

To the honorable members of the House Election Law Committee:

My name is Andrew Harmon, and I am a legally blind resident of New Hampton, NH. I am writing in support of HB 1277, relative to proof of identification on absentee ballot applications. As I cannot always easily get to my town's voting place without a ride – the location is on the other side of a state highway with no access to safe crossing anywhere – it is vital that I have access to an absentee ballot. Since the passage of SB 287, I can no longer rely on the one accessible system that was provided from the Secretary of State's office as it is a simple closed system that provides an editable PDF to request the ballot. I would have to otherwise find some way to properly scan my birth certificate, safely and securely scan my non-driver's license, and hope that the software did not distort anything prior to somehow printing it again. Being able to instead simply enter in my non-driver's license number and sign the form using the provided fields reduces the time needed to complete the ballot request process back to a few minutes rather than possibly hours depending on the software involved.

I urge the committee to vote Ought to Pass, and I am open to questions should any member of the committee have any. I can be reached by email or by phone at (603) 992-4053, between 9 AM and 9 PM Monday through Thursday. I can also be reached between the hours of 9 AM and 4 PM on Fridays. I thank you for taking the time to read this testimony and again hope you will vote Ought to Pass on HB 1277!

Sincerely

Andrew Harmon, concerned citizen

138 Main Street New Hampton, NH 03256