

HB 626 - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

13Feb2025... 0217h  
05/01/2025 1696s

2025 SESSION

25-0617  
08/02

HOUSE BILL                    **626**

AN ACT                    directing the secretary of state to implement a vulnerability disclosure program for certain election systems.

SPONSORS:                Rep. McFarlane, Graf. 18; Rep. Kuttub, Rock. 17; Rep. Spillane, Rock. 2; Rep. Popovici-Muller, Rock. 17; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16

COMMITTEE:              Election Law

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill directs the secretary of state to implement a vulnerability disclosure program for certain election systems.

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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                                 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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                    directing the secretary of state to implement a vulnerability disclosure program  
for certain election systems.

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

1            1 Secretary of State; Chief Election Officer; Duty to Investigate System Vulnerabilities. Amend  
2 RSA 652:23 to read as follows:

3            652:23 Chief Election Officer.

4            ***I.*** The secretary of state shall be the chief election officer for the state. The secretary of  
5 state shall provide information regarding voter registration procedures and absentee ballot  
6 procedures for all voters, including absent uniformed services voters, absent voters temporarily  
7 residing outside the United States, and federal ballot only voters domiciled outside the United  
8 States. Instructional and informational materials published by the secretary of state for clerks to  
9 provide such voters shall include information on how to communicate electronically with election  
10 officials.

11            ***II.*** *Within 180 days of the effective date of this paragraph, the secretary of state*  
12 *shall implement and operate a public vulnerability disclosure program which*  
13 *substantially meets or exceeds the recommendations contained within the publication*  
14 *"Guide to Vulnerability Reporting for America's Election Administrators" published by the*  
15 *Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the United States Department of*  
16 *Homeland Security, to make it easier for security researchers and the general public to*  
17 *report security vulnerabilities appropriately. The secretary shall work with the*  
18 *cybersecurity advisory committee established in RSA 21-R:16.*

19            2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.