

HB 1601-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-3189

08/06

HOUSE BILL            ***1601-FN***

AN ACT                requiring the secretary of state to create a voter education program that includes information on recent changes to voting laws.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Wilhelm, Hills. 21; Rep. Berry, Hills. 44

COMMITTEE:          Election Law

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ANALYSIS

This bill requires the secretary of state to create a voter education program that includes information on recent changes to voting laws.

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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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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                    requiring the secretary of state to create a voter education program that includes information on recent changes to voting laws.

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

1            1 Voter Education Program. The secretary of state is directed to create a voter education  
2 program in order to inform voters about recent changes to voting laws. The secretary of state shall  
3 use \$50,000 in funds made available through the Help America Vote Act 2002, 52 U.S.C. section  
4 20901 et seq. in order to create the program, develop materials, and make them available to voters in  
5 the state.

6            2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

**HB 1601-FN- FISCAL NOTE  
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT requiring the secretary of state to create a voter education program that includes information on recent changes to voting laws.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

<b>Estimated State Impact</b>				
	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Revenue Fund(s)</i>	None			
<b>Expenditures*</b>	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds			
<b>Appropriations*</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	None			

**\*Expenditure = Cost of bill**

**\*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill**

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill directs the Secretary of State to establish a voter education program to inform the public about recent changes to voting laws. To support this initiative, the Secretary shall allocate \$50,000 from Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds.

The Department of State notes that the Secretary already operates a comprehensive voter education program. It further indicates that restricting the initiative to \$50,000 may limit the program's outreach.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of State