

**HB 1393 - AS INTRODUCED**

2026 SESSION

26-3206  
08/09

HOUSE BILL            **1393**

AN ACT                relative to the definition of public servant and the offense of official oppression.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Long, Hills. 26

COMMITTEE:          Criminal Justice and Public Safety

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ANALYSIS

This bill adds federal officials to the definition of public servant and makes it a class B felony for a public servant to interfere in an election.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six*

AN ACT relative to the definition of public servant and the offense of official oppression.

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

1 1 Public Servant; Definition; Federal Officials Included. Amend RSA 640:2, II(a) to read as  
2 follows:

3 (a) "Public servant" means any ***federal official acting in or taking action directly***  
4 ***affecting the state of New Hampshire, or*** officer or employee of the state or any political  
5 subdivision thereof, including judges, legislators, consultants, jurors, and persons otherwise  
6 performing a governmental function. A person is considered a public servant upon his election,  
7 appointment or other designation as such, although he may not yet officially occupy that position. A  
8 person is a candidate for electoral office upon his public announcement of his candidacy.

9 2 Official Oppression; Election Interference. Amend RSA 643:1 to read as follows:  
10 643:1 Official Oppression.

11 A public servant, as defined in RSA 640:2, II, is guilty of a misdemeanor if, with a purpose to  
12 benefit himself or another or to harm another, he knowingly commits an unauthorized act which  
13 purports to be an act of his office; or knowingly refrains from performing a duty imposed on him by  
14 law or clearly inherent in the nature of his office. ***A public servant is guilty of a class B felony if***  
15 ***he or she acts with intent to interfere with the administration of an election.***

16 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027.