

HB 1069 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2374

08/06

HOUSE BILL **1069**

AN ACT enabling municipalities and school districts to hold such elections on the day of the state primary.

SPONSORS: Rep. Sweeney, Rock. 25; Rep. Alexander Jr., Hills. 29; Rep. Berry, Hills. 44

COMMITTEE: Election Law

ANALYSIS

This bill enables municipalities and school districts to hold such elections on the day of the state primary.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT enabling municipalities and school districts to hold such elections on the day of the state primary.

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

1 1 New Section; Town Meeting Elections; Option to Align with State Primary. Amend RSA 39 by
2 inserting after section 2-b the following new section:

3 39:2-c Option to Align Town Election of Officers with State Primary.

4 I. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning with the state primary election to
5 be held in September 2028 and thereafter, any town may, by majority vote at an annual or special
6 meeting, vote to hold the election of town officers on the same date as the state primary election.

7 II. A town adopting the option under paragraph I shall notify the secretary of state in
8 writing not later than December 31 of the calendar year preceding the first election to be conducted
9 under this section.

10 III. A town adopting this option shall continue to hold its deliberative session, town meeting
11 business session, and any other meetings required by law on the dates otherwise provided in this
12 chapter, except that the election of officers shall occur on the date of the state primary.

13 2 New Section; School District Meeting Elections; Option to Align with State Primary. Amend
14 RSA 197 by inserting after section 5-b the following new section:

15 197:5-c Option to Align School District Election of Officers with State Primary.

16 I. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning with the state primary election to
17 be held in September 2028 and thereafter, any school district may, by majority vote at an annual or
18 special meeting, vote to hold the election of school district officers on the same date as the state
19 primary election.

20 II. A school district adopting the option under paragraph I shall notify the secretary of state
21 in writing not later than December 31 of the calendar year preceding the first election to be
22 conducted under this section.

23 III. A school district adopting this option shall continue to hold its deliberative session,
24 budget meeting, and any other meetings required by law on the dates otherwise provided in this
25 chapter, except that the election of officers shall occur on the date of the state primary.

26 3 New Section; State Reimbursement for Local Election Costs. Amend RSA 659 by inserting
27 after section 104 the following new section:

28 659:104-a State Reimbursement for Local Elections Held on State Primary Day.

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1 I. If a town or school district elects to hold its election of officers on the date of the state
2 primary pursuant to RSA 39:2-c or RSA 197:5-b, the state shall reimburse the town or school district
3 for all direct costs incurred in conducting the local election.

4 II. Reimbursable costs shall include, but not be limited to, the costs of printing and
5 distributing ballots, staffing and compensation of election officials, polling place expenses, voter
6 notification required by law, and the tallying and reporting of results.

7 III. Municipalities and school districts shall submit claims for reimbursement in a form and
8 by a deadline prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state, in consultation with the
9 department of administrative services, shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A relative to the
10 reimbursement process.

11 IV. The state treasurer shall establish and maintain a dedicated line item appropriation
12 within the biennial state budget sufficient to provide reimbursement under this section.

13 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.