

HB 488 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0758

07/11

HOUSE BILL **488**

AN ACT relative to limiting conflicts of interest for municipal board and committee members.

SPONSORS: Rep. Spilsbury, Sull. 3

COMMITTEE: Municipal and County Government

ANALYSIS

This bill limits conflicts of interest and excessive concentration of power for municipal board and committee members.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 relative to limiting conflicts of interest for municipal board and committee members.

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

1 1 Municipal Office Limitations. RSA 669:7 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

2 669:7 Municipal Office Limitations.

3 I. In order to eliminate conflicts of interest in municipal government;

4 (a) No person shall at the same time hold any 2 of the following offices: selectman,
5 treasurer or deputy treasurer, moderator, trustee of trust funds, collector of taxes, auditor, highway
6 agent, and head of the town’s police department on full-time duty.

7 (b) No town clerk or deputy town clerk may hold any other elected or appointed office
8 other than tax collector, if authorized as provided in RSA 41:45-a, or deputy tax collector.

9 (c) No full-time town employee or department head shall at the same time hold the office
10 of selectman.

11 (d) No town manager or other administrator shall at the same time hold any other office
12 listed in subparagraph (a), other than tax collector when authorized under RSA 37:16.

13 (e) No selectman may also serve as either a school board member serving the same town
14 or a member of a board of assessors elected pursuant to RSA 41:2-c.

15 (f) No official handling funds of a town shall at the same time hold the office of auditor.

16 (g) No selectman, moderator, town clerk, deputy town clerk, or inspector of elections
17 shall at the same time serve as a supervisor of the checklist.

18 (h) No selectman, town manager, school board member except a cooperative school board
19 member, full-time town, village district, school district except a cooperative school district, or other
20 associated agency employee or village district commissioner shall at the same time serve as a budget
21 committee member-at-large under RSA 32 or other municipal finance committee member.

22 (i) No municipal employee working in a capacity that provides support for a local land
23 use board established under RSA 673 may serve on a local land use board of the same municipality.

24 (j) No full-time municipal employee or department head shall serve on a planning board,
25 except as expressly provided in RSA 673:2.

26 (k) No full-time municipal employee or department head shall serve on any budget or
27 finance related board or committee of the same municipality.

28 II. No person shall at the same time file a declaration of candidacy for any 2 or more elected
29 offices that are incompatible under paragraph I.

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1 III. The provisions of paragraph I shall not be construed to prevent the transfer between
2 offices of information obtained in the regular conduct of business nor to prevent the personnel in any
3 office from furnishing clerical assistance to any other office.

4 IV. This section shall not prevent a member of the governing body from serving as an ex
5 officio on any committee over which the governing body has supervisory responsibility.

6 V. Alternates for any board shall be treated as a full member in the same manner for the
7 purposes of this section.

8 2 Applicability; Conflicting Positions Pursuant to RSA 669:7.

9 On the effective date of RSA 669:7, as amended by section 1 of this act, members of boards and
10 committees holding conflicting positions may remain in those positions until the next elections are
11 held.

12 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon passage.