

Testimony related to HB472 for public hearing 2.11.25 from Iris Altilio, Pembroke, NH

My name is Iris Altilio from Pembroke, NH. I am here today speaking as citizen, a senior, a AARP NH volunteer and a supervisor of the checklist for 8 yrs.

I am testifying in opposition to HB472.

Speaking as a supervisor, as of 11/11/24, a person who does not possess proof of identity can only obtain a ballot if he/she is known by an election official (recognizance) or goes home to get their proof.

It sounds like HB472 is offering an option to obtain a ballot by providing proof of domicile which is good on the face of it but I still oppose the bill as it is confusing, disconcerting and disenfranchising.

And what's the probability that someone is carrying his or her deed or lease, or a utility bill? Very unlikely.

As a supervisor my job is to maintain accurate voting records, maintain the integrity of elections and encourage voting. I have concerns about the wording of the bill and what it is asking of election officials.

- *No instruction to ballot clerks to ask for proof of domicile*
- *Ballot clerks now making determination on voter qualification, that's not their role, they don't have the training*
- *How does showing proof of domicile supplant the need for identification*
- *Supervisors being asked to confirm qualifications including domicile and identification but given no tools to do this. Except for recognizance it's a no.*
- *Lastly, the documents listed are not the proofs you need to register to vote unless you complete an attestation that you don't have the required documents. Do why these?*

And concerns about the impact of the bill including

- Potential longer lines at ballot clerk while the voter looks through his/her phone to find a bill and potential longer lines with supervisors disenfranchising voters and causing negative publicity for the election system
- Voter confusion
- Allowing voters to obtain a ballot without proving their identity
- No record of a person voting without proof or recognizance so no possible follow-up by the Secretary of State.

Speaking on behalf of myself as a senior and AARP, this bill disfavors seniors and others who have alternate living arrangements – assisted living, mother daughter, a child living at home, a couple where everything is in one person's name – where they have no lease, deed and don't pay utilities.

It disfavors seniors who may have limited mobility or access to the polling place. The person who was brought to the polls by bus from their living facility is not going to be able to go home and come back with proof of domicile.

Statistics show our elections are safe with minimal fraud. People who come to elections without ID forgot it or couldn't get their hands on it. The wife who runs out the door because her husband is

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standing there tapping is foot and forgets her pocketbook, the wife who asked her husband to hold her ID when they went out last night and forgot to ask for it back, the mother who leaves her ID in the car, and her son has the car. How many of you check that you have your license every time you leave the house?

As a supervisor, I feel that the election officials in my town do an amazing job assuring elections run fine. The vast majority of our citizens are law abiding, and are being hurt by recent voting law changes and will be affected by this bill, even if it's just longer lines.

I oppose this bill, from many perspectives, it's not needed and it's just not good for voters or election workers.

Thank you.