

HB 395 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0834

07/08

HOUSE BILL **395**

AN ACT empowering inspectors of the election to observe duties performed by supervisors of the checklist.

SPONSORS: Rep. P. Brown, Rock. 14

COMMITTEE: Election Law

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ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Empowers inspectors of election to observe all election-related duties performed by supervisors of the checklist.

II. Requires vacancies in the board of supervisors to be filled within 45 days by the city or town moderator.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT                   empowering inspectors of the election to observe duties performed by supervisors of the checklist.

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

1           1 Elections; Pre-Election Procedure; Inspectors of Election. Amend RSA 658:2 to read as  
2 follows:

3           658:2 Appointment ***and Authority.***

4           ***I.*** Each state political committee of the 2 political parties which received the largest number  
5 of votes cast for governor at the last previous general election is authorized through their respective  
6 chairmen to appoint between May 15 and July 15 of each general election year 2 inspectors of  
7 election to act at each polling place. If the number of voters qualified to vote at a polling place shall  
8 exceed 2,000, said political committees may each appoint for such polling place one additional  
9 inspector for each 1,500 qualified voters or fraction thereof in excess of 2,000. By April 15 of each  
10 general election year, the secretary of state shall provide a list to the chairman of each such state  
11 political committee of the number of inspectors of election that should be appointed for each town or  
12 ward. Each such state political committee may also appoint such equal number of additional  
13 inspectors as the moderator considers necessary for the efficient conduct of the election. On or  
14 before July 15, the chairmen of said political committees shall notify the appointees and the town or  
15 ward clerk concerned as to appointments made under this authority. If any such appointments are  
16 not made by said political committees and proper notification thereof given on or before July 15, then  
17 the appointments shall be made by the selectmen of the town or ward in equal numbers from said 2  
18 political parties.

19           ***II.*** ***Such inspectors, in addition, are authorized and empowered to observe all***  
20 ***duties performed and documents handled by supervisors of the checklist as provided in***  
21 ***RSA 654, 655, 657, 658, 659, and 671.***

22           2 Town Elections; Filing of Vacancies; Supervisors of the Checklist. Amend RSA 669:64 to read  
23 as follows:

24           669:64 Supervisors of the Checklist. Vacancies in the board of supervisors shall be filled within  
25 45 days by appointment made by the ***moderator.*** ~~[remaining supervisors. If there is only one~~  
26 ~~member of the board, or if the whole board shall be vacant, or if the remaining supervisors fail to fill~~  
27 ~~the vacancy within 45 days, the moderator shall make the appointments. If a town elects~~  
28 ~~supervisors by means of the partisan ballot system, any]~~ ***Any*** such appointee shall be of the same  
29 political party, ***if declared,*** as the supervisor whose place he ***or she*** is filling.

30           3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.