

**HB 569 - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES**

13Mar2025... 0561h

2025 SESSION

25-0271

02/09

HOUSE BILL            **569**

AN ACT                relative to the establishment of county-wide communication districts.

SPONSORS:            Rep. H. Howard, Straf. 4; Rep. Preece, Hills. 17; Rep. Coker, Belk. 2; Rep. Wall, Straf. 11; Sen. Watters, Dist 4

COMMITTEE:          Municipal and County Government

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ANALYSIS

This bill allows counties to initiate the establishment of county-wide communications districts.

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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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 relative to the establishment of county-wide communication districts.

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

1 1 Communications Districts; Definitions. Amend RSA 53-G:1, II to read as follows:

2 II. "District" means a communications district of 2 or more municipalities, **or one county**,  
3 established under this chapter.

4 2 Definitions. Amend RSA 53-G:1, VII to read as follows:

5 VII. "Member" means any city, town, unincorporated town, [~~or~~] unorganized place, **or**  
6 **county** that elects to form or join a communications district under this chapter.

7 3 Communications District Planning Committee; Formation and Responsibilities. Amend RSA  
8 53-G:2, I to read as follows:

9 I. The governing bodies of 2 or more municipalities, **or the governing body of a county**,  
10 may at their discretion create a special unpaid committee to be known as a communications district  
11 planning committee, consisting of at least 2 persons from each municipality appointed by the  
12 respective governing bodies. **Governing bodies of municipalities located within a proposed**  
13 **county-wide district may vote to include themselves in this planning committee. Governing**  
14 **bodies of municipalities may vote to join the proposed communications district at a future**  
15 **time pursuant to RSA 53-G:7.** The committee shall elect a chairperson, clerk, and treasurer.  
16 Members may be reimbursed by the committee for costs of performing duties directly related to the  
17 committee.

18 4 Communications District Planning Committee. Amend RSA 53-G:2, IV to read as follows:

19 IV. If the committee determines that the formation of a district is desirable, it shall prepare  
20 a proposed district agreement in accordance with RSA 53-G:4 and hold a public information session  
21 in each municipality which is named in the district agreement as a site. Copies of the proposed  
22 agreement and of RSA 53-G shall be made available at and prior to any hearing. Notice of any  
23 hearing shall be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the proposed district  
24 or posted on the website of each member municipality **and on the county website, if applicable**,  
25 and posted in one public place in each member municipality, and sent to the governing bodies of  
26 participating municipalities.

27 5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.