

SB 47 - AS INTRODUCED

2019 SESSION

19-0956

11/03

SENATE BILL **47**

AN ACT relative to inspectors of election.

SPONSORS: Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19

COMMITTEE: Election Law and Municipal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill limits the number of inspectors of election at each polling place to 2 for each political party that received the largest number of votes cast for governor at the last previous general election. The bill also disqualifies certain inspectors of election from performing the duties of an election officer and permits certain inspectors of election to handle marked ballots and count votes.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT relative to inspectors of election.

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

1 1 Pre-Election Procedure; Inspectors; Appointment. Amend RSA 658:2 to read as follows:

2 658:2 Appointment. Each state political committee of the 2 political parties which received the
3 largest number of votes cast for governor at the last previous general election is authorized through
4 their respective chairmen to appoint between May 15 and July 15 of each general election year 2
5 inspectors of election to act at each polling place. ~~[If the number of voters qualified to vote at a~~
6 ~~polling place shall exceed 2,000, said political committees may each appoint for such polling place~~
7 ~~one additional inspector for each 1,500 qualified voters or fraction thereof in excess of 2,000. By~~
8 ~~April 15 of each general election year, the secretary of state shall provide a list to the chairman of~~
9 ~~each such state political committee of the number of inspectors of election that should be appointed~~
10 ~~for each town or ward. Each such state political committee may also appoint such equal number of~~
11 ~~additional inspectors as the moderator considers necessary for the efficient conduct of the election.]~~
12 On or before July 15, the chairmen of said political committees shall notify the appointees and the
13 town or ward clerk concerned as to appointments made under this authority. If any such
14 appointments are not made by said political committees and proper notification thereof given on or
15 before July 15, then the appointments shall be made by the selectmen of the town or ward in equal
16 numbers from said 2 political parties.

17 2 Pre-Election Procedure; Absences Among Election Officers; Disqualification of Certain
18 Persons. Amend RSA 658:24 to read as follows:

19 658:24 Disqualification of Certain Persons. Any person, other than a moderator, clerk,
20 selectman, ~~[inspector of election,]~~ or supervisor of the checklist, whose name appears on a ballot for
21 an elective position, other than a position of an election official, shall be disqualified from
22 performing duties as an election official in that election. A moderator, clerk, selectman, ~~[inspector~~
23 ~~of election,]~~ or supervisor of the checklist whose name appears on a ballot for an elective position,
24 other than the position of an election official, shall be disqualified from the handling of marked
25 ballots and the counting of votes.

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