

HB 554 - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

13Mar2025... 0570h

2025 SESSION

25-0804
08/09

HOUSE BILL

554

AN ACT relative to the placement of political advertising on municipal property.

SPONSORS: Rep. Andrus, Merr. 5; Rep. Kuttub, Rock. 17; Rep. Perez, Rock. 16; Rep. Rice, Hills. 38; Rep. See, Merr. 26; Rep. Sellers, Graf. 18; Rep. Turcotte, Straf. 4; Rep. H. Howard, Straf. 4; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Ward, Dist 8

COMMITTEE: Municipal and County Government

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill enables municipal property to be used for political signs in accordance with local and state laws, rules, and ordinances.

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 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 the placement of political advertising on municipal property.

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

1 1 Political Advertising; Placement and Removal of Political Advertising. Amend RSA 664:17 to
2 read as follows:

3 664:17 Placement and Removal of Political Advertising. No political advertising shall be placed
4 on or affixed to any public property including highway rights-of-way or private property without the
5 owner's consent. ***Municipal property may be used for political signs in accordance with***
6 ***local sign ordinances and in compliance with laws and rules relative to electioneering.*** All
7 political advertising shall be removed by the candidate no later than the second Friday following the
8 election unless the election is a primary and the advertising concerns a candidate who is a winner in
9 the primary. Signs shall not be placed on or affixed to utility poles or highway signs. Political
10 advertising may be placed within state-owned rights-of-way as long as the advertising does not
11 obstruct the safe flow of traffic and the advertising is placed with the consent of the owner of the
12 land over which the right-of-way passes. No person shall remove, deface, or knowingly destroy any
13 political advertising which is placed on or affixed to public property or any private property except
14 for removal by the owner of the property, persons authorized by the owner of the property, or a law
15 enforcement officer removing improper advertising. Political advertising placed on or affixed to any
16 public property may be removed by state, city, or town maintenance or law enforcement personnel.
17 Political advertising removed prior to election day by state, city, or town maintenance or law
18 enforcement personnel shall be kept until one week after the election at a place designated by the
19 state, city, or town so that the candidate, or a member of the candidate's campaign or local political
20 committee of the same party may retrieve the items.

21 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.