

SB 287 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-1097

08/02

SENATE BILL           **287**

AN ACT                requiring applicants for absentee ballots to present a copy of their photo identification with their application.

SPONSORS:           Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16; Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Sen. McGough, Dist 11; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Sullivan, Dist 18; Rep. Hill, Merr. 2; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 4

COMMITTEE:         Election Law and Municipal Affairs

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ANALYSIS

This bill requires applicants for absentee ballots to present a copy of their photo identification with their application.

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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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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                    requiring applicants for absentee ballots to present a copy of their photo identification with their application.

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

1            1 New Section; Pre-Election Procedure; Verification of Mail-In Absentee Voter. Amend RSA 657  
2 by inserting after section 17-b the following new section:

3            657:17-c Verification of Mail-In Absentee Voter.

4            I. If an absentee voter indicates in the mailed-in absentee ballot application form that such  
5 voter wishes the absentee ballot to be mailed to an address other than that shown in the official  
6 checklist, and such voter returns the absentee ballot by mail, such voter shall be treated as a verified  
7 voter provided:

8                    (a) The voter voluntarily shows the clerk a photo identification that meets the  
9 requirements of RSA 659:13, II(a) prior to election day; or

10                   (b) The voter voluntarily includes a notarized signature on his or her completed absentee  
11 ballot application form.

12            II. The clerk shall mark the absentee ballot affidavit envelope "voter verified" and note on  
13 the clerk's list of absentee voters that the voter has been verified. The verified voter's signatures on  
14 the application for an absentee ballot shall not be compared to the voter's signature on the absentee  
15 ballot affidavit on election day.

16            III. A voter who does not provide verification pursuant to paragraph I shall not be treated as  
17 a verified voter, and his or her signature on the application for an absentee ballot shall be compared  
18 to his or her signature on the absentee ballot affidavit on election day in the same manner as other  
19 voters.

20            2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.