

CONSENT CALENDAR

September 27, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on Election Law to which was referred
HB 551-FN,**

AN ACT relative to the statewide voter database.

**Having considered the same, report the same: NOT
RECOMMENDED FOR FUTURE LEGISLATION.**

Rep. Barbara Griffin

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Election Law
Bill Number:	HB 551-FN
Title:	relative to the statewide voter database.
Date:	September 27, 2022
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUTURE LEGISLATION

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill proposed to make the statewide, centralized voter registration database publicly available free of charge. Three primary issues were identified during testimony on the bill. The bill eliminated the fee of which 90% goes back to our towns and cities. While it was believed the impact on the state could be managed, the committee did not receive sufficient input on the impact to local communities. The bill had imprecise language as to when exceptions to supplying particular information could be made. Finally, the language of the bill raised privacy issues by referring to a database that included more than what is currently legally available. The prime sponsor of the bill agreed there were issues with the bill as written and it is expected that he will be proposing a more refined bill in the next term. Accordingly the committee agreed that this in it's current form should not be adopted.

Vote 15-0.

Rep. Barbara Griffin
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Election Law

HB 551-FN, relative to the statewide voter database.**NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUTURE LEGISLATION .**

Rep. Barbara Griffin for Election Law. This bill proposed to make the statewide, centralized voter registration database publicly available free of charge. Three primary issues were identified during testimony on the bill. The bill eliminated the fee of which 90% goes back to our towns and cities. While it was believed the impact on the state could be managed, the committee did not receive sufficient input on the impact to local communities. The bill had imprecise language as to when exceptions to supplying particular information could be made. Finally, the language of the bill raised privacy issues by referring to a database that included more than what is currently legally available. The prime sponsor of the bill agreed there were issues with the bill as written and it is expected that he will be proposing a more refined bill in the next term. Accordingly the committee agreed that this in it's current form should not be adopted. **Vote 15-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

HB 551

This bill proposed to make the state wide centralized voter registration database publically available free of charge. Three primary issues were identified during testimony on the bill. The bill eliminated the fee of which 90% goes back to our towns and cities. While it was believed the State impact could be managed, the committee did not receive sufficient input on the impact to local communities. The bill had imprecise language as to when exceptions to supplying particular information could be made. Finally, the language of the bill raised privacy issues by referring to a database that included more then what is currently legally available. The prime sponsor of the bill agreed there were issues with the bill as written and it is expected that he will be proposing a more refined bill in the next term. Accordingly the committee agreed that HB 551 in it's current form should not be adopted.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 551-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the statewide voter database.

DATE: June 16, 2022

LOB ROOM: 305 - 307

MOTION:

Interim Study (2nd yr) Not Recommended for Future Legislation

Moved by Rep. B. Griffin

Seconded by Rep. Bergeron

Vote: 15-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Wayne MacDonald, Acting Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 551-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the statewide voter database.

DATE: 6/16/20

LOB ROOM: 305 - 307

MOTION: Recommended for Future Legislation

Not Recommended for Future Legislation

Moved by Rep. Griffin

Seconded by Rep. Bayern

Vote: 15-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. _____
Committee Clerk



2022 SESSION

Election Law

Bill #: HB-551-FN Motion: Not Rec AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 6/16/22

<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 <i>Dawn Johnson</i>	✓		
Green, Fenton			
Qualey, James R.	✓		
Wells, Natalie J. Clerk			
Alexander, Joe H. <i>Maura Klammy</i>	✓		
Gote, David E. <i>Kris Scholtz</i>	✓		
Ward, Gerald W.R.	✓		
Bergeron, Paul R.	✓		
Sandler, Catt	✓		
Hamer, Heidi M.	✓		
Lane, Connie B.	✓		
Freitas, Mary C. <i>Allison Nutting Wong</i>	✓		
Hamblet, Joan L.	✓		
Muirhead, Russell	✓		
TOTAL VOTE:	15	0	

CONSENT CALENDAR

November 15, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on Election Law to which was referred
HB 551-FN,**

AN ACT relative to the statewide voter database.

**Having considered the same, report the same with the
recommendation that the bill be REFERRED FOR
INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Joe Sweeney

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Election Law
Bill Number:	HB 551-FN
Title:	relative to the statewide voter database.
Date:	November 15, 2021
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill proposes that the statewide, centralized voter registration database be made publicly available free of charge. Testimony provided to the committee clarified the difference between the voter checklist, currently available to the public, and the voter database, which contains confidential information. Much of the information the bill seeks to obtain is currently provided at a fee, and elimination of that fee would have its biggest impact at the local level. The bill as proposed has merit as it seeks to provide transparency to voter lists and broader election procedures. However further deliberation and discussion is needed to ensure changes can be successfully implemented by state election officials without violating privacy interests and adversely impacting our local communities.

Vote 20-0.

Rep. Joe Sweeney
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Election Law

HB 551-FN, relative to the statewide voter database. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Joe Sweeney for Election Law. This bill proposes that the statewide, centralized voter registration database be made publicly available free of charge. Testimony provided to the committee clarified the difference between the voter checklist, currently available to the public, and the voter database, which contains confidential information. Much of the information the bill seeks to obtain is currently provided at a fee, and elimination of that fee would have its biggest impact at the local level. The bill as proposed has merit as it seeks to provide transparency to voter lists and broader election procedures. However further deliberation and discussion is needed to ensure changes can be successfully implemented by state election officials without violating privacy interests and adversely impacting our local communities. **Vote 20-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

HB551

This bill proposes that the statewide centralized voter registration data base be made publically available free of charge. Testimony provided to the committee clarified the difference between the voter checklist, currently available to the public, and the voter date base which contains confidential information. Much of the information the Bill seeks to obtain is currently provided at a fee, and elimination of that fee would have its biggest impost at the local level. The bill as proposed has merit as it seeks to provide transparency to voter lists and broader election procedures. However further deliberation and discussion is needed to ensure changes can be successfully implemented by state election officials without violating privacy interests and adversely impacting our local communities.

Joe Sweeney

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 551-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the statewide voter database.

DATE: November 12, 2021

LOB ROOM: 306 - 308

MOTIONS: **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY**

Moved by Rep. Sweeney

Seconded by Rep. Berry

Vote: 20-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # HB 551-FN

BILL TITLE: Relative to the Statewide Voter Database

DATE: 11-12-21

LOB ROOM: 306-308

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Joe Sweeney Seconded by Rep. Ross Berry Vote: 20:0

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st 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 (1st 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 (1st 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, Clerk
Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk



2021 SESSION

Election Law

Bill #: HD 551-FN

Motion: Interim Study

AM #: _____

Exec Session Date: 11-12-21

<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. <u>Tom Dolan</u>	✓		
Sweeney, Joe	✓		
Hayward, Peter T.	✓		
Terosian, Peter E. <u>Carol McGuire</u>	✓		
Berry, Ross	✓		
Groen, Fenton	✓		
Qualey, James R.	✓		
Wells, Natalie J. Clerk	✓		
Alexander, Joe H. <u>Bob Greene</u>	✓		
Cote, David E. <u>Donnis MacKay</u> <u>Donnis Malloy</u>	✓		
Ward, Gerald W.R.	✓		
Bergeron, Paul R.	✓		
Sandler, Catt	✓		
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

BILL NUMBER: HB 551-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the statewide voter database.

DATE: March 5, 2021

THE COMMITTEE HAS VOTED TO RETAIN THIS BILL.

Rep. B. Griffin, Chair

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 551-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the statewide voter database.

DATE: March 5, 2021

LOB ROOM: Remote / Hybrid

MOTIONS: RETAINED

Moved by Rep. Hayward

Seconded by Rep. Torosian

Vote: 20-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # 551

BILL TITLE: Relative to state wide voter database

DATE: 3/5/01

LOB ROOM: 306

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____ (if offered)
- Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. Peter Hayward Seconded by Rep. Terrivan Vote: 20:0

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____ (if offered)
- Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____ (if offered)
- Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____ (if offered)
- Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR: _____ YES _____ NO

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

Respectfully submitted: Rep Natalie Wells
Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk



2021 SESSION

Election Law

Bill #: 551 Motion: Retain 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	✓		
TOTAL VOTE:	20	0	

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 551-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the statewide voter database.

DATE: February 17, 2021

LOB ROOM: LOB Hybrid **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 11:00 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 11:27 a.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. Kofalt

Rep. Ammon

TESTIMONY

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

***Representative Jim Kofalt, Hillsborough, Wilton, Lyndeborough, Frankestown.** Testimony given. Ordinary citizens want access to the public information list electronically. The State gets \$100,000 for 385 cities and towns per year for the sale of public checklist information from the statewide voter database. We don't charge for other governmental records. It seems inconsistent we should charge for this. NH Constitution states records should be open. **I ask this to be OTP.**

- **Questions: Representative Maureen Mooney:** On the last line of the bill, #23, can you define a compelling interest?
- **Answer:** A person who has a restraining order. These people have a limited discretion by the SOS to not reveal the address of such people.
- **Question: Representative Paul Bergeron:** Are you asking for access to voter checklist or voter database?
- **Answer:** Intention to make it available to the public.
- **Question: Representative Paul Bergeron:** How come you choose not to repeal the
- **Answer:** I think it should be. I will add there may be another provision to clarify.
- **Question: Representative Timothy Horrigan –** I am against passing it at this time. There are a number of areas where the government charges for certain records. If we gave away all records free, it would be crippling.

Deputy David Scanlan: I'm in opposition to this bill as written. As Representative Bergeron stated, it makes available the entire data base and all the information that goes with it. From HAVA 2002 and other state central database required to have certain information such as birthdates, last 4 numbers of the person's social security, driver's license, naturalization etc. When the State created the database, it was to keep this information private. I can tell you when private information from a database gets out, people are upset. People call, how did you get my phone number. The State does not give out this information. With the states cross check program, many people believed their information was being made available. He's talking about public information that's available to a candidate. The state can only sell to political candidates the names, address, registered party. Any person can go to their town clerk and get a public list for \$25 for 1,500 names and .50 for every 1,000 more names. The monies collected from the SOS \$8,000 list, all but \$500 gets sent back to cities and towns as if collected locally. It helps compensate towns. The data changes constantly, names added, names removed, and all the

private information that goes with it. A check list today from the state or town will be different tomorrow and day after.

- **Question:** Representative Peter Tirobian – I heard his intent. If an Amendment was done for just public information. Would that alleviate your concern?
- **Answer:** Yes.
- **Question:** Representative Prudhomme-O'Brien – Are you aware of any states that this bill is proposing and amended like Representative Tirobian mentioned is made available to everyone?
- **Answer:** I'm not aware. Every state is responsible for what is private differently.

Comment: Representative Kofalt: Deputy Scanlan, I hear you about the issues and concerns about private and confidential information. My intent was to make information available that is available to political candidates and their committees now. Some states CO, DE, RI, AK, FL, MI, OH, OK have this information available.

- Madam Chair, I would ask the committee be open for an Amendment.

Representative Griffin: We are in the first of a two-year session. Being challenges this year and the Budget, this may not be able this year.

- Bills can be retained and further work can be done as other statues might need to be addressed by OLS.
- Thank you Representative Kofalt and we look forward to an Amendment.

Adjourned: 11:27am

Respectfully submitted,
Representative Natalie Wells
Committee Clerk

TESTIMONY

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

* Rep

Jim Kofalt

ELECTION LAW PUBLIC HEARING

2/17/21

HB: 551 – FN Relative to statewide voter database.

Open: 11:52am

- ***Representative Jim Kofalt, Hillsborough, Wilton, Lyndeborough, Frankestown.** Testimony given. Ordinary citizens want access to the public information list electronically. The State gets \$100,000 for 385 cities and towns per year for the sale of public checklist information from the statewide voter database. We don't charge for other governmental records. It seems inconsistent we should charge for this. NH Constitution states records should be open. I ask this to be OTP.
-
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- **Question: Representative Timothy Horrigan –** I am against passing it at this time. There are a number of areas where the government charges for certain records. If we gave away all records free, it would be crippling.
- **Deputy David Scanlan:** I'm in opposition to this bill as written. As Representative Bergeron stated, it makes available the entire data base and all the information that goes with it. From HAVA 2002 and other state central database required to have certain information such as birthdates, last 4 numbers of the person's social security, driver's license, naturalization etc. When the State created the database, it was to keep this information private. I can tell you when private information from a database gets out, people are upset. People call, how did you get my phone number. The State does not give out this information. With the states cross check program, many people believed their information was being made available. He's talking about public information that's available to a candidate. The state can only sell to political candidates the names, address, registered party. Any person can go to their town clerk and get a public list for \$25 for 1,500 names and .50 for every 1,000 more names. The monies collected from the SOS \$8,000 list, all but \$500 gets sent back to cities and towns as if collected locally. It helps compensate towns. The data changes constantly, names added, names removed, and all the private information that goes with it. A check list today from the state or town will be different tomorrow and day after.
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- **Answer:** Yes.

- **Question:** Representative Prudhomme-O'Brien – Are you aware of any states that this bill is proposing and amended like Representative Tirobian mentioned is made available to everyone?
- **Answer:** I'm not aware. Every state is responsible for what is private differently.

Representative Kofalt: Deputy Scanlan, I hear you about the issues and concerns about private and confidential information. My intent was to make information available that is available to political candidates and their committees now. Some states CO, DE, RI, AK, FI, MI, OH, OK have this information available. Madam Chair, I would ask the committee be open for an Amendment.

Representative Griffin: We are in the first of a two-year session. Being challenges this year and the Budget, this may not be able this year. Bills can be retained and further work can be done as other statues might need to be addressed by OLS. Thank you Representative Kofalt and we look forward to an Amendment.

Adjourned: 11:27am

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Natalie Wells

House Remote Testify

Election Law Committee Testify List for Bill HB551 on 2021-02-17

Support: 16 Oppose: 10 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	S
Hatcher, Phil	phil.hatcher@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
Fordey, Nicole	nikkif610@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
Larson, Ruth	ruthlarson@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
Frost, Sherry	sherry.frost@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
Wessel, David	dkwessel@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Brickett, Jane	silofarm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
McGuire, Daniel	danmcguire@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Anastasia, Patricia	patti.anastasia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
Scaer, Beth	bscaer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Reed, Barbara	moragmcp83@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Minihan, Jeremiah	Jeremiah.minihan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
Beaudoin, Steve	4steve.beaudoin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Bossi, Kathleen	Katebossi@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Betnard, Jaime	Thehedgecrickets@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Axelman, Elliot	aluaxelman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Howland, Curtis	howland@priss.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Lucas, Janet	janluca1953@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Hope, Lucinda	lmhope46@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
ARONSON, LAURA	laura@mlans.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Mennella, Alexandra	amennella1@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2.
See, Alvin	absee@4Liberty.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Beaudoin, Sherry	sherrybeaudoin@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Fedorchak, Gaye	gayevf@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Groetzing, Tonda	groetzing6@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.
Horrigan, Timothy	timothy.horrigan@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Strafford 6	Oppose	No	2.
Blumenshine, Kent	zshiner@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2.

Testimony

Written testimony of Ed Naile, 61 Tubbs Hill Rd, Deering, NH Regarding House Bill 551

This bill strikes the exemption of the Statewide Centralized Database from RSA 91-A and adds the language: *The voter database shall be made electronically available to members of the public free of charge, provided that the secretary of state may restrict access to certain information contained in the database where a compelling interest exists for doing so.*

This is a very simple, long overdue bill that provides for transparency of the centralized record of voters in NH which has same-day voter registration. There is no better source of information for examining or monitoring who is registered to vote in any municipality in this state - than the public.

This bill will go a long way to build public trust in our NH elections.

654:45 Centralized Voter Registration Database. – (In part)

I. The secretary of state is authorized to plan, develop, equip, establish, site, and maintain a statewide centralized voter registration database and communications system, hereinafter referred to as the voter database, connecting users throughout the state. The voter database shall include the current information on the voter registration forms, the accepted absentee ballot applications, the voter checklists, and voter actions as recorded on the marked checklist maintained by each city, ward, and town in the state.

II. Any election official in the state authorized by this chapter to have direct access to the voter database may obtain immediate electronic access to the information contained in the voter database related to individuals registered or registering to vote in the election official's jurisdiction. The office of the clerk is hereby designated as a database access point for each town or city. The secretary of state may authorize additional database access points in a town or city, including election day access points at polling places.

III. The voter database shall, upon certification by the secretary of state, be the official record of eligible voters for the conduct of all elections held in this state.

Question:

How can the official record not be open to the public?

Some of the states have their voter databases on-line at one site:

Arkansas ... Colorado ... Delaware ... Florida ... Michigan ... Ohio ... Oklahoma ... Rhode Island.

Example: <https://arkvoters.com/> Registered Voters in the State of Arkansas

As of 26 January 2021.

A clean voter list is essential to free and fair elections, and public scrutiny of the voter list is essential to maintaining the integrity of the list.

Vermont's updated statewide database list is sent monthly, free of charge, to anyone who submits a request in writing.

I have purchased voter registration information from other states not listed above, on-line, for a nominal fee.

There is no compelling state interest in keeping the only official record, RSA 654:45 III, of registered voters from the public.

The legislative schedule for this House Bill is on-line: <https://legiscan.com/NH> so the public can access legislation. This information is free of charge.

It makes no sense that anyone can walk into any municipality and see and copy that municipalities' checklist but not the centralized checklist containing the same information.

At a time when public trust of elections is at an all time low this bill would show NH is serious about having basic transparency provided for its citizens.

Ed Naile

831-2031

ednaile@comcast.net

2/17/2021

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: CHARLES HALL
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:52:50 AM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Cc: jim@jimkofalt.com
Subject: HB 551 Electronic voter data base
Importance: Normal

Feb. 15, 2021

Dear Chairman and Committee Members,

I strongly support HB 551. This bill provides the transparency required to ensure we have the most accurate voter information. It provides our citizens the confidence that the integrity of our election process is held to the highest standard. An electronic data base is the most accurate and efficient way to manage and control information. Government agencies and corporations have been using electronic data management for years. Also, there isn't any information in the current voter system that is not public information. The difference being, the current system is inefficient, ineffective and not as accurate or timely as an electronic data base. The efficiency of electronic data management will easily recover any lost revenue in a short period time. It's time for NH to embrace the benefits of technology and use it to our advantage. This is the type of legislation that will improve voter confidence in our election process. This bill needs to become law as written.

Charles Hall
9 Allds St.
Nashua, NH

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Gwen Gerow
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:32:18 AM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: HB 551-FN
Importance: Normal

HOUSE BILL 551-FN
AN ACT relative to the statewide voter database.
SPONSORS: Rep. Kofalt, Hills. 4; Rep. Ammon, Hills. 40
COMMITTEE: Election Law

To the House Election Law Committee:

I am writing to request that the committee pass this bill. There is no reason for a free on-line list of all registered voters NOT to be available and open to the tax paying citizen's of this state. (As it is in many other states, and as our state constitution dictates this access) These lists are openly posted by law in the towns of this state. Please make a free accessible (accountable) list available to "we the people".

Sincerely,

Gwen Gerow
24 North Road
New Ipswich, NH 03071

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Judith Hendrick
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:14:02 AM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: NH House Bill 551-FN
Importance: Normal

Tax paying NH residents own the statewide voter database and as our NH State Constitution requires, it must be made public.

You must (per our State Constitution) vote FOR House Bill 551-FN on February 17, 2021.

Judi Hendrick
Bedford, NH

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Don Smith
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 7:21:45 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: HOUSE BILL 551-FN
Importance: Normal

I support this bill. Please pass this bill for the people of NH.

Donald A. Smith
Pelham

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Kathe Molloy
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 6:25:54 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee; Kathe Molloy
Subject: In Support of HOUSE BILL 551-FN
Importance: Normal

Dear Election Law Committee;

I am in full support of HOUSE BILL 551-F. I believe this bill will bring transparency and integrity to the New Hampshire voting process. Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

Kathe Molloy

148 Elm St.

Claremont, NH 03743

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Kevin King
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 5:44:01 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: Please pass Bill 551-FN
Importance: Normal

To Whom it may concern on the Committee,

To keep voters confidence in the elections outcome, please vote yes to make the house bill 551-FN active. Transparency is important in the present time as there are many who question the legality of the overall vote count. Let's make it transparent for all so as to remove legality questioning.

Best Regards,
Kevin King
krking85@yahoo.com
(518)727-4406

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Kathi Soule
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:57:00 AM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: HB 551-FN
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern:

My name is Kathleen Soule and I am a registered voter and resident of the town of Carroll NH. I am writing in support of this bill that would allow citizens to obtain electronic records of the voter database. With all the allegations of voter fraud especially in the town of Windham, the more transparent our voter database is, the better. I urge members of this committee to support this bill and let it be debated by the legislature as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration
Kathleen Soule
424 Parker Rd
Carroll, NH 03598

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Jane Frankie
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 2:03:50 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: HOUSE BILL 551-FN
Importance: Normal

dear committee members: i have lived in Dover NH for 43 years. I know a lot of people who are starting to lose faith in our precious one voter/one vote system. we need to do everything possible to restore faith in the voting process starting with passing the above bill on Feb 17. please pass HOUSE BILL 551-FN
AN ACT relative to the statewide voter database. thank you for your consideration
sincerely
jane frankie, 33 pearl street Dover NH

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Jim McConnell
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 2:25:56 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: OTP HB 551-FN relative to the statewide voter database
Importance: Normal

Please OTP HB 551-FN.

Transparency is always a step in the right direction.

Jim McConnell
42 Monadnock Highway
North Swanzey, NH 03431
903-3878

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:28 AM
From: Bob Hatcher
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 4:54:42 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: re: HB 551 FN
Importance: Normal

I am in complete support for this bill. Voter rolls should be public so the public can monitor the rolls! Most often, it's the neighbors who know who has moved or who has died. Why not enlist all of us to help?

Bob Hatcher
Thornton, NH
rvhparc@gmail.com

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:29 AM
From: Anthony Amato
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:15:01 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: HB 551
Importance: Normal

I request you vote YES on HB 551 regarding the voter database. This is public information.

Thank you.

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:29 AM
From: Curt Howland
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:11:43 AM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: Please rule in favor of HB 551-FN relative to the statewide voter database
Importance: Normal

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA256

Committee members, good morning.

I write today in favor of HB 551-FN, an act relative to the statewide voter database.

With the extreme voting irregularities which occurred around the country and in New Hampshire during 2020, it is critical that New Hampshire's voting systems be rationalized as much as possible so voters can know their votes are being correctly counted.

Otherwise, what's the point of voting?

Making the statewide voter database transparent, as all government documents in NH are already supposed to be, by law, is one small step on the way to such assurance of voting integrity.

Many people try to say there are no voting irregularities in New Hampshire, so they cannot have any objection to making the statewide voter database transparent to the public. What better outcome could there be than to put people's concerns to rest, and reaffirm the integrity of voting in New Hampshire?

Thank you, I ask for my comments to be recorded in the committee documentation.

Curtis Howland
Manchester
603-512-3414

--
You may my glories and my state dispose,
But not my griefs; still am I king of those.
--- William Shakespeare, "Richard II"

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Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:29 AM

From: Elliot Axelman

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:11:30 AM

To: ~House Election Law Committee; Michael Yakubovich; Thomas Walsh; seboyd2020@gmail.com; johnaleavitt@outlook.com

Subject: Please support HB551

Importance: Normal

Dear representatives,

My family and I would like you to please support HB551, which is a very simple bill which would make the NH voter checklist publicly available so that we can have transparency and confidence that only people who LIVE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE are voting in New Hampshire.

http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/billText.aspx?id=712&txtFormat=html&sy=2021

It is an outrage that we have allowed non-residents to vote in New Hampshire, and it MUST be stopped.

Thank you.

--

Elliot Axelman, FP-C

Editor-in-chief

LibertyBlock.com

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:29 AM
From: Gastonn Gingués
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:00:01 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: HOUSE BILL 551-FN
Importance: Normal

Currently, the taxpayer-paid-for-statewide-database is not a public document as our NH State Constitution requires. There is no compelling reason to have the most accessible list of registered voters available to the people who PAY for it, are ON it, and who OWN it.

For God's sake, these same names and addresses are, by law, on the counter or wall of all municipalities in NH! Then why can we not see the single most important record of all voters in our State?

The statewide voter database does not belong to the Secretary of State, the political parties, or the well-funded PACs.

I can get updated statewide databases from numerous states – for free – right here on my laptop.


But not NH.

To clean up elections and checklists you need information. Citizens can do that better than a certain group of state election officials who have been around way too long.

Can I count on your help – to help you?

Sincerely,

Mr Gaston Gingués
Berlin, NH

Archived: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:52:29 AM
From: HCS
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 10:18:05 AM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: FW: Election Law Committee Testimony HB551
Response requested: No
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
Written testimony of Ed Naile.docx 

From: EDWARD NAILE <ednaile@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:58 AM
To: HCS <HCS@leg.state.nh.us>
Subject: Election Law Committee Testimony HB551

My written testimony HB 551

Ed Naile

Bill as Introduced

HB 551-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0734
11/05

HOUSE BILL

551-FN

AN ACT

relative to the statewide voter database.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Kofalt, Hills. 4; Rep. Ammon, Hills. 40

COMMITTEE:

Election Law

ANALYSIS

This bill requires that the statewide centralized voter registration database be made publicly available in electronic format free of charge, provided that the secretary of state may allow for limited exceptions where a compelling reason exists for doing so.

.....
Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT relative to the statewide voter database.

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

1 1 Statewide Centralized Voter Registration Database. Amend RSA 654:45, V-VI to read as
2 follows:

3 V. The secretary of state shall:

4 (a) Specify the employees of the department of state authorized to access records
5 contained in the voter database~~[, subject to the limitations of paragraph VI]~~.

6 (b) Provide adequate technological security measures to deter unauthorized access to the
7 records contained in the voter database.

8 (c) Issue guidelines to implement the voter database.

9 VI. ~~[The voter database shall be private and confidential and shall not be subject to RSA 91-
10 A and RSA 654:31, nor shall it or any of the information contained therein be disclosed pursuant to a
11 subpoena or civil litigation discovery request. The secretary of state is authorized to provide voter
12 database record data to the administrative office of the courts to assist in the preparation of master
13 jury lists pursuant to RSA 500 A and to the clerk of the District Court of the United States for the
14 District of New Hampshire to assist in the preparation of federal court jury lists. The voter checklist
15 for a town or city shall be available pursuant to RSA 654:31. Any person who discloses information
16 from the voter database in any manner not authorized by this section shall be guilty of a
17 misdemeanor.~~

18 ~~VII. The city and town clerk shall enter, maintain, and keep up to date election official
19 contact information and polling place information as determined by the secretary of state in the
20 statewide centralized voter registration database for use by the secretary of state in effecting
21 election laws.] ***The voter database shall be made electronically available to members of the
22 public free of charge, provided that the secretary of state may restrict access to certain
23 information contained in the database where a compelling interest exists for doing so.***~~

24 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

**HB 551-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to the statewide voter database.

FISCAL IMPACT: State County Local None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue	\$0	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)
Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Funding Source:	<input type="checkbox"/> General Fund (RSA 5:6-d) <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Highway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Election			

LOCAL:

Revenue	\$0	(\$90,000)	(\$90,000)	(\$90,000)
Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

METHODOLOGY:

This bill would allow free access to the statewide voter database and eliminate the fees currently collected by the Department of State. The Department deposits approximately 10% of these current fees into the state Election Fund and remits 90% of these fees to the towns and cities to help defray the cost of maintaining the database. On average, \$100,000 in revenue is generated from the sale of public checklist information from the statewide voter database every fiscal year. The bill would result in an annual reduction in revenues of approximately \$10,000 for the state and \$90,000 for cities and towns. The Department of State indicates there would be no fiscal impact on the Department's expenditures.

It is assumed this bill would take effect in FY 2022.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of State