

HB 626 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

13Feb2025... 0217h
05/01/2025 1696s

2025 SESSION

25-0617
08/02

HOUSE BILL **626**

AN ACT directing the secretary of state to implement a vulnerability disclosure program for certain election systems.

SPONSORS: Rep. McFarlane, Graf. 18; Rep. Kuttab, Rock. 17; Rep. Spillane, Rock. 2; Rep. Popovici-Muller, Rock. 17; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16

COMMITTEE: Election Law

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill directs the secretary of state to implement a vulnerability disclosure program for certain election systems.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT directing the secretary of state to implement a vulnerability disclosure program for certain election systems.

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

1 1 Secretary of State; Chief Election Officer; Duty to Investigate System Vulnerabilities. Amend
2 RSA 652:23 to read as follows:

3 652:23 Chief Election Officer.

4 ***I.*** The secretary of state shall be the chief election officer for the state. The secretary of
5 state shall provide information regarding voter registration procedures and absentee ballot
6 procedures for all voters, including absent uniformed services voters, absent voters temporarily
7 residing outside the United States, and federal ballot only voters domiciled outside the United
8 States. Instructional and informational materials published by the secretary of state for clerks to
9 provide such voters shall include information on how to communicate electronically with election
10 officials.

11 ***II.*** ***Within 180 days of the effective date of this paragraph, the secretary of state***
12 ***shall implement and operate a public vulnerability disclosure program which***
13 ***substantially meets or exceeds the recommendations contained within the publication***
14 ***"Guide to Vulnerability Reporting for America's Election Administrators" published by the***
15 ***Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the United States Department of***
16 ***Homeland Security, to make it easier for security researchers and the general public to***
17 ***report security vulnerabilities appropriately. The secretary shall work with the***
18 ***cybersecurity advisory committee established in RSA 21-R:16.***

19 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.