

26-2556
08/07

HOUSE BILL

1187-FN

AN ACT

relative to the time in which candidates for state representative may file their candidacy for a special election.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Berry, Hills. 44; Rep. Qualey, Ches. 18

COMMITTEE:

Election Law

ANALYSIS

This bill allows candidates for state representative in a special election to file for 3 days with their town or city clerk.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 time in which candidates for state representative may file their
 candidacy for a special election.

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

1 1 Nomination of Candidates to the General Court; House of Representatives; Special Election.
2 RSA 655:81, III is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

3 III. Under RSA 655:15, state representative candidates may file with the secretary of state,
4 except that a state representative candidate may file with his or her appropriate town or city clerk
5 under RSA 655:15, in which case the town or city clerk shall forward each declaration of candidate to
6 the secretary of state on the same day on which the declaration is filed. During the week of filing, if
7 the town or city clerk's office shall not be open for at least 3 days and for at least 2 hours on those
8 days, the clerk shall post contact information for the clerk, deputy clerk, or another election official
9 who the clerk has authorized to accept the declaration of candidacy. The dates and times town and
10 city clerks' offices are open for filing during the filing period and any additional contact information
11 shall be listed on the secretary of state's website; and

12 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

LBA
26-2556
5/8/26

HB 1187-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE (AMENDMENT #2026-1596s)

AN ACT relative to the time in which candidates for state representative may file their
 candidacy for a special election.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Legislative Budget Assistant has determined that this legislation has a total fiscal impact
of less than \$10,000 in each of the fiscal years 2026 through 2029.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of State and New Hampshire Municipal Association