

## RELEASE: House Passes Effort to Remove Barriers to Participation in Elections

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Thu 3/12/2020 4:09 PM

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#### PRESS RELEASE

March 12, 2019

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### HOUSE PASSES EFFORT TO REMOVE BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – Today the House passed [HB 1672](#), legislation which would allow voters to vote by absentee ballot without providing an excuse. **Representative Katherine Rogers (D-Concord)**, prime sponsor of the legislation, released the following statement:

“Voting should be safe, secure and accessible and no excuse absentee voting would ensure that. In New Hampshire many of our citizens must travel over an hour to work each day and arriving back in time to cast a ballot can be difficult. Enacting no excuse absentee balloting would remove that barrier.”

“Under current law we are asking voters to know what their lives will look out weeks or months in advance which is illogical. Current law does not even allow those who are ill or contagious to vote by absentee ballot. When our laws prevent people from making responsible decisions, it is our obligation to fix those laws. Absentee voting has been shown to be just as secure as casting a ballot on election day and will help to ensure everyone has safe, secure access to the franchise.”

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