

CHAPTER 45
HB 294 - FINAL VERSION

2025 SESSION

25-0659
08/09

HOUSE BILL

294

AN ACT

relative to the processing of absentee ballots.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Daniels, Hills. 43; Rep. Dargie, Hills. 43; Rep. Petrigno, Hills. 43; Rep. W. MacDonald, Rock. 16; Rep. Sheehan, Hills. 43; Rep. Schamberg, Merr. 6; Rep. Flanagan, Hills. 45; Rep. B. Sullivan, Sull. 1

COMMITTEE:

Election Law

ANALYSIS

This bill removes the ability of 10 voters to postpone the processing of absentee 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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 relative to the processing of absentee ballots.

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

1 45:1 Processing of Absentee Ballots. Amend RSA 659:49, II to read as follows:

2 II. ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph I, upon the written challenges of 10 or more~~
3 ~~voters who are present at the polls no later than 1:00 p.m., the moderator shall postpone the processing of~~
4 ~~all absentee ballots until after the polls close and prior to the counting of all ballots cast in the election.]~~

5 The moderator, or his or her designee, shall post the time at which the processing of absentee ballots
6 shall begin at the polling place and one other public location at least 24 hours before the polls open. In
7 addition, when the polls open the moderator shall announce the time at which the processing of absentee
8 ballots shall begin.

 45:2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Approved: May 29, 2025
Effective Date: July 28, 2025