

HB 1394 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-3207

08/05

HOUSE BILL **1394**

AN ACT enabling the municipal officers to place a proposed charter amendment on the ballot that changes the form of government of the municipality.

SPONSORS: Rep. Sweeney, Rock. 25

COMMITTEE: Municipal and County Government

ANALYSIS

This bill enables the municipal officers to place a proposed charter amendment on the ballot that changes the form of government of the municipality.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 the municipal officers to place a proposed charter amendment on the ballot that changes the form of government of the municipality.

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

1 1 Charter Amendments; Procedure; Change Form of Government. Amend RSA 49-B:5, I(c)-(d)
2 to read as follows:

3 (c) ***Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the municipal officers may, by a***
4 ***vote of two-thirds of their membership, place directly on the ballot a proposed charter***
5 ***amendment that changes the form of government of the municipality, including but not***
6 ***limited to: adoption of a town council, adoption of a city form, transition between council-***
7 ***manager and mayor-council structures, or any other structural realignment of legislative***
8 ***or executive authority. Any such amendment shall be adopted upon receiving a majority of***
9 ***those voting on the question.***

10 (d) Each amendment shall be limited to a single subject, but more than one section of
11 the charter may be amended as long as it is germane to that subject.

12 [~~(d)~~] (e) Alternative statements of a single amendment are prohibited.

13 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.