

HB 554 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

13Mar2025... 0570h
05/01/2025 1615s

2025 SESSION

25-0804
08/09

HOUSE BILL **554**

AN ACT clarifying the placement of advertising signs on state-owned 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 clarifies the conditions under which political advertising may be placed on municipal property.

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 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 clarifying the placement of advertising signs on state-owned property.

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

1 1 Placement and Removal of Political and Other Advertising. RSA 664:17 is repealed and
2 reenacted to read as follows:

3 664:17 Placement and Removal of Political and Other Advertising.

4 I. No advertising, including but not limited to political advertising, shall be placed on or
5 affixed to any private property without the owner's consent. No advertising, including but not
6 limited to political advertising, shall be placed on or affixed to any state-owned public property. This
7 paragraph shall not apply to advertising that is placed on or affixed to state-owned rights-of-way
8 with the consent of the owner of the land over which the right-of-way passes so long as the
9 advertising does not obstruct the safe flow of traffic or violate any other applicable law.

10 II. All political advertising shall be removed by the candidate no later than the second
11 Friday following the election unless the election is a primary and the advertising concerns a
12 candidate who is a winner in the primary.

13 III. Signs shall not be placed on or affixed to utility poles or highway signs.

14 IV. No person shall remove, deface, or knowingly destroy any political advertising which is
15 placed on or affixed to public property or any private property except for removal by the owner of the
16 property, persons authorized by the owner of the property, or a law enforcement officer removing
17 improper advertising.

18 V. Political advertising placed on or affixed to any public property may be removed by state,
19 city, or town maintenance or law enforcement personnel.

20 VI. Political advertising removed prior to election day by state, city, or town maintenance or
21 law enforcement personnel shall be kept until one week after the election at a place designated by
22 the state, city, or town so that the candidate, or a member of the candidate's campaign or local
23 political committee of the same party may retrieve the items.

24 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.