

RELEASE: REPUBLICAN LEGISLATION CREATES EXPENSIVE, CONFUSING TWO-TIERED SYSTEM FOR STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS

House Democratic Office <HouseDemOffice@leg.state.nh.us>

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Contact: Rep. David E. Cote

Phone: 603-271-2136

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New concept would double work of election officials, spike costs to taxpayers, and create undue confusion for voters

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – Today, the New Hampshire House voted 200-174 to pass [SB 89](#) with amendment [2021-1445h](#), which would create a two-tiered system for state and federal elections if the “For the People Act” currently being debated in the U.S. Congress were to become law. **Deputy Democratic Leader David E. Cote (D-Nashua), Ranking Democrat on the House Election Law Committee**, released the following statement:

“In their continuing display of contempt for the supremacy clause of the U.S. Constitution, the pocketbooks of New Hampshire taxpayers, and the hard work of New Hampshire’s election officials, House Republicans today passed SB 89 which would turn our election process into a logistical nightmare by creating an entirely new process separating state and federal elections. In their zeal to deny the adoption of basic voting rights being considered by Congress, Republicans are proposing an entirely new election system for New Hampshire that would double the work of election officials, skyrocket costs to taxpayers, and create vast, unnecessary confusion for voters throughout the state.

Even though creating separate voting lists, separate ballots, and different laws to govern state and federal races would be extremely costly to New Hampshire taxpayers, the Secretary of State’s office could provide zero information about the cost of implementing this bill. Republicans voting to pass this legislation with zero information about the cost to taxpayers is the height of irresponsibility. It is shameful that the interests of New Hampshire taxpayers are being thrown aside because Republicans feel threatened by attempts by Congress to protect voting rights nationwide.”

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