

CHAPTER 281
HB 158 - FINAL VERSION

03/26/2026 1214s
4Jun2026... 2100CofC

2026 SESSION

25-0680
08/09

HOUSE BILL ***158***

AN ACT requiring the secretary of state to review absentee ballot data biennially, forward certain requests to the election law unit for review, and make a report to the general court.

SPONSORS: Rep. Hill, Merr. 2; Rep. Bernardy, Rock. 36; Rep. Sweeney, Rock. 25; Rep. Verville, Rock. 2; Rep. Berry, Hills. 44; Rep. S. Boyd, Merr. 10; Rep. T. Walsh, Merr. 10; Rep. Sheehan, Hills. 43; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Avar, Dist 12; Sen. McConkey, Dist 3

COMMITTEE: Election Law

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the secretary of state to review absentee ballot data biennially, forward certain requests to the election law unit for review, and make a report to the general court.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT requiring the secretary of state to review absentee ballot data biennially, forward certain requests to the election law unit for review, and make a report to the general court.

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

1 281:1 New Paragraph; Addresses Receiving Multiple Absentee Ballots. Amend RSA 657:15 by
2 inserting after paragraph I the following new paragraph:

3 I-a. The secretary of state shall review absentee ballot data after each general election to identify
4 absentee ballot requests that should be forwarded to the department of justice, election law unit for an
5 investigative review. This review shall include requests by multiple voters that are sent to a common
6 address. The secretary shall provide the committees of jurisdiction a report of the number and category of
7 requests forwarded for investigative review.

281:2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved: July 10, 2026
Effective Date: July 10, 2026