

CA CR 14 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2290

08/09

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION **14**

RELATING TO: qualifications for office.

PROVIDING THAT: candidates of the office of governor, state senator, and state representative shall be citizens of the United States.

SPONSORS: Rep. Kuttab, Rock. 17; Rep. Guzofski, Rock. 1; Rep. Prudhomme-O'Brien, Rock. 13; Rep. Wherry, Hills. 13; Rep. Rhodes, Ches. 17; Rep. Lynn, Rock. 17

COMMITTEE: Election Law

ANALYSIS

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution requires candidates for the office of governor, state senator, and state representative to be citizens of the United States.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type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

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

RELATING TO: qualifications for office.

PROVIDING THAT: candidates of the office of governor, state senator, and state representative shall be citizens of the United States.

Be it Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, that the Constitution of New Hampshire be amended as follows:

1 I. That article 14 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

2 [Art.] 14. [Representatives, How Elected, Qualifications of.] Every member of the house of
3 representatives shall be chosen by ballot; **a citizen of the United States**, and, for two years, at
4 least, next preceding his election shall have been an inhabitant of this state; shall be, at the time of
5 his election, an inhabitant of the town, ward, place, or district he may be chosen to represent and
6 shall cease to represent such town, ward, place, or district immediately on his ceasing to be qualified
7 as aforesaid.

8 II. That article 29 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

9 [Art.] 29. [Qualifications of Senators.] Provided nevertheless, that no person shall be capable of
10 being elected a senator, who is not **a citizen of the United States**, of the age of thirty years, and
11 who shall not have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years immediately preceding his
12 election, and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen.
13 Should such person, after election, cease to be an inhabitant of the district for which he was chosen,
14 he shall be disqualified to hold said position and a vacancy shall be declared therein.

15 III. That article 42 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

16 [Art.] 42. [Election of Governor, Return of Votes; Electors; If No Choice, Legislature to Elect One
17 of Two Highest Candidates; Qualifications for Governor.] The governor shall be chosen biennially in
18 the month of November; and the votes for governor shall be received, sorted, counted, certified and
19 returned, in the same manner as the votes for senators; and the secretary shall lay the same before
20 the senate and house of representatives, on the first Wednesday following the first Tuesday of
21 January to be by them examined, and in case of an election by a plurality of votes through the state,
22 the choice shall be by them declared and published. And the qualifications of electors of the
23 governor shall be the same as those for senators; and if no person shall have a plurality of votes, the
24 senate and house of representatives shall, by joint ballot elect one of the two persons, having the
25 highest number of votes, who shall be declared governor. And no person shall be eligible to this
26 office, unless at the time of his election, he shall have been **a citizen of the United States**, an
27 inhabitant of this state for 7 years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of 30 years.

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1 IV. That the above amendment proposed to the constitution be submitted to the qualified
2 voters of the state at the state general election to be held in November, 2026.

3 V. That the selectmen of all towns, cities, wards and places in the state are directed to insert
4 in their warrants for the said 2026 election an article to the following effect: To decide whether the
5 amendments of the constitution proposed by the 2026 session of the general court shall be approved.

6 VI. That the wording of the question put to the qualified voters shall be:
7 "Are you in favor of requiring candidates for the offices of governor, state senator, and member of the
8 house of representatives be citizens of the United States by amending articles 14, 29, and 42 to read
9 as follows:

10 [Art.] 14. [Representatives, How Elected, Qualifications of.] Every member of the house of
11 representatives shall be chosen by ballot; a citizen of the United States, and, for two years, at least,
12 next preceding his election shall have been an inhabitant of this state; shall be, at the time of his
13 election, an inhabitant of the town, ward, place, or district he may be chosen to represent and shall
14 cease to represent such town, ward, place, or district immediately on his ceasing to be qualified as
15 aforesaid.

16 [Art.] 29. [Qualifications of Senators.] Provided nevertheless, that no person shall be capable of
17 being elected a senator, who is not a citizen of the United States, of the age of thirty years, and who
18 shall not have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years immediately preceding his election,
19 and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen. Should
20 such person, after election, cease to be an inhabitant of the district for which he was chosen, he shall
21 be disqualified to hold said position and a vacancy shall be declared therein.

22 [Art.] 42. [Election of Governor, Return of Votes; Electors; If No Choice, Legislature to Elect One
23 of Two Highest Candidates; Qualifications for Governor.] The governor shall be chosen biennially in
24 the month of November; and the votes for governor shall be received, sorted, counted, certified and
25 returned, in the same manner as the votes for senators; and the secretary shall lay the same before
26 the senate and house of representatives, on the first Wednesday following the first Tuesday of
27 January to be by them examined, and in case of an election by a plurality of votes through the state,
28 the choice shall be by them declared and published. And the qualifications of electors of the governor
29 shall be the same as those for senators; and if no person shall have a plurality of votes, the senate
30 and house of representatives shall, by joint ballot elect one of the two persons, having the highest
31 number of votes, who shall be declared governor. And no person shall be eligible to this office, unless
32 at the time of his election, he shall have been a citizen of the United States, an inhabitant of this
33 state for 7 years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of 30 years.

34 VII. That the secretary of state shall print the question to be submitted on a separate ballot
35 with other constitutional questions or on the official ballot. The ballot containing the question shall
36 include 2 ovals next to the question allowing the voter to vote "Yes" or "No." If no oval is marked, the
37 ballot shall not be counted on the question. The outside of the ballot shall be the same as the regular

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1 official ballot except that the words “Questions Relating to Constitutional Amendments proposed by
2 the 2026 General Court” shall be printed in bold type at the top of the ballot.

3 VIII. That if the proposed amendment is approved by 2/3 of those voting on the amendment,
4 it becomes effective when the governor proclaims its adoption.

5 IX. Voters' Guide.

6 AT THE PRESENT TIME, there is no constitutional requirement that candidates for
7 the offices of governor, state senator, and state representative be citizens of the United States.

8 IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED, there will be a constitutional requirement
9 that candidates for the offices of governor, state senator, and state representative be citizens of the
10 United States.