

HB 78 - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

6Feb2025... 0034h

2025 SESSION

25-0098

07/08

HOUSE BILL

**78**

AN ACT requiring a person to have a domicile in the district from which they serve as county commissioner.

SPONSORS: Rep. L. Turcotte, Straf. 4; Rep. Ankarberg, Straf. 7; Rep. Burnham, Straf. 2; Rep. Granger, Straf. 2; Rep. Potenza, Straf. 19; Sen. Gray, Dist 6

COMMITTEE: Municipal and County Government

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ANALYSIS

This bill requires a person to have a domicile in the county where they seek to hold the office of county commissioner.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT requiring a person to have a domicile in the district from which they serve as county commissioner.

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

1 1 County Commissioner Domicile Requirement. Amend RSA 655:9 to read as follows:

2 655:9 County Officers. To hold the office of county commissioner, sheriff, county attorney,  
3 county treasurer, register of deeds, or register of probate, a person ~~[must have a domicile in the~~  
4 ~~county for which he]~~ ***shall be, at the time of his or her election, an inhabitant who resides***  
5 ***actually and permanently in the county from which he or she*** is chosen. In addition, to hold  
6 the office of county commissioner ~~[in the counties of Rockingham, Belknap, Grafton, Merrimack,~~  
7 ~~Hillsborough, Cheshire, Sullivan, Coos, and Carroll, a person must have a domicile in the district~~  
8 ~~from which he is elected at the time of his election]~~ ***a person shall be an inhabitant who resides***  
9 ***actually and permanently in the district from which he or she may be chosen to represent***  
10 ***and shall cease to represent such district immediately on his or her ceasing to be qualified***  
11 ***as aforesaid.***

12 2 Application; Strafford County. The changes in qualifications for Strafford county  
13 commissioner established by this act shall not affect constituencies or terms of office of  
14 commissioners presently in office. The commissioner qualifications established by this act shall be  
15 in effect for the purpose of electing commissioners at the 2026 state general election, or for any  
16 vacancy in a commissioner district for any reason prior to the 2026 state general election.

17 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.