

Rep. Wherry, Hills. 13
Rep. Burnham, Straf. 2
Rep. Wood, Merr. 13
February 10, 2025
2025-0349h
08/09

Amendment to HB 288

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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3 AN ACT limiting how far in advance of an election an absentee ballot may be requested.

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5 Amend RSA 657:6 as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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7 657:6 Procedure by Applicant. An application form for an absentee ballot shall be mailed or
8 delivered to any person who applies therefor to the secretary of state or to any town or city clerk. It
9 shall be filled out by the applicant and sent to the clerk of the town or city in which he or she desires
10 to vote. Alternatively, a person may apply for an official absentee ballot by sending to said clerk a
11 written statement containing the information required by RSA 657:4, I or by the federal official post
12 card form *for UOCAVA voters as described under RSA 654:20. The federal official post card*
13 *forms shall be received no earlier than January of the calendar year in which the election*
14 *occurs. All other application forms shall be received or postmarked within 6 months of the*
15 *election for which the absentee ballot is being requested. Except for the federal official*
16 *post card forms, any application received or postmarked prior to the 6-month period shall*
17 *not be accepted by the secretary of state or any town or city clerk.*

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill limits how far in advance an absentee ballot may be requested. Federal law requires that UOCAVA voters complete a new federal official post card no earlier than January of the calendar year in which a federal election occurs. Other applications for absentee ballots are limited to no earlier than 6 months prior to the election.