

Rep. Berry, Hills. 44
Rep. Lane, Merr. 16
Rep. Qualey, Ches. 18
Rep. Newsom, Merr. 9
Rep. See, Merr. 26
Rep. Muirhead, Graf. 12
Rep. Burnham, Straf. 2
Rep. Ward, Rock. 27
Rep. Wherry, Hills. 13
March 25, 2025
2025-1354h
08/06

Floor Amendment to HB 367

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

2

3 1 Unofficial Ballot System. Amend RSA 669:11 to read as follows:

4 669:11 Unofficial Ballot System. If a town has not voted at a previous town meeting to adopt an
5 official ballot system as provided in RSA 669:12 or 669:13 [~~or if a town has voted to rescind such~~
6 ~~adoption~~], such town shall elect its officers by means of the unofficial ballot system as provided in
7 RSA 669:54-669:60. A majority vote shall be required to elect using unofficial ballots.

8 2 New Section; Adoption of an Unofficial Ballot System. Amend RSA 669 by inserting after
9 section 11 the following new section:

10 669:11-a Adoption of an Unofficial Ballot System. If a town, having either a partisan ballot
11 system or a non-partisan ballot system, wishes to adopt an unofficial ballot system, then using the
12 existing official ballot system, adoption of the unofficial ballot system shall be by ballot. Whenever
13 in such town there shall appear in the warrant for any town meeting on of the unofficial ballot
14 system, the town clerk shall cause to be printed on the official ballot, if any, otherwise upon a ballot
15 specially prepared for the purpose, the question, "Shall an unofficial ballot system for the election of
16 town officers be adopted by this town?", which question shall be followed by boxes in which the voter
17 may indicate "Yes" or "No". If the majority of the qualified voters present and voting at such
18 meeting shall answer said question in the affirmative, the unofficial ballot system shall be deemed to
19 an article relating to the adoption have been adopted by said town. The unofficial ballot system
20 shall not be in effect until the town election first following the town meeting at which such system is
21 adopted.

22 3 Partisan Official Ballot System. Amend RSA 669:12 to read as follows:

23 669:12 Partisan Official Ballot System. Any town may vote to adopt the partisan official ballot
24 system for election of town officers under an article in the warrant for any town meeting[~~and may~~
25 ~~rescind such action in like manner~~] **using the procedure in RSA 669:13. In any town in which**
26 **either the unofficial or the non-partisan ballot system is in effect, adoption of the partisan**

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1 *ballot system shall be by ballot. Whenever in such town there shall appear in the warrant*
2 *for any town meeting an article relating to the adoption of the partisan ballot system, the*
3 *town clerk shall cause to be printed on the official ballot, if any, otherwise upon a ballot*
4 *specially prepared for the purpose, the question, "Shall the partisan ballot system for the*
5 *election of town officers be adopted by this town?", which question shall be followed by*
6 *boxes in which the voter may indicate "Yes" or "No". If the majority of the qualified voters*
7 *present and voting at such meeting shall answer said question in the affirmative, the*
8 *partisan ballot system shall be deemed to have been adopted by said town.* The partisan
9 ballot system shall not be in effect until the town election first following the town meeting at which
10 such system is adopted. A plurality shall elect in towns using the partisan ballot system.

11 4 Non-Partisan Official Ballot System. Amend RSA 669:13 to read as follows:

12 669:13 Non-Partisan Official Ballot System. A town may vote to adopt the non-partisan official
13 ballot system for election of town officers under an article in the warrant for any town meeting~~], and~~
14 ~~may rescind such action in like manner]~~ **using the procedure in this section.** In any town in
15 which ***either the unofficial or*** the partisan ballot system is in effect, ~~[and which has a population,~~
16 ~~according to most recent federal census, of 4,500 or more,]~~ adoption of the non-partisan ballot system
17 shall be by ballot. Whenever in such town there shall appear in the warrant for any town meeting
18 an article relating to the adoption of the non-partisan ballot system, the town clerk shall cause to be
19 printed on the official ballot, if any, otherwise upon a ballot specially prepared for the purpose, the
20 question, "Shall the non-partisan ballot system for the election of town officers be adopted by this
21 town?", which question shall be followed by boxes in which the voter may indicate "Yes" or "No". If
22 the majority of the qualified voters present and voting at such meeting shall answer said question in
23 the affirmative, the non-partisan ballot system shall be deemed to have been adopted by said town.
24 In all towns, the non-partisan ballot system shall not be in effect until the town election first
25 following the meeting at which such system is adopted. A plurality shall elect in towns using the
26 non-partisan ballot system.

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