



## NH SENATE PRESS RELEASE

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### **Election Law Amendment Passes Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee**

**CONCORD** - Yesterday, the Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee passed an amendment to HB 1627-FN, titled the Coronavirus Election Protection Act of 2020.

**After the committee vote, the amendment's sponsor, Senator Melanie Levesque (D-Brookline), issued the following statement:**

"Ensuring fair and accessible elections to every eligible New Hampshire voter is of critical importance. The coronavirus pandemic has caused us to take a hard look at our election systems and find ways to focus on both the public health and safety precautions that will need to be in place during the cycle and accessibility needs that will need to be put in place for future elections. It is of everyone's interest that we do everything in our power to protect public health, ensure free and fair elections, and work with our local election officials as New Hampshire continues to passionately participate in our democracy."

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### **On Background:**

- This amendment included text from the following bills:
  - SB 631 authorizing online voter registration, sponsored by Senator Melanie Levesque
  - SB 695 relative to sharing voter registration information, sponsored by Senator Melanie Levesque
  - HB 1672 allowing voters to vote by absentee ballot, sponsored by Representative Katherine Rogers
  - HB 556 allowing municipalities to process absentee ballots prior to election day, sponsored by Representative Paul Bergeron
- Full text of the amendment can be found [here](#)
- Members of the public were invited to listen in or speak during the hearing through Zoom, YouTube, call in, or submit questions through email