

HB 464 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0746

08/11

HOUSE BILL           **464**

AN ACT               prohibiting candidates for political office from participating in counting ballots.

SPONSORS:         Rep. de Vries, Rock. 29; Rep. H. Howard, Straf. 4

COMMITTEE:       Election Law

---

ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits candidates that appear on the ballot from participating in counting ballots before the election.

-----

Explanation:       Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~in brackets and struck through.~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 prohibiting candidates for political office from participating in counting ballots.

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

- 1 1 Counting Ballots; Election Morning Procedures. Amend RSA 658:31 to read as follows:
- 2 658:31 Counting Ballots. At or prior to the opening of the polls in each town or ward, the seal of
- 3 the packages shall be publicly broken by the town or ward clerk; and the ballots shall be given to the
- 4 ballot clerks and the ballots shall be examined and counted by the election officers in the presence of
- 5 the clerk, the moderator, and at least one other legal voter. If the ballots are counted prior to the
- 6 opening of the polls, the clerk shall post, in an appropriate place and prior to election day, notice of
- 7 the time and place of the counting. ***No person who appears on the ballot shall count ballots***
- 8 ***prior to the election.***
- 9 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.