HB 1770-FN-LOCAL - AS INTRODUCED

2018 SESSION

18-2699
03/01

HOUSE BILL ***1770-FN-LOCAL***

AN ACT relative to verification of checklists.

SPONSORS: Rep. Hill, Merr. 3; Rep. Pearl, Merr. 26; Rep. M. Moffett, Merr. 9; Rep. Freeman, Hills. 12; Sen. French, Dist 7

COMMITTEE: Election Law

ANALYSIS

This bill requires that the supervisors of the checklist request proof of qualification to vote from voters receiving absentee ballots at an address other than that claimed as the voter's domicile.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Eighteen

AN ACT relative to verification of checklists.

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

1 Request to Correct the Checklist; Absentee Voter. Amend RSA 654:36-a, II to read as follows:

II. If ***the person is the subject of a request submitted by the clerk under RSA 657:15, II or*** the supervisors of the checklist determine that it is more likely than not that the person's qualifications are in doubt, [~~they~~] ***the supervisors of the checklist*** shall send a notice to the person and afford the person at least 30 days to provide proof of his or her qualifications. ***If the person is the subject of a request submitted by the clerk under RSA 657:15, II, the supervisors shall send the notice to both the person's domicile address and the address used for mailing the absentee ballot.*** If the person fails to respond to the 30-day notice or responds but fails to provide proof that establishes that it is more likely than not that the person is qualified to vote in the town or ward, the person's name shall be removed from the checklist. ***However, in no case shall a person's name be removed from the checklist prior to the election for which he or she requested an absentee ballot.*** The supervisors of the checklist shall retain a copy of the notice in accordance with RSA 33-A:3-a.

2 New Paragraph; Absentee Voters Receiving Ballots Outside of the Town or Ward. Amend RSA 657:15 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

V. If the clerk mails an absentee ballot to a voter at an address other than the address the voter claimed as his or her domicile, the clerk shall immediately submit to the supervisors of the checklist a copy of the absentee ballot request along with a request for correction of the checklist that includes the mailing address submitted by the absentee voter.

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

LBAO
18-2699
11/27/17

HB 1770-FN-LOCAL- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT relative to verification of checklists.

FISCAL IMPACT: [ ] State [ ] County [X] Local [ ] None

	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
LOCAL:	**FY 2019**	**FY 2020**	**FY 2021**	**FY 2022**
Appropriation	$0	$0	$0	$0
Revenue	$0	$0	$0	$0
Expenditures	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable

METHODOLOGY:

This bill requires the supervisors of the checklist to send a notice to a voter who has requested an absentee ballot at an address other than the one claimed by the voter as his or her domicile, requiring the voter to provide proof of his or her qualifications to vote. The New Hampshire Municipal Association states this may result in an unknown and indeterminable increase in mailing costs, depending on the how often this circumstance may occur.

The Department of State states this bill will have no fiscal impact on the Department.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

New Hampshire Municipal Association and Department of State