

Rep. Wherry, Hills. 13
Rep. Pauer, Hills. 36
Rep. Sellers, Graf. 10
March 2, 2026
2026-0947h
04/09

Amendment to HB 1272

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

2

3 AN ACT providing an option for each candidate's party affiliations to be printed on the town
4 or school district ballot.

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6 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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8 1 New Section; Party Affiliation on the Official Ballot; Ballot Systems; Town Elections. Amend
9 RSA 669 by inserting after section 13 the following new section:

10 669:13-a Party Affiliation on the Official Ballot.

11 I. Any town that has adopted an official ballot system under RSA 669:12 or RSA 669:13 may
12 vote to include on the official ballot each candidate's party affiliation after the candidate's name,
13 unless waived by the candidate, under an article in the warrant for any town meeting. The town
14 clerk shall cause to be printed on the official ballot the question, "Shall the official ballot contain the
15 party affiliation of each candidate, appearing after each candidate's name, pursuant to RSA 669:13-
16 a, I?", which question shall be followed by boxes in which the voter may indicate "Yes" or "No". If the
17 majority of the qualified voters present and voting at such meeting shall answer said question in the
18 affirmative, the party affiliation of candidates shall be included on future official ballots, until
19 rescinded or until the unofficial ballot system is adopted. The party affiliation shall be the
20 candidate's party affiliation listed on the town's voter checklist at the time the candidate declares
21 candidacy and shall be denoted on the ballot after the candidate's name using the first 3 letters of
22 the name of the party in parentheses or "(UND)" if candidate has no declared party. When filing for
23 office, a candidate may notify the town clerk that no party affiliation shall appear after their name
24 on the official ballot.

25 II. Any town that has adopted the provisions of RSA 669:13-a, I may vote to rescind these
26 provisions under an article in the warrant for any town meeting. The town clerk shall cause to be
27 printed on the official ballot the question, "Shall the official ballot no longer contain the party
28 affiliation of each candidate, pursuant to RSA 669:13-a, II?", which question shall be followed by
29 boxes in which the voter may indicate "Yes" or "No". If the majority of the qualified voters present
30 and voting at such meeting shall answer said question in the affirmative, the party affiliation of

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1 candidates shall no longer be included on future official ballots. The provisions of RSA 669:13-a, I
2 shall also be rescinded if the town adopts the unofficial ballot system.

3 2 New Paragraphs; Preparation of Ballots; By School District Clerk. Amend RSA 671:20 by
4 inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraphs:

5 III. Any school district may vote to include on the official ballot each candidate's party
6 affiliation after the candidate's name, unless waived by the candidate, under an article in the
7 warrant for any town meeting. The school district clerk shall cause to be printed on the official
8 ballot the question, "Shall the official ballot contain the party affiliation of each candidate, appearing
9 after each candidate's name, pursuant to RSA 671:20, III?", which question shall be followed by
10 boxes in which the voter may indicate "Yes" or "No". If the majority of the qualified voters present
11 and voting at such meeting shall answer said question in the affirmative, the party affiliation of
12 candidates shall be included on future official ballots, until rescinded pursuant to RSA 671:20, IV.
13 The party affiliation shall be the candidate's party affiliation listed on the town's voter checklist,
14 where the candidate is registered to vote, at the time the candidate declares candidacy and shall be
15 denoted on the ballot after the candidate's name using the first 3 letters of the name of the party in
16 parentheses or "(UND)" if candidate has no declared party. When filing for office, a candidate may
17 notify the school district clerk that no party affiliation shall appear after their name on the official
18 ballot.

19 IV. Any school district that has adopted the provisions of RSA 671:20, III may vote to
20 rescind these provisions under an article in the warrant for any school district meeting. The school
21 district clerk shall cause to be printed on the official ballot the question, "Shall the official ballot no
22 longer contain the party affiliation of each candidate, pursuant to RSA 671:20, III?", which question
23 shall be followed by boxes in which the voter may indicate "Yes" or "No". If the majority of the
24 qualified voters present and voting at such meeting shall answer said question in the affirmative,
25 the party affiliation of candidates shall no longer be included on future official ballots.

26 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides an option for each candidate's party affiliation to be printed on the town or school district ballot.