

HB 344 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0661

08/02

HOUSE BILL            **344**

AN ACT                enables the processing of absentee ballots before election day.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Daniels, Hills. 43; Rep. Dargie, Hills. 43; Rep. Petrigno, Hills. 43; Rep. Wood, Merr. 13; Rep. Schamberg, Merr. 6; Rep. Flanagan, Hills. 45; Rep. B. Sullivan, Sull. 1; Sen. Gray, Dist 6

COMMITTEE:          Election Law

---

ANALYSIS

This bill enables the processing of absentee ballots before election day.

-----

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 enables the processing of absentee ballots before election day.

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

- 1 1 Opening the Absentee Ballot Outer Envelopes. Amend RSA 659:49-b to read as follows:
- 2 659:49-b Opening Absentee Ballot Outer Envelopes. The moderator or the moderator's designee
- 3 may authorize the opening of absentee ballot outer envelopes [~~on election day~~] **no more than one**
- 4 **week** prior to the time established for processing absentee ballots in RSA 659:49, provided that the
- 5 opening of the outer envelopes occurs in public with notice of the time and place. The envelope
- 6 containing the ballot shall not be removed from the outer envelope at such time, and the outer
- 7 envelope containing the inner envelope shall be secured until it is processed pursuant to RSA 659:50.
- 8 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.