

HB 464 - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

6Mar2025... 0196h

2025 SESSION

25-0746

08/11

HOUSE BILL

464

AN ACT

prohibiting certain candidates for political office from participating in counting ballots.

SPONSORS:

Rep. de Vries, Rock. 29; Rep. H. Howard, Straf. 4

COMMITTEE:

Election Law

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits certain candidates for political office from participating in counting ballots.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT prohibiting certain candidates for political office from participating in counting ballots.

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

1 1 Counting Ballots; Election Morning Procedures. Amend RSA 658:31 to read as follows:

2 658:31 Counting Ballots. At or prior to the opening of the polls in each town or ward, the seal of
3 the packages shall be publicly broken by the town or ward clerk; and the ballots shall be given to the
4 ballot clerks and the ballots shall be examined and counted by the election officers in the presence of
5 the clerk, the moderator, and at least one other legal voter. If the ballots are counted prior to the
6 opening of the polls, the clerk shall post, in an appropriate place and prior to election day, notice of
7 the time and place of the counting. ***With the exception of candidates standing for the office of***
8 ***moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, selectperson, inspector of election, and supervisor of***
9 ***the checklist, no person who appears on the ballot shall count ballots prior to the election.***

10 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.