problematic at this time. The ballot storage and distribution process is also burdensome. New Hampshire is not ready for this type of approach to ballot creation and storage.

Vote 20-0.

Rep. Wayne MacDonald
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Election Law

HB 1522-FN, requiring the use of ballots with embedded security and relative to chain of custody of absentee ballots. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Wayne MacDonald for Election Law. This bill proposes requires paper ballots with embedded security and new ballot chain of custody. Ballot security and integrity are very important. However, the level of technology to produce and validate the ballots required in this bill is not readily available and is still only being explored by the State of New Hampshire. Validating any encryption or security on the ballot itself would be problematic at this time. The ballot storage and distribution process is also burdensome. New Hampshire is not ready for this type of approach to ballot creation and storage. **Vote 20-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1522-FN

BILL TITLE: requiring the use of ballots with embedded security and relative to chain of custody of absentee ballots.

DATE: March 9, 2022

LOB ROOM: 306-308

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. W. MacDonald

Seconded by Rep. Bergeron

Vote: 20-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk



2022 SESSION

Election Law

Bill #: HB1522FN Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 3-9-22

<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.	✓		
Torosian, Peter E.	✓		
Berry, Ross	✓		
Groen, Fenton	✓		
Qualey, James R.	✓		
Wells, Natalie J. Clerk	✓		
Alexander, Joe H.	✓		
Cote, David E. <u>Wendy Chase</u>	✓		
Ward, Gerald W.R.	✓		
Bergeron, Paul R.	✓		
Sandler, Catt <u>Linda Massimilla</u>	✓		
Hamer, Heidi M.	✓		
Lane, Connie B.	✓		
Freitas, Mary C.	✓		
Hamblet, Joan L.	✓		
Muirhead, Russell	✓		
TOTAL VOTE:	<u>20</u>	<u>0</u>	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1522-FN

BILL TITLE: requiring the use of ballots with embedded security and relative to chain of custody of absentee ballots.

DATE: January 20, 2022

LOB ROOM: 306 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:00pm

Time Adjourned: 2:18pm

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

Bill Sponsors:

Rep. Abrami

Rep. Aron

Rep. Abramson

Rep. Lanzara

TESTIMONY

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

***Rep. P. Albrami - Rockingham 19 Stratham**

- Sponsor
- See Testimony provided
- Security - change custody Ballots
- NH first in Nation we should be best in practices
- This will result integrity to our citizens
 1. Upgrade ballot technology
 2. Tighten Bus. ControlsP
 3. Increase Ballot security
 4. Transparency

Brenda Towne - Military Mom, Controller HP

- I did a citizen audit of state, 7,000 people follow. Help towns. Want clerks and people (to) appreciate their work. What we found ballots printed and manage ballots, found printing inconsistent, papers, people going to Staples.
- State knows way to reconcile. Asking this bill security ballot, Boxes, sealed - unsealed.
- In canvassing - not completed but has sign affidavits - 15% didn't actually cast ballot, close gap.
- Transparency - from being citizen audit, towns vs. SOS differences

Rep. Groen

- Question: One change to have ballots prepared?
- Answer: Separate SOS design & selection supplier
- Answer: Towns order amounts - measure supplier - reconciliation
- Question: Would ballots individually (be) identified by Bar Code?
- Answer: Design by SOS/AG some kind QR?? Code - we left open so SOS pure or complex technology. Just a step forward at end.

Rep. Torosian

- Question: Has this been used state, technology?
- Introduced in AZ as we speak
- As a state this methodology

- Question: Time frame envision to implement?
- Answer: One year to be validated, training

Rep. Bergeron

- Question: One thing say town coming up with different paper - SOS oversight
- Why have towns deal with 200 vendors towns vs. one?
- Page 2, Question: Cost who will pay for this - Legislature can'
- Answer: Going to Finance Committee - fund created to relieve towns. in total.
- Angst from towns cost increases. But reduction in other area, ie Windham - people be willing to pay.

Rep. Groen

- Page 4 Question: Counting devices - digital scan? your thoughts accomplished
- Done with town, simple scanner. End of election need high speed scanner.
- Question; Ward. Canvassing?
- Answer: We took actual check lists day of election, knock on door - confirm - if they voted - others in house did 900 houses so far

Rep. Prudhomme-O'Brien

- Question: Are you talking?? voted AB 15%?
- Answer: No different scenarios - Ask person there as if you voted. Person said "No".
- Voter check list said yes, create affidavit.

Rep. Berry

- Go to door, talk didn't vote in election, sign I did not vote.
- Canvassers are testifying what person said contained in Affidavit - Share with committee, SOS and AG.
- Yes, will provide this

Rep. Lane

- Confused how towns - cities punt ballots lack consistency, paper, ink, suppliers ie. Manchester Supplier
- End of process the number of Ballots used with supplier, no access ballots of people who shouldn't have ballots
- Question Where's difference gap?
- Answer: Not only get from SOS, are adding supplementing b

Rep. Bergeron

- Doesn't happen all towns

Rep. Griffin

- 2020 print AB

Rep. Hayward

- Question: Military ballots - their procedure, print UCAVA - Procedural water marked
- Answer: My understanding send make process for them to partici[ate]

Rep. Pimentel

- Question: Either town didn't order enough. How dealt with?
- Answer: Tell our towns to over order to accommodate, if they run
- Question: If this all goes wrong and town doesn't have ballots, what's (the) procedure (to) get more ballots?
- Answer: I'd find out if other towns also create a safety stock.

***Rep. J. Aron -**

- Co-Sponsor of Bill
- See Testimony
- Supports

- Just like our money with watermarks we should do ultra violet, florescent , etc. Encrypted date on Ballot/
- Storage Boxes - should be more security addressed in Bill.
- Ask you (to) pass this Bill OTP.

Rep. Torosian

- Question: In order to implement this technology, towns would need new machines.
- Possibly depends - Could be instead of replacing, adding
- Those who use paper ballot have to go to machine
- Will have to see as goes thru process.

Rep. Griffin

- You mentioned AB process - provision put on page 4, Do you know when?
- Answer: No, Envelopes preprocessing AB opened on Election.
- Answer: Not aware
- Day of Elections, I understand This Bill provided open envelope day of Election process begins, page 4 section 1 page 2 - Notify voter to cure AB can be marked
- Answer: Yes, up until close of day
- Question: Yes open in a.m. opportunity to end of day, your receipt recorded envelope AB can go online, AB received
- But not proceeded until day of Election, any deficiency under this bill , moderator? shall cure deficiency.
- Did Sponsors inquire with AG turn around time acceptable?
- Question: What if can't reach Absentee person?
- Answer: I will defer to Rep. Albrami

Rep. Lane

- Question: It's question Sec.14 - voting devices
1. Provide within 8 hrs., then term "Citizens Vote"
What is citizen audit and is 8 hours enough time?
- Answer: Citizens should be made available - refer to Rep. Albrami.

Rep. Hamer

- Question: Page 4 II ? Make photocopy hand slips
- Answer: Don't think unreasonable ask -

David Scanlan - SOS

- Opposition to bill - this is due to decline voter integrity. Water marks should be part of discussion. What this decentralization - who responsible.
- Legislator choses SOS for 2 years. If remove SOS responsibility for election.
- No Accountability - making towns responsible.
- All State Ballots produced printed exact same way, standard process.
- 309-310 polling places - specific to town, unique to it's town
- Make sure (to) get accountable one person vs. 200 people, a recipe for disaster.
- Need public (to) have an education for people to understand.
- At moment don't have device ready quickly, it's not possible.- Election community counting device in Milford - see how goes. Concern allowing

Rep. Prudhomme O'Brien

- Question: Condition of boxes? Just to reiterate - complaints of testimony. Your opinion - common condition boxes of XXXX???
- Answer: Most towns, most clerks properly seal boxes after Election is over. Towns who have boxes not proper have training issue, not mandatory. We need to do more work (with) this issue.

Rep. Pimental

- Question: You wouldn't normally go to question Town?
- Answer Might be good practice checks, Spot check - go into clerks office (and) see how boxes (are) stored.

Rep. Torosian

- Question: Could you support some security ways to?
- Answer: Yes, reconcile - There are ways synthetic, there are tools could be used that would be onerous or expensive.

Rep. Groen

- High Speed Scanners - Milford are they scanning or counting?
- Answer: Milford Digital Scan collect images on questionable ballot.
- Question: Scanning all ballot - wouldn't be different, scanner similar to what used at Audit not for counting
- I agree moving from Vendor to various towns,
- Answer: We hire a vendor, pinter working with company

Ken Eyring

- I support security measures of bill and agree with SOS needs to handle ballots.
- Sec IV-3 Not sure word encrypted , You're providing one person assuming they are competent. If something happens to that person questions regarding encryption for towns.
- I agree helpful (to) keep Ballot Boxes, video monitoring. Most important thing bringing.... ability to make ballots available.

A. Brandano

- Supports for trust and transparency

Chau Kelley

- Supports

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Natalie Wells

House Remote Testify

Election Law Committee Testify List for Bill HB1522 on 2022-01-20

Support: 18 Oppose: 3 Neutral: 1 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>
Hodgkins, Russell	Amherst, NH hodgkins_russ@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/14/2022 3:51 PM
Howland, Curtis	Manchester, NH howland@priss.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 5:56 PM
Smith, Julie	Nashua, NH cantdog@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 6:19 PM
Panek, Sandra	Pelham, NH Sandypanek@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 6:25 PM
Barassi, Tina	Brookline, NH Tinams1012@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 6:33 PM
Griffin, Amy	Loudon, NH Nhkick@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 6:38 PM
Pappas, Laurie	Hopkinton, NH laurihere44@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 6:40 PM
Joyce, Brenda	Alexandria, NH bmjnh59@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 6:42 PM
Gannon, Cathleen	Dover, NH Cathyanne603@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 7:24 PM
Pritchard, CT	Bedford, NH Ctprit09@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 7:29 PM
Lerner, Lori	Bridgewater, NH llerner01@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 7:32 PM
Carpenter, Penny	Raymond, NH pcarp2627@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 7:34 PM
Coutu, Bob	Londonderry, NH bob_coutu@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 7:43 PM

Coutu, Khinly	Londonderry, NH Khinlycoutu@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 7:44 PM
Clement, Michelle	Salem, NH mkmilone@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 7:58 PM
Guyen, Taci	Windham, NH Taci.guyen@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 8:01 PM
Pritchard, Lee	Bedford, NH clprit09@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 8:02 PM
Page, Tammy	Salem, NH Tammy.j.page@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 8:17 PM
Clement, George	Salem, NH gmclement99@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 8:23 PM
Goyette, Colin	Hudson, NH goyettec@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 8:26 PM
Ferreira, Matt	Merrimack, NH mattferreira@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 8:46 PM
Lamoureux, Cheryl A.	Durham, NH cheryll64@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 8:50 PM
Clement, Kathryn	Fremont, NH pixeybob@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 9:03 PM
Ellis, Amy	New Ipswich, NH amyellis81@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 9:03 PM
Card, James	Nashua, NH jwcard@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 9:27 PM
Jorgensen, Patricia	Northfield, NH yellaboat@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 10:04 PM
Cooper, Carlton	Rochester, NH cwcooper20@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 10:34 PM
Joyce, Michele	Bath, NH mjdigspigs@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 7:14 AM
Pumilia, MaryAnn Pumilia	Laconia, NH mpumilia@frontiernet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 8:07 AM
Goodman, Lawrence	Hebron, NH larrygoodman4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 8:15 AM
Greyes, Natch	Concord, NH ngreyes@nhmunicipal.org	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Municipal Association	Oppose	No	No	1/17/2022 9:08 AM

Parry, Nancy	Hollis, NH njparry@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 10:27 AM
Herring, Charles	STRATHAM, NH erikherring@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 11:21 AM
Goodman, Deb	Hebron, NH debgoodman5@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 11:37 AM
Towne, Brenda	Stratham, NH btowne@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 12:13 PM
Towne, Rodney	Stratham, NH rtowneme@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 12:14 PM
LaPointe, Susan	Epping, NH suelap16@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 1:10 PM
Parker, Toni	Weare, NH savedthrufaith99@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 1:40 PM
Denopoulos, Susan	Stratham, NH suedenop@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 1:59 PM
Page, Marilyn	Greenland, NH marilyn02803@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 3:21 PM
Mcguinness, Mary	Greenland, NH mlmcguinness@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 3:53 PM
Kepich, Jenna	Manchester, NH jkepich@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 3:54 PM
S, Julie	Newport, NH Jpmom39@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 4:10 PM
Patch, Jessica	Richmond, NH patchskindredk9@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 4:33 PM
Jordan, Paula	Canterbury, NH pjordan457@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 5:28 PM
Parenteau, Michelle	Newport, NH mashellparenteau@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 5:29 PM
Valeri, Robert	STRATHAM, NH rvbus@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 6:32 PM
Martin, Rhonda	Wolfeboro, NH rmwindwhisper@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 6:50 PM
Fitts, Melodie	Laconia, NH mlfitts@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 6:58 PM

Lakin, Kim	Gilmanton Iron Works, NH pointpositivedesign@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 7:02 PM
Tucker, Theresa	Thornton, NH Mrsrover@charter.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 7:47 PM
Ward, Joanne	Stratham, NH usquevagh@mac.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 8:05 PM
Sims, Roy	Newport, NH Jpmom39@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	We the People	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 10:06 PM
Tuthill, Jennifer	Somersworth, NH psychokatz@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 10:17 PM
White, Robert	Merrimack, NH white14@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 10:35 PM
Tuthill, William	Somersworth, NH W.tuthill@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 11:01 PM
Delano, Janie	hudson, NH tadandpole4@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 4:37 AM
Katz, Denise	Stratham, NH dklynn59@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 5:43 AM
Beaudoin, Sherry	Rochester, NH sherrybeaudoin@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 6:27 AM
DePeters, Frank	statham, NH fndepeters@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 6:58 AM
glidden, deborah	alexandria, NH moosepathfarmstainedglass@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 7:34 AM
Owens, Brady	Nashua, NH brady.owens@pm.me	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 7:46 AM
Murphy, Kevin	Hampstead, NH kfmurphy76@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 10:45 AM
Parker, Susan	Greenland, NH parkersusan777@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 1:23 PM
Catapano, Michael	Greenland, NH cato27@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 1:53 PM
Saba, Robin	CANDIA, NH rbrooks230@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 3:13 PM
Wardell, Robert	Contoocook, NH Wardell.robert12@comcast.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 3:13 PM

Potucek, Representative John	Derry-Rockingham Dist. 6, NH potucek1@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 5:27 PM
Sweeney, Margaret	Campton, NH ms975@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 10:16 PM
Brandano, Al	Kensington, NH albrand19@Rocketmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 10:55 PM
Mason, Lynne	Richmond, NH Seashells63@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/19/2022 4:55 AM
Westbrook, Tenley	Greenland, NH tenley@tenleywestbrook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/19/2022 7:28 AM
Frost, Sherry	Dover, NH s.frost@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/19/2022 9:05 AM
Preston, Christine	Somersworth, NH preston_kris@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/19/2022 9:06 AM
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/19/2022 2:25 PM
Anastasia, Patricia	Londonderry, NH patti.anastasia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/19/2022 9:57 PM
Loveless, Eric	bedford, NH nassur34@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/20/2022 12:27 AM
perez, maria	milford, NH mariaeli63@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/20/2022 9:40 AM
Wood, James	Merrimack, NH fairlanejim@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/20/2022 9:42 AM
Doty, Charles	BEDFORD, NH csdoty@jcrowe.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/20/2022 10:27 AM
Malone, Sharon	New Durham, NH smalone49@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/20/2022 11:00 AM
Thornock, Jaime	Salem, NH jlthornock@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/20/2022 11:32 AM
Page, Glenn	GREENLAND, NH grp0527@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/20/2022 12:33 PM
Ruocco, HOLLY	SALEM, NH holly@drholly.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/20/2022 1:37 PM
Petrusewicz, Carol	Rochester, NH clmcc2befree@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/20/2022 6:53 PM

Carrie Morris

From: Patrick Abrami
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Barbara Griffin; ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: HB1522 Answers to Some Committee Questions

Chair Griffin et al,

Brenda Towne who testified after I introduced the bill reviewed the whole hearing a second time on YouTube. The attached are her responses to questions that she felt were left unanswered. The chart she has shared on the second page, I saw after the Windham audit was first completed. When I saw this, I met with Bill Gardner and David Scanlon. I said how can this be. Other than talking about the machines need to be vacuumed before use because of the light powder that is used in the printing process that sometimes accumulates in the machines to a point in which there are mis-reads of the ballots, they had no other explanation. That begs the question are all the towns and cities vacuuming the counting machines before use. If this was the cause of a spread of .9% between the four machines, why didn't they vacuum the machines before the audit? I told both Bill and David that this was disturbing. This type of variance in accuracy would not be tolerated in any other business. Thank you for your attention to attached.

Rep Pat Abrami

Carrie Morris

From: Patrick Abrami
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 7:14 AM
To: Barbara Griffin; ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: Fw: Arizona bill to make ballot images public record

Rep Griffin et al,
This AZ bill that passed their Senate has many of the same features as my HB1522. Just thought I would share.
Thank you.

Rep Pat Abrami

From: Patrick Abrami <abrami.nhrep@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 6:01 AM
To: Patrick Abrami <Patrick.Abrami@leg.state.nh.us>
Subject: Fwd: Arizona bill to make ballot images public record

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Brenda Towne <btowne@protonmail.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 26, 2022 at 7:38 PM
Subject: Arizona bill to make ballot images public record
To: Patrick Abrami <abrami.nhrep@gmail.com>

<https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2022/01/breaking-arizona-senate-committee-passes-seven-election-integrity-bills-including-ballot-fraud-countermeasures-ballot-images-will-public-records/>

Sent from ProtonMail mobile

--
Patrick F. Abrami
NH State Representative
Stratham District

Charles Scott Doty
59 Kensington Lane
Bedford NH 03110

January 17, 2022

New Hampshire House of Representatives
Election Law Committee - NH State House - LOB Room 308
107 North Main Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: **VOTE YES**
House Bill 1522-FN;

Members of the Election Law Committee,

I request your yes vote on House Bill 1522 to improve the protection of every citizen's most valuable possession, their vote. Our ballots should be produced, counted, and handled with earned and enforced trust by our public servants, both elected and those hired by the elected.

This bill includes additional mechanisms and procedures which are commensurate with attaining this trust. The best laws are those which are only as complex as necessary to foster the desired result. Our current laws need this tweaking.

The bill as presented is a bit odd. The main body of the bill describes the means and methods in a direct and fair fashion. However, the METHODOLOGY section near the end of the bill is not about methodology. It appears to be a list of assertions written by opposition to the bill pointing out that the proposed bill will be a costly and unnecessary nuisance.

The first assertion laments the reduced authority of the Secretary of State. The Secretary will continue to select and manage the printing vendor and the distribution of ballots. The HB 1522 simply reinstates the proper over-sight and direction by the peoples' representatives in the Legislature. This is not a nuisance it is the peoples' right to protect their vote.

Absentee voting is a special privilege, and it is also an increased opportunity for voter fraud. So it is appropriate that it should be subject to special conditions which both protect that privilege and eliminate the opportunity for fraud. Proving identity and residency to vote is not an excessive requirement. It is a common shared and willing responsibility of the people.

Ballots, as a priceless record of the will of the people, are well worth special security storage measures. In recent months we have seen examples of sloppy ballot handling in Windham and Bedford.

Transparency in voting creates trust. We the people, want to see the ballots. We have a right to see the ballots. This is because we don't get what we expect. We will get what we inspect.

Thank you for your public service.



Charles Scott Doty

Hi Pat-

Here is my response to the questions asked/ objections raised at the election law committee:

Will we need new counting machines in total or for the hand count towns?

No. The ballots will be able to be hand counted but may need a method to determine authenticity of the ballot based on the type of security the SOS determines. e.g a UV light

Absentee Ballot Timing and Validation

Solutions: 1 – eliminate time to cure. The ballot requirements are clear so the responsibility is on the voter. There was push back on including copies of IDs to confirm identity. This is a requirement if a voter shows in person. Why would we not require this for an absentee?

Solution 2 - ??

Why separate ballot control from the SoS.

The processes are still managed by the SoS. The SoS is responsible for managing the supplier selected. At no time should there be excess ballots at the SoS office as this is the place where recounts occur. This is a basic violation of accounting standards of separation of duties.

It is standard practice in Industry to have a company “outsource” activities to a service provider and manage the provider with a specific set of requirements, reporting and metrics in place. This is what we are looking for – to separate this potential conflict where the party who recounts is the same party controlling blank ballots.

Citizens Audit- An ability for a citizen of the state of NH to validate the election results.

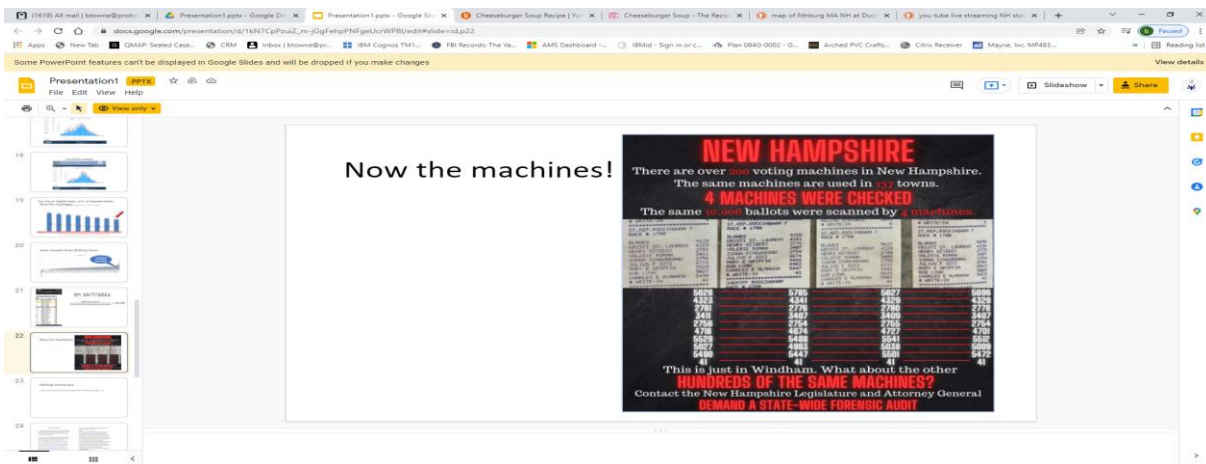
Ballot scanning

- Hours enough to perform the duty? If ballots are scanned during the time the election is taking place, the digital copies should already be stored on the scanner in a PDF file. This file should be able to be copied and uploaded. What would be the best time frame? If polls close at midnight- by lunch the next day – noon? Do we name a time ?
- SoS- transparency opens us up to “ballot buying” of the 1800’s. This is a terrible excuse. The public wants transparency and are demanding transparency.

The results of the Windham Audit are right here:

10,006 Ballot run through 4 machines in Windham during the Audit.						
No 2 machines gave the same results.						
	Machine 1	Machine 2	Machine 3	Machine 4	spread	Var
Blanks	5628	5785	5627	5696	158	2.8%
Kristi ST.Laurent	4323	4341	4329	4326	18	0.4%
Henri Azibert	2781	2776	2780	2778	5	0.2%
Valerie Roman	3411	3407	3409	3407	4	0.1%
Iona Singureanu	2756	2754	2755	2754	2	0.1%
Julius F Soti	4718	4674	4727	4701	44	0.9%
Mary E griffin	5528	5488	5541	5512	13	0.2%
Bob Lynn	5027	4983	5038	5009	55	1.1%
Charles McMahan	5490	5447	5501	5472	43	0.8%
Write in	41	41	41	41		
TOTAL	39703	39696	39748	39696	342	0.9%

We have 200 machines in New Hampshire.



All ballots for the town were run through the Accuvote machines. Not a single count matched except for the hand counted write ins! This was the last election. We want transparency.

HB 1522-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2636

11/04

HOUSE BILL ***1522-FN***

AN ACT requiring the use of ballots with embedded security and relative to chain of custody of absentee ballots.

SPONSORS: Rep. Abrami, Rock. 19; Rep. Aron, Sull. 7; Rep. Abramson, Rock. 37; Rep. Lanzara, Hills. 28

COMMITTEE: Election Law

ANALYSIS

This bill requires that elections are conducted using ballots with embedded security. The bill also specifies the chain of custody for ballots during and after an election.

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 Two

AN ACT requiring the use of ballots with embedded security and relative to chain of custody of absentee ballots.

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

1 1 Elections; General Responsibility of Ballots. Amend RSA 656:1 to read as follows:

2 656:1 General Responsibility. Ballots for use in all state elections shall be ~~prepared and~~
3 ~~delivered by the secretary of state~~, **ordered by political subdivisions from the supplier**
4 **determined by the secretary of state**, at the expense of the state.

5 2 Voting Materials; Paper Ballots. Amend RSA 656:1-a to read as follows:

6 656:1-a Paper Ballots. For purposes of facilitating the examination and recounting of votes cast,
7 all elections shall be conducted using paper ballots in accordance with this title. **All paper ballots**
8 **shall be produced using technologies that provide the ability to validate the authenticity of**
9 **the ballot, including but not limited to magnetic inks, specialized paper, water marks, or**
10 **other industry tools available to safeguard against counterfeit ballots. The secretary of**
11 **state shall design and source the paper ballots with review and approval by the attorney**
12 **general. Ballot paper technology shall be reviewed and upgraded, as necessary, every 5**
13 **years.**

14 3 Elections; General Provisions; State General Election. Amend RSA 656:3 to read as follows:

15 656:3 Preparation. At least 6 days before any state general election is to be held, the official
16 state general election ballot shall be sent by the **supplier chosen by the** secretary of state to the
17 city and town clerks.

18 4 Preparation of Voting Materials; Inspection. Amend RSA 656:20 to read as follows:

19 656:20 Delivery of Ballots; Inspection.

20 I. The **supplier chosen by the** secretary of state shall send the state general election
21 ballots in a sealed package to the town and city clerks so they shall receive them no later than
22 Tuesday immediately preceding the day of the state general election. The package shall be marked
23 on the outside to clearly designate the town or city for which it is intended and the number of ballots
24 enclosed. The secretary of state shall keep a record of the time when and the manner in which the
25 packages were sent to the clerks and a record of the number of ballots so forwarded. A town or city
26 clerk shall sign a receipt for the ballots received.

27 II. Each town or city clerk, prior to election day, shall open the package in which the ballots
28 are enclosed, in the presence of at least one other legal voter, to verify that the ballots in the package
29 are all the proper ballots for that town or city. **The town or city clerk shall count and log all**

1 **ballots received.** The clerk and one other legal voter shall then reseal the package with the
 2 [~~sealing label~~] **tamper proof seals** provided by the secretary of state.

3 **III. All ballots received shall after inspection be stored in locked boxes and**
 4 **encrypted such that only the senior election official shall have the ability to access the**
 5 **ballots. Every ballot shall be accounted for before and after the election.**

6 5 Ballot Preparation; State Primary. Amend RSA 656:22 to read as follows:

7 656:22 Preparation. The official state primary election ballots shall be prepared by the
 8 **supplier chosen by the** secretary of state and shall be delivered by [~~the secretary of state~~] **such**
 9 **supplier** to town and city clerks so that the ballots shall be received not later than the Tuesday
 10 immediately preceding the state primary election. Each town and city clerk, in the presence of at
 11 least one other legal voter, shall verify the contents of the ballot package as provided under RSA
 12 656:20 and reseal the ballots for use on election day.

13 6 Preparation of Ballots. Amend RSA 656:26-29 to read as follows:

14 656:26 Number. The **supplier chosen by the** secretary of state shall furnish to each town or
 15 ward clerk the state primary election ballots of each political party in a number which the secretary
 16 of state shall deem sufficient for voting in the state primary.

17 656:27 Number for New Party. For the first state primary election at which a political party has
 18 candidates for nomination, the **supplier chosen by the** secretary of state shall print for said party a
 19 sufficient number of state primary election ballots which in the secretary of state's discretion shall
 20 most closely approximate the figures provided in RSA 656:26.

21 656:28 Sample Ballots. The **supplier chosen by the** secretary of state shall furnish 10 sample
 22 state primary election ballots of each political party printed on tinted paper to each town or ward
 23 clerk and, upon request, a reasonable number of such sample ballots to each person whose name
 24 appears upon the ballot as a candidate. Each town or ward clerk shall post one sample ballot of each
 25 political party in each of 2 public places in the clerk's town or ward within one day of receiving such
 26 sample ballots and save the remainder to be posted on the day of the primary as provided in RSA
 27 658:26.

28 656:29 Preparation. The official presidential primary election ballot for each political party
 29 shall be sent by the **supplier chosen by the** secretary of state so as to be received by the city and
 30 town clerks no later than the Tuesday immediately preceding the presidential primary. Each town
 31 and city clerk, in the presence of at least one other legal voter, shall verify the contents of the ballot
 32 package as provided under RSA 656:20 and reseal the ballots for use on election day.

33 7 Ballot Preservation; Delivery of Ballots to Town Clerk. Amend RSA 659:98 to read as follows:

34 659:98 Delivery of Ballots to Town Clerk. The moderator, or the moderator's designee, and the
 35 selectmen, or their designee, after they have sealed and certified the state election ballots as
 36 provided in RSA 659:95 and RSA 659:96, shall deliver the sealed containers to the town or city clerk,
 37 or to the clerk's designee, who shall in their presence enter in the appropriate place on each **tamper**

1 **proof** sealer the time of day and shall sign his or her name in the appropriate blank on the sealer.
2 The clerk or the clerk's designee shall, without breaking the seals or otherwise changing the
3 condition of the containers, deposit the containers in the town or city hall **in a locked facility with**
4 **video monitoring, visitor logs, and locked storage containers**, where the ballots shall be kept
5 for a period set forth in RSA 33-A:3-a.

6 8 General Provisions for Recounts; Disposal of Ballots. Amend RSA 660:16, I to read as follows:

7 I. Upon the conclusion of every recount, the secretary of state shall replace the unprotested
8 ballots and absentee voter envelopes in a [suitable] **secure** container for storage. The secretary of
9 state shall retain the ballots and the absentee envelopes for at least 60 days following the recount.
10 Upon an order of the ballot law commission, the secretary of state shall produce the ballots for the
11 inspection of the commission. Following the commission's inspection, the secretary of state shall
12 replace the ballots and envelopes, seal them **with tamper proof seals**, and certify the contents and
13 the date when they were examined by the commission. The envelopes and ballots shall be subject to
14 the order of the body to which such person claims to be elected or of the officers required by law to
15 examine the records and to issue certificates of election to such office or of any court having
16 jurisdiction over them. **The envelopes and ballots shall be returned to the town and city**
17 **clerks for storage in accordance with RSA 659:98.**

18 9 Absentee Ballot Application. Amend RSA 657:4, II(a) to read as follows:

19 (a) Any person, other than the city or town clerk or the **supplier chosen by the**
20 secretary of state, that publishes, mails, or distributes in any manner any written communication
21 that contains a form or post card which a reasonable person would consider as intended to be used
22 by the recipient of the communication to submit a request for an absentee ballot shall identify who is
23 publishing, mailing, or distributing the communication, and attach a copy of the form prepared by
24 the secretary of state pursuant to paragraph I of this section to the communication or include in the
25 communication a complete facsimile of the form prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to
26 paragraph I of this section.

27 10 Absentee Voting; Procedure by Applicant. Amend RSA 657:6 to read as follows:

28 657:6 Procedure by Applicant. An application form for an absentee ballot shall be mailed or
29 delivered to any person who applies therefor to [~~the secretary of state or to~~] any town or city clerk. It
30 shall be filled out by the applicant and sent to the clerk of the town or city in which he or she desires
31 to vote. Alternatively, a person may apply for an official absentee ballot by sending to said clerk a
32 written statement containing the information required by RSA 657:4, I or by the federal official post
33 card form.

34 11 Absentee Ballots and Related Materials. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 657:7 to
35 read as follows:

36 Prior to any state election, the **supplier chosen by the** secretary of state shall prepare the
37 following forms in such quantity as he deems necessary:

HB 1522-FN - AS INTRODUCED
- Page 4 -

1 12 New Paragraph; Absentee Ballots and Related Materials. Amend RSA 657:7 by inserting
2 after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

3 II-a. Absentee voters shall include within the outer envelope a photocopied documentation
4 sufficient to prove residency and identification.

5 13 Opening Absentee Ballot Outer Envelopes. Amend RSA 659:53 to read as follows:
6 659:53 Forms Not in Order.

7 ***I.*** If the moderator finds that the absentee voter is not entitled to vote, the moderator shall
8 not open the envelope and shall mark across the face of the envelope the reason the ballot is rejected,
9 such as "rejected as not a voter" "voted in person," "affidavit improperly executed," "not signed by
10 proper person," or whatever the reason is and shall record next to the name of the absentee voter on
11 the clerk's list of absentee voter applicants prepared pursuant to RSA 657:15 the word "rejected" and
12 the reason for the rejection. The clerk shall record this information in the statewide centralized
13 voter registration database. The moderator shall save all the unopened envelopes and shall preserve
14 the envelopes with the ballots cast at the election as provided in RSA 659:101.

15 ***II.*** ***If the moderator finds that the absentee voter has not included the photocopied***
16 ***documentation sufficient to show residency and identification pursuant to RSA 657:7, II-a,***
17 ***the moderator shall contact such voter in an attempt to cure such deficiency and shall set***
18 ***aside such ballot until the voter provides the required documentation. Voters shall have***
19 ***up to the close of the polls on the day of the election to provide required documentation.***
20 ***Absentee ballots shall only be counted if the voter complies with this paragraph. If***
21 ***documentation is not provided, the moderator shall record next to the name of the absentee***
22 ***voter on the clerk's list of absentee voter applicants prepared pursuant to RSA 657:15 the***
23 ***word "rejected" and the reason for the rejection. The clerk shall record this information***
24 ***into the statewide centralized voter registration database.***

25 14 Electronic Ballot Counting Devices; Rules. Amend RSA 656:42, IX to read as follows:

26 IX. Any electronic digital image of a marked ballot made by a ballot counting device,
27 ~~[whether stored on the device, on a removable memory device, or on a government computer, shall be~~
28 ~~non-public and exempt from RSA 91-A]~~ ***shall be made accessible to every citizen through***
29 ***digital imaging made public by every city or town within 8 hours of the close of the polls.***
30 ***Citizens shall be able to perform a "citizen's audit" to tie the counts in the official records***
31 ***to the ballot images. Citizens shall be informed at the time of casting ballots that digital***
32 ***copies of the ballots will be preserved and made public to protect any concerns over***
33 ***privacy.***

34 15 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.

**HB 1522-FN- FISCAL NOTE
 AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT requiring the use of ballots with embedded security and relative to chain of custody of absentee ballots.

FISCAL IMPACT: State County Local None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase
Funding Source:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

LOCAL:

Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase

METHODOLOGY:

This bill removes the authority to prepare ballots from the Secretary of State and provides it to a third party "supplier" chosen by the Secretary of State. The bill adds further requirements to paper ballots and removes the Secretary of State from the process of mailing an application form for an absentee ballot. It also requires absentee voters to include photocopied evidence of a voter's domicile and identity information. Lastly, it requires special security measures to store ballots in the cities and towns after the elections and digital images of all ballots to be made available by cities and towns within eight hours of the close of the polls.

The Department of State indicates there would be an indeterminable increase on state expenditures. The Department states they are unable to determine the increase on state expenditures above and beyond those already incurred in the ballot printing process, until they put the language in this bill out to bid.

The New Hampshire Municipal Association states the new requirements to secure and store the ballots as well as produce digital images to be made available to the public would result in an indeterminable increase in local expenditures.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of State and New Hampshire Municipal Association