

HB 1187-FN - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

05/07/2026 1596s  
4Jun2026... 2096CofC

2026 SESSION

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

**HB 1187-FN - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES**

05/07/2026 1596s  
4Jun2026... 2096CofC

26-2556  
08/07

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2 RSA 655:81, III is repealed and reenacted to read as follows: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 clerk, deputy clerk, or other  
10 election official whose contact information is posted shall, in response to being contacted, arrange a  
11 time either on that day or within the next business day, during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m.  
12 to 5:00 p.m., to accept the declaration of candidacy. The dates and times town and city clerks' offices  
13 are open for filing during the filing period and any additional contact information shall be listed on  
14 the secretary of state's website; and

15 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

