

SB 19 - AS INTRODUCED

2017 SESSION

17-0438

06/09

SENATE BILL **19**

AN ACT relative to warrant articles that have been submitted to the department of revenue administration.

SPONSORS: Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Rep. Weyler, Rock. 13; Rep. Green, Rock. 13; Rep. Guthrie, Rock. 13; Rep. Welch, Rock. 13

COMMITTEE: Public and Municipal Affairs

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ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits amendments to petitioned warrant articles that have been submitted to the department of revenue administration.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT                    relative to warrant articles that have been submitted to the department of revenue administration.

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

1            1 Town Meeting; Articles; Petitioned Articles. Amend RSA 39:3 to read as follows:  
2            39:3 Articles.

3            ***I.*** Upon the application of 25 or more registered voters or 2 percent of the registered voters  
4 in town, whichever is less, although in no event shall fewer than 10 registered voters be sufficient,  
5 presented to the selectmen or one of them not later than the fifth Tuesday before the day prescribed  
6 for an annual meeting, the selectmen shall insert in their warrant for such meeting the petitioned  
7 article with only such minor textual changes as may be required. For the purposes of this section,  
8 the number of registered voters in a town shall be the number of voters registered prior to the last  
9 state general election. The right to have an article inserted in the warrant conferred by this section  
10 shall not be invalidated by the provisions of RSA 32. In towns with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants  
11 upon the written application of 50 or more voters or 1/4 of the voters in town, whichever is fewer,  
12 and in towns with 10,000 or more inhabitants upon the written application of 5 percent of the  
13 registered voters in the town, so presented not less than 60 days before the next annual meeting,  
14 the selectmen shall warn a special meeting to act upon any question specified in such application.  
15 The checklist for an annual or special town meeting shall be corrected by the supervisors of the  
16 checklist as provided in RSA 654:25-31. Those persons qualified to vote whose names are on the  
17 corrected checklist shall be entitled to vote at the meeting. The same checklist used at a recessed  
18 town meeting shall be used at any reconvened session of the same town meeting. In no event shall a  
19 special town meeting be held on the biennial election day.

20            ***II. No petitioned article that has been submitted to the department of revenue***  
21 ***administration shall be amended.***

22            2 New Subparagraph; Use of Official Ballot; Warrant Articles; Amendment Prohibited. Amend  
23 RSA 40:13, IV by inserting after subparagraph (c) the following new subparagraph:

24                    (d) No petitioned warrant article that has been submitted to the department of revenue  
25 administration shall be amended.

26            3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.