



**New Hampshire House of Representatives  
Concord, New Hampshire  
House Democratic Office**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Date:** April 13, 2022

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**REPUBLICAN-LED COMMITTEE ENDORSES BILL TO UPEND NEW  
HAMPSHIRE ELECTION PROCEDURE**

***Proposed voting law would cost taxpayers millions, complicate elections, violate privacy of  
Granite Staters***

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – Today, the House Election Law Committee voted on party lines to endorse SB 418, legislation that would establish “affidavit balloting” in New Hampshire. The bill will be taken up by the full House of Representatives on April 21. **House Democratic Leader Rep. David E. Cote (D-Nashua)** released the following statement:

“It is no surprise that Republicans on the Election Law Committee ignored the pleas of Granite Staters, including the volunteers who administer New Hampshire elections, in endorsing these expensive, disruptive, unnecessary changes to our election laws. Just last week, Governor Sununu acknowledged that 99% of Granite Staters believe our elections have integrity and work well, and the Secretary of State repeatedly explains that New Hampshire elections are secure. Ignoring our election officials, Republicans voted to upend our process simply to appease the fringe that believes any election that Donald Trump did not win was somehow fraudulent.

This bill is about suppressing voters that Republicans do not want to participate, nothing more. In the Election Law Committee’s deliberation today, a Republican committee member said the voters subject to this law ‘shouldn’t have been voting’ in the first place. For a lawmaker to claim that qualified voters should not be voting is a chilling statement that should alarm everyone who cares about the New Hampshire Constitution and equal treatment under the law.

The amendment adopted by the committee today did not address timing issues that could disenfranchise overseas military voters. Next week, SB 418 will be deliberated and acted on by the full House. To protect our efficient, well-run election process, to protect the privacy rights of Granite Staters, and to protect New Hampshire taxpayers who do not have millions of dollars to throw at a non-issue, I strongly encourage the House to defeat this bill when it comes to the floor.”

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