

HB 1113 - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

12Mar2026... 0806h

2026 SESSION

26-2646  
08/06

HOUSE BILL            **1113**

AN ACT                enabling towns to establish a 3-year term for town moderators.

SPONSORS:            Rep. D. Murphy, Ches. 11

COMMITTEE:          Municipal and County Government

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ANALYSIS

This bill enables towns to establish a 3-year term for town moderators.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six*

AN ACT enabling towns to establish a 3-year term for town moderators.

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

1           1 Government of Town Meeting; Moderator. Amend RSA 40:1 to read as follows:  
 2           40:1 Election. Every 2 years **or 3 years, as provided under RSA 41:1-a**, [~~commencing in 1978~~  
 3 ~~or 1979, as applicable,~~] a moderator shall be chosen by ballot, by plurality vote. The moderator so  
 4 chosen shall assume office upon the adjournment of the regular town business meeting held in that  
 5 year in accordance with RSA 39:1 or 39:2-a and upon qualification for office, whichever is later. The  
 6 moderator shall serve through the adjournment of the regular town business meeting 2 years **or 3**  
 7 **years** following the moderator's election and until the qualification of a successor, whichever is later.  
 8 The election of the moderator in a town shall be at the annual meeting [~~in every even-numbered~~  
 9 ~~year~~] **when the term of the moderator expires**. The election of moderators in city wards shall be  
 10 at every other regular city election.

11           2 New Section; Three-Year Term; Moderator. Amend RSA 41 by inserting after section 1 the  
 12 following new section:

13           41:1-a Three-Year Term; Moderator. At any annual town meeting under an article in the  
 14 warrant, the voters may vote to determine if they are in favor of having 2-year or 3-year terms for  
 15 the moderator. If the town has adopted an official ballot, the clerk shall cause the following question  
 16 to be printed on said ballot: "Are you in favor of changing the term of the moderator from (here  
 17 insert term option) years to (here insert term option) years, beginning with the expiration of the  
 18 term of the current moderator?" Said question shall be printed in the form prescribed by RSA  
 19 656:13. If the town has not adopted an official ballot, the clerk shall cause the same question to be  
 20 printed upon special ballots, which shall be used to determine the vote of the town. If a majority of  
 21 those voting on the question vote in favor of a 2-year or a 3-year term, at the next annual meeting,  
 22 when the current moderator's term expires, the town shall elect a moderator for a 2-year or 3-year  
 23 term in accordance with the results of such vote.

24           3 School District Elections; Regular School Districts; Optional Term. Amend RSA 671:6-a, III to  
 25 read as follows:

26           III. The terms of the school district clerk, moderator and treasurer shall all be for one year,  
 27 for 2 years, or for 3 years. The terms of only one or 2 of such officers shall not be changed  
 28 independently of the other [~~one or 2~~] officers, **except for moderators as provided under RSA**  
 29 **671:11-a**.

30           4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.