REGULAR CALENDAR

April 14, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Majority of the Committee on Election Law to which was referred SB 425-FN,

AN ACT relative to the establishment of an election information portal. Having considered the same, report the same with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Ross Berry

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Election Law**
Bill Number:	**SB 425-FN**
Title:	**relative to the establishment of an election information portal.**
Date:	**April 14, 2022**
Consent Calendar:	**REGULAR**
Recommendation:	**INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill would implement an $11,500,000 website/portal for online voter registration, absentee ballot application, and other common changes that already easily occur in New Hampshire. The majority of the Committee determined that it was a very expensive solution in search of a problem. The bill proposes a large committee made up of state departments collaborate on the project, which is envisioned to ultimately encompass much more then elections. It also proposes a system to be implemented not earlier then January 2023. Members of the committee expressed concerns over the committee composition and the lack of oversight of the process. Furthermore, the new portal would incorporate voters personal consumer data into the program as a way of verifying a voter's eligibility. This creates privacy concerns for the majority which did not feel as though such information should be handled by the state in any way. While the end product would create some benefits in the election system, the cost, questions and lack of scope in the direction of the bill caused the majority of the committee to recommend Inexpedient to Legislate.

Vote 11-9.

Rep. Ross Berry
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Election Law

SB 425-FN, relative to the establishment of an election information portal. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Ross Berry for the **Majority** of Election Law. This bill would implement an $11,500,000 website/portal for online voter registration, absentee ballot application, and other common changes that already easily occur in New Hampshire. The majority of the Committee determined that it was a very expensive solution in search of a problem. The bill proposes a large committee made up of state departments collaborate on the project, which is envisioned to ultimately encompass much more then elections. It also proposes a system to be implemented not earlier then January 2023. Members of the committee expressed concerns over the committee composition and the lack of oversight of the process. Furthermore, the new portal would incorporate voters personal consumer data into the program as a way of verifying a voter's eligibility. This creates privacy concerns for the majority which did not feel as though such information should be handled by the state in any way. While the end product would create some benefits in the election system, the cost, questions and lack of scope in the direction of the bill caused the majority of the committee to recommend Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 11-9.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

April 14, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Minority of the Committee on Election Law to which was referred SB 425-FN,

AN ACT relative to the establishment of an election information portal. Having considered the same, and being unable to agree with the Majority, report with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Paul Bergeron

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Election Law**
Bill Number:	**SB 425-FN**
Title:	**relative to the establishment of an election information portal.**
Date:	**April 14, 2022**
Consent Calendar:	**REGULAR**
Recommendation:	**OUGHT TO PASS**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to develop an online voter information portal which citizens may use to request an absentee ballot and request changes of name, address and party affiliation. Changes must still be approved by the supervisors of the checklist before taking effect. The Secretary of State is further authorized to consult with the Department of Information Technology, the Department of Safety, Division of Motor vehicles, city and town clerks, and supervisors of the checklist. More than 40 states currently offer some form of online voter information portal. The Secretary of State is in the process of obtaining and developing specifications and technical requirements for a new voter registration system. Developing an online voter information portal in conjunction with the development of a new statewide voter registration system would be more efficient and economical than in developing the portal separately and at a later date.

Rep. Paul Bergeron
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Election Law

SB 425-FN, relative to the establishment of an election information portal. **OUGHT TO PASS.** Rep. Paul Bergeron for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to develop an online voter information portal which citizens may use to request an absentee ballot and request changes of name, address and party affiliation. Changes must still be approved by the supervisors of the checklist before taking effect. The Secretary of State is further authorized to consult with the Department of Information Technology, the Department of Safety, Division of Motor vehicles, city and town clerks, and supervisors of the checklist. More than 40 states currently offer some form of online voter information portal. The Secretary of State is in the process of obtaining and developing specifications and technical requirements for a new voter registration system. Developing an online voter information portal in conjunction with the development of a new statewide voter registration system would be more efficient and economical than in developing the portal separately and at a later date.

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 425-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the establishment of an election information portal.

DATE: April 13, 2022

LOB ROOM: 306 - 308

MOTIONS: **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Moved by Rep. Berry | Seconded by Rep. Sweeney | Vote: 11-9

CONSENT CALENDAR: NO

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/21/2021 9:37:57 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2021 SESSION

Election Law

Bill #: SB 425 FN **Motion:** ITL. **AM #:** _____ **Exec Session Date:** 4-13-22

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Griffin, Barbara J. Chairman	✓		
MacDonald, Wayne D. Vice Chairman	✓		
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine J.	✓		
Sweeney, Joe	✓		
~~Hayward, Peter T.~~ Bob Healey	✓		
~~Mooney, Maureen~~ C. Alexander	✓		
Torosian, Peter E.	✓		
Berry, Ross	✓		
~~Groen, Fenton~~ Matthew Simon	✓		
Qualey, James R.	✓		
Wells, Natalie J. Clerk	✓		
~~Cote, David E.~~ Bill March		✓	
Ward, Gerald W.R.		✓	
Bergeron, Paul R.		✓	
Sandler, Catt		✓	
~~Hamer, Heidi~~ M. Mara Perez		✓	
Lane, Connie B.		✓	
Freitas, Mary C.		✓	
Hamblet, Joan L.		✓	
~~Muirhead, Russell~~ Gary Merchent		✓	
TOTAL VOTE:	11	9	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON SB 425-FN

BILL TITLE: **relative to the establishment of an election information portal.**

DATE: **April 8, 2022**

LOB ROOM: **306-308** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:**

Time Adjourned:

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:

Sen. Gray	**Sen. Bradley**	**Sen. Daniels**
Sen. Avard	**Sen. Ward**	**Sen. Birdsell**
Sen. French	**Sen. Perkins Kwoka**	**Sen. Soucy**
Sen. Watters	**Sen. Sherman**	

TESTIMONY

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

Senator Gray introduced the bill.

- Expensive for this because this is only "department" in state trying to do this.
- As other departments seek to do this, it will get cheaper.
- It is something done in other states.

Question -**Rep Torosian** - Would jurisdiction have a choice to participate?
Answer - Not sure of the answer.

Question - **Rep Prudhomme-O'Brien** - Why does the cost go up if it's a subscription service?
Answer - Need to ask.

Question - **Rep Muirhead** - Would it have my cc info?
Answer - Access to the subscription service it uses.
Question - Study Group?
Answer - No, the time has come.

Question- **Rep Bergeron** - Were you aware of vital record access?
Answer - Not aware.

Question - **Rep Hamer** - Regarding daily registers, is there a time frame?
Answer - Not part of the bill. Is part of current law.

Liz Tentrlelli - In favor of. Allows study process online.

Michael O'Brien - On behalf of America Votes - In support

- Make process more timely and be good on election funding
- Can look at other states

Olivia Zink - Supports

- Very important to have a clean check list
- Less mistakes

- Not a new idea - 40+ other states
- Cost of checklist on backs of communities directly,

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # SB425 Date 4/8/22

Committee Election Law

** Please Print All Information **

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one) Pro	Con
BOB PERRY	88 EVANS MILL RD STRATFORD		MYSELF	✓	
SARA LOBDELL	15 HANCOCK ST APT 3 KEENE		MYSELF	✓	
Shideko Terai	510 Saint-Gaudens Rd Cornish	603-252-7898	Self	✓	
Alvin See	London		Self		✓

House Remote Testify

Election Law Committee Testify List for Bill SB425 on 2022-04-08

Support: 60 Oppose: 4 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	Signed Up
French, Senator Harold	Canterbury, NH kathryn.cummings@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Senate District 7	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 2:31 PM
Chase, Kristan	Windham, NH 4kristanchase@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 4:27 PM
Davis, Tod	Nashua, NH todc.18@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 4:35 PM
Wilson, Kathy	Goffstown, NH home.wilson@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 4:46 PM
Levesque, Cassandra	Barrington, NH cassandra.levesque@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 4:47 PM
Moccia, Lianne	LEBANON, NH lianne.moccia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 4:56 PM
Hamer, Geoff	Manchester, NH Geoffh87@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	Yes	4/4/2022 5:29 PM
Moore, Susan	Franconia, NH susan.moore.franconia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 5:31 PM
Zajano, Nancy	Exeter, NH Nanczajano@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 5:34 PM
Zajano, Emily	Exeter, NH emzajano@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 5:55 PM
Lynch, Chrisinda	Concord, NH cmmelynch@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 5:57 PM
Alessi, Kelly	Litchfield, NH klrussell17@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 6:26 PM
BURLINGAME, TERRY	GILMANTON IRON WORKS, NH mexicananh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 6:28 PM

Broshek, Mary	ANDOVER, NH mabandsadie@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 7:05 PM
Selig, Loren	DURHAM, NH zltselig@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 9:16 PM
Brown, Jean	Hanover, NH jean.e.brown1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/4/2022 10:27 PM
Serrell, James	Kingston, NH imjjserrell@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 12:06 AM
Ellermann, Maureen	Concord, NH ellermannf@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	4/5/2022 6:26 AM
Ahlgren, Jessie	Sanbornton, NH jessiebahlgren@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 7:46 AM
Anderson, Sara	Dunbarton, NH sara.dunbarton.dems@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 7:48 AM
Hatch, Sally	Concord, NH sallyhatch@comcast.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 8:17 AM
Fogarty, Sean	Exeter, NH seanf186@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 8:24 AM
Malmberg, Jane	Walpole, NH jamalmberg033@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 8:32 AM
Dodge, Corinne	Derry, NH corinnedodge@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 8:44 AM
Kelley-Gillard, Nancy	Keene, NH ndgillard@ne.rr.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 9:03 AM
Sherman, Senator	SD 24, NH jennifer.horgan@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	SD24	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 10:18 AM
Fudge, Kim Marie	NORTH CONWAY, NH kimfudge20@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 10:36 AM
Low, Sarah	Newmarket, NH sarahlow3@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 10:36 AM
Burr, Emily	Canterbury, NH revemilyburr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 12:18 PM
Lightfoot, Jean	Contoocook, NH JnLightfoot@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 12:38 PM
Greenwood-Briggs, Sabrina	Concord, NH Sabrinagb@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 12:43 PM

Emus, Joanne	Hollis, NH jremus0322@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 2:12 PM
Allyn, Cathy	New Durham, NH prosody@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 3:09 PM
Huberman, Anne	Peterborough, NH Anne.Huberman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	4/5/2022 3:11 PM
Alessi, Chuck	Litchfield, NH carthur72@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 3:11 PM
Bundy, Linda Olson	Antrim, NH n_bundy@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 3:15 PM
Moore, Ellen	Danville, NH elliemore@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 5:24 PM
Schapira, Carol	Hopkinton, NH Carolschapira@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 5:37 PM
Walsh, Lynne	Melvin Village, NH lynnewalsh14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 5:45 PM
Cann, Emily	Sanbornton, NH emily_cann@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 6:45 PM
Terwilliger, Linda	Gilford, NH lindaterwilliger364@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 7:34 PM
Podlipny, Ann	chester, NH apodlipny57@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 8:25 PM
Claflin, Kyri	Concord, NH Kyriclaflin@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/5/2022 8:31 PM
Secord, William	Lebanon, NH wrsecord@live.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 8:31 AM
McCormick, Kristen	Stoddard, NH kristenk2911@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 8:35 AM
Bradley, Jeb	SD3, NH jeb.bradley@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	SD3	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 9:35 AM
Kenison, Pamela	Concord, NH pkkenison@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 10:54 AM
Ward, Senator Ruth	Stoddard, NH ruth.ward@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Senate District 8	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 12:19 PM
insolia, janet	dover, NH jinsolia@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 8:07 PM

Coon, Kate	Peterborough, NH kate2coon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 8:13 PM
Richman, Susan	Durham, NH susan7richman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 8:25 PM
Istel, Claudia	Acworth, NH cistel79@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/6/2022 11:49 PM
Martone, Debra	MANCHESTER, NH debra.martone@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	4/7/2022 8:16 AM
Andrews, David	Chichester, NH davidandrewsnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/7/2022 10:12 AM
Sinclair-pappas, Barbara	Chichester, NH bespappas@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/7/2022 11:16 AM
Lewandowski, Jean	NASHUA, NH jlewando@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/7/2022 11:35 AM
Birdsell, Senator Regina	Hampstead, NH regina.birdsell@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Senate District 19	Support	No	No	4/7/2022 1:04 PM
Hatcher, Phil	Dover, NH phil.hatcher@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/7/2022 3:41 PM
Metzger, Deborah	Hanover, NH deborahmetzger36@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	4/7/2022 6:07 PM
Lobdell, Sara	Keene, NH slobdell@antioch.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/7/2022 6:49 PM
Bickford Bailey, Tara	Strafford, NH tarabb5480@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/7/2022 9:47 PM
Cecchetti, Lynda	Strafford, NH lcecc92017@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/8/2022 1:28 AM
Roy, Logan	Portsmouth, NH loganmroy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/8/2022 12:24 PM
Petrusewicz, Carol	Rochester, NH clmcc2befree@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	4/8/2022 7:57 PM

Archived: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 10:18:40 AM
From: Carol Petrusewicz
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 8:21:09 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: SB 425 OPPOSE
Importance: Normal
Digitally Signed: Yes

House Election Law Committee members,

Please kill SB 425.

Since 2020 election, we continually find more and more examples of election fraud. This portal would PROMOTE fraud. We need to PREVENT ID theft. We should promote community by going IN PESON to our town clerks offices, and providing physical evidence of our ID and anything else necessary when working with elections. We should NOT tap into the DMV, tax office, etc. merging information because that "makes lines shorter" or is "more convenient." When connecting to other departments like DMV, for which some towns tested poll pads which did just that in the Sept 2021 election (Rochester for one), this gives THIEVES the opportunity to steal IDs easily. With the influx of illegals being deposited to NH from President Biden's Border invasions, we need to tighten security with elections, not throw open the doors.

Our Republic is built on election integrity. We need to tighten our election laws, including voting ID, and should NOT go to a portal.

Please kill SB 425. NH's elections depend on it.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Carol Petrusewicz

Sean Fogarty

I am in favor of implementing an online voter information portal as part of bringing NH state elections into the 21st century.

Anne Huberman

As a member of a Continuing Care Retirement Community, I support this bill wholeheartedly. It will make life easier for people who can't get to the Town Clerk's office.

Linda Olson Bundy

I am writing in regard to SB 425, relative to an election information portal. The establishment of an electronic information portal would make the registration process easier for voters and more efficient for town and city clerks. Voters would be able to enter registration information, request an absentee ballot, make name changes, or changes in mailing or domicile addresses. The information would then be reviewed by the town or city clerk for approval. SB 425 would provide a safe, secure way to modernize the way we process election information. I ask you to support this bill.Respectfully,Linda Olson BundyAntrim

Jean Lewandowski

This bill has bi-partisan sponsorship. It increases access to information and responsible participation in the voting process, including for older voters like me. The process will ensure at least the same level of security as the current process. The development of online resources over the last couple of years (including this opportunity to give testimony) has been very effective in creating opportunities for people with disabilities and those who live in more remote areas of the state to be the kind of active citizen NH prides itself on.

Carrie Morris

From: Carol Petrusewicz <clmcc2befree@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 8:21 PM
To: ~House Election Law Committee
Subject: SB 425 OPPOSE

House Election Law Committee members,

Please kill SB 425.

Since 2020 election, we continually find more and more examples of election fraud. This portal would PROMOTE fraud. We need to PREVENT ID theft. We should promote community by going IN PESON to our town clerks offices, and providing physical evidence of our ID and anything else necessary when working with elections. We should NOT tap into the DMV, tax office, etc. merging information because that "makes lines shorter" or is "more convenient." When connecting to other departments like DMV, for which some towns tested poll pads which did just that in the Sept 2021 election (Rochester for one), this gives THIEVES the opportunity to steal IDs easily. With the influx of illegals being deposited to NH from President Biden's Border invasions, we need to tighten security with elections, not throw open the doors.

Our Republic is built on election integrity. We need to tighten our election laws, including voting ID, and should NOT go to a portal.

Please kill SB 425. NH's elections depend on it.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Carol Petrusewicz

New Hampshire Legislative Youth Advisory Council
107 North Main St., Concord, NH 03303

February 13th, 2022

The Honorable Chair Barbara Griffin
House Election Law Committee
LOB Room 308
33 North State St.
Concord, NH 03301

RE: SB425-FN

Dear Chair Daniels and Members of the Committee,

The New Hampshire Legislative Youth Advisory Council supports SB425-FN, relative to the establishment of an election information portal.

From our citizen state legislature to our first in the nation presidential primary, it is no secret that New Hampshire voters have a unique advantage in civic participation. That being said, New Hampshire's voters currently cannot update personal voter information, request an absentee ballot, or change their party affiliation from any other location than a municipal clerk's office. The creation of an election information portal as described in SB425-FN would address these gaps.

While we value New Hampshire's same-day voter registration policy, an election information portal would save time at the polls and municipal clerks' offices. This bill would also have positive impacts on those who are unable to physically access municipal offices to update their voter information or party affiliation before a primary.

New Hampshire's neighboring states of Vermont and Massachusetts have implemented similar election portals as described in SB425-FN. For the sake of New Hampshire voters, New Hampshire Legislative Youth Advisory Council recommends the committee vote Ought to Pass on SB425-FN.

Sincerely,
The New Hampshire Legislative Youth Advisory Council

SB 425-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2895
11/08

SENATE BILL ***425-FN***

AN ACT relative to the establishment of an election information portal.

SPONSORS: Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Daniels, Dist 11; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. French, Dist 7; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Sherman, Dist 24

COMMITTEE: Election Law and Municipal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes the secretary of state to develop an election information portal.

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.

22-2895
11/08

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT relative to the establishment of an election information portal.

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

1 Purpose. It is the intent of the legislature to modernize the application processes for new voter registration, requesting absentee ballots, and requesting changes to name, domicile, and party affiliation in the statewide voter database.

2 New Subdivision; Election Information Portal. Amend RSA 652 by inserting after section 27 the following new subdivision:

Election Information Portal

652:28 Election Information Portal.

I. The secretary of state is hereby authorized to develop, in consultation with the department of information technology, the department of safety, division of motor vehicles, and city and town clerks and supervisors of the checklist, an online election information portal which citizens may use to:

(a) Complete a new voter application.

(b) Request an absentee ballot.

(c) Request changes to the statewide centralized voter registration database, such as name, domicile address, mailing address, and party affiliation.

II. Voters electing to use the portal shall provide the same information and pursuant to the same time frames as outlined in statutes related to voter registration and maintenance of the statewide centralized voter registration database, including RSA 654:7, RSA 654:8, RSA 654:16 through RSA 654:19, and RSA 654:34, except that the information may be provided in a format the secretary of state deems suitable for electronic submission. Any information submitted to the portal shall be handled in a manner consistent with relevant voter and election laws, including RSA 654, and shall be retrievable and printable at any time including during the processing of the information. In addition, nonpublic data related to individual voter data shall remain confidential.

III. The secretary of state shall not implement any election information portal established pursuant to this section, such that the public can access or otherwise utilize such portal, until January 1, 2023.

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

LBA
22-2895
Redraft 12/27/21

SB 425-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT relative to the establishment of an election information portal.

FISCAL IMPACT: **[X] State** **[ ] County** **[X] Local** **[ ] None**

	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
STATE:	**FY 2022**	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**
Appropriation	$0	$0	$0	$0
Revenue	$0	$0	$0	$0
Expenditures	$0	DoIT: $1,668,550/ Sect of State: Indeterminable	DoIT: $3,555,000/ Sect of State: Indeterminable	DoIT: $6,326,000/ Sect of State: Indeterminable
Funding Source:	[X] General	[ ] Education	[ ] Highway	[ ] Other

LOCAL:

Revenue	$0	$0	$0	$0
Expenditures	$0	Indeterminable Decrease	Indeterminable Decrease	Indeterminable Decrease

The LBA has reached out to the Department of Saftey and will include the fiscal impact once received.

METHODOLOGY:

This legislation would authorize the development of an election information portal that would allow authorized citizens to access three distinct capabilities:

- Complete a new voter application.
- Request an absentee ballot.
- Request changes to the statewide centralized voter registration database, such as name, domicile address, mailing address, and party affiliation.

The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) states this bill will increase State General Fund expenditures in FY 2023 and beyond. The DoIT states the following components would need to be built to implement the provisions of this bill:

Web Portal

This would be the destination web site for the election information portal. Information would be organized according to the State of New Hampshire web design principles incorporating usability so that information is easy to access and understand. Accessibility will be "built in" as it is with all new websites we develop.

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

Given the recent dramatic increase in fraudulent on-line activities it will be important to provide top tier IAM capabilities for this portal to:

- Identity Proof all new users – Using technology, subscription services and existing business processes (like REAL ID) establish that the individual who's identity is being represented is actually that same individual who is representing.
- Strong Authenticate all users so that compromised credentials of individual(s) does not lead to misuse of people's identities and fraudulent activity on the portal.
- Offer self service Identity and Authentication help for users to improve satisfaction and efficiency.

Applications to Support the Three Capabilities

Design, develop, test and implement three applications that allow authorized users to complete a new voter application, request an absentee ballot and request changes to the statewide centralized voter registration database, such as name, domicile address, mailing address, and party affiliation. These applications will have to operate within the constraints of all applicable statutes and support appropriate business processes to maintain or enhance existing business processes for the Secretary of State's office and the managers of the lists.

DMV Interfaces

Develop the necessary data interfaces with DMV systems to validate and-or update information as needed.

Program Management

The DoIT anticipates that a competitive procurement would be completed to acquire the necessary professional services to assist with design, tools selection and implementation, but the DoIT will need to manage and maintain the program during the procurement and implementation as well as once it is up and operational. The DoIT anticipates the need for a Business System Analyst II as the overall Program Manager and an Administrator I to assist with the details of operating a program of this size and scope. This bill does not appropriate or authorize the funding for these two positions.

The DoIT makes the following assumptions related to the fiscal impact:

- Minimal state staff, two full time equivalents, is included for procurement, implementation, and operation. State staff will conduct a competitive procurement to acquire the expertise to design and implement. Ongoing technical and user support

staff (Maintenance and Operation) will be at all times so these services will be included in the procurement as well.

- Some of the services required for the IAM pieces are user subscription based so cost estimates of these services are based on anticipated growth of users over time.
- Costs for Identity Proofing can be reduced for those voters who have REAL ID.
- The IAM pieces of the system will be reusable for other important capabilities in the state. The benefits of this approach are the state only pays for this capability for a citizen once and the cost burden of the IAM pieces to the Election Information Portal should diminish over time as costs are shared with other agency implementations.
- 50% adoption rate for REAL ID (300,000 voters) for all fiscal years.
- FY 2023 cost be the implementation of the IAM and integration to DMV as well as the new voter registration system.
- FY 2024 assumes a 25% adoption rate of eligible voters (200,000 users) and assumes 50% are in REAL ID, meaning less calls to verify identity proofing solutions. There is also assumed maintenance and operation costs at three full time equivalents.
- FY 2025 assumes a 50% adoption rate of eligible voters (300,000) and continues to assumes 50% are REAL ID. Maintenance and Operations is increased to four full time equivalents.

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Identity and Access Management (IAM)			
Licenses	$245,550	$2,511,000	$5,022,000
Implementation	$750,000	$0	$0
Integration DMV	$75,000	$0	$0
Maintenance & Operations - Managed Services	$0	$750,000	$750,000
IAM Total	**$1,070,550**	**$3,261,000**	**$6,022,000**
Applications to Support the Three Capabilities	**$375,000**	**$75,000**	**$75,000**
Business Systems Analyst II	**$117,000**	**$115,000**	**$121,000**
Administrator I	**$106,000**	**$104,000**	**$108,000**
Grand Total	**$1,668,550**	**$3,555,000**	**$6,326,000**

The Department of State indicates there will be an indeterminable increase in State expenditures to design, create and implement a voter portal. However, they are unable to determine the cost.

The New Hampshire Municipal Association states the fiscal impact of this bill would be an indeterminable decrease in local expenditures. The new portal would result in time savings for

city and town clerks and supervisors of the checklist and a reduction in expenditures for mailing absentee ballot applications and absentee registration forms.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Information Technology, Department of State, Department of Safety and New Hampshire Municipal Association