Election Law and Municipal Affairs May 10, 2021 2021-1380s 05/10

Amendment to HB 223

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

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1 Absentee Ballots; Political Parties. Amend RSA 657:15, III and IV to read as follows:

III. Candidates whose names appear on the ballot for statewide office and persons bearing a notarized request from candidates whose names appear on the ballot for statewide office may obtain a statewide list of absentee voter applicants, excluding voters who have presented to the supervisors of the checklist valid protective orders pursuant to RSA 173-B from the secretary of state. Information on the statewide absentee voter list shall be limited to voter name, voter ID number, [and] the date the absentee ballot was requested, and the date that the ballot was returned.

III-a. Political parties and persons bearing notarized requests from political parties may obtain a statewide list of absentee voter applicants, excluding voters who have presented to the supervisors of the checklist valid protective orders pursuant to RSA 173-B from the secretary of state. Information on the statewide absentee voter list shall be limited to voter name, voter ID number, the date the absentee ballot was requested, and the date that the ballot was returned.

IV. The subscription fee for providing a statewide list of absentee voters by the secretary of state under this section shall be \$2,000 per election, all of which shall be deposited in the election fund under RSA 5:6-d. The secretary of state shall update the original list of absentee voters on a regular basis. The secretary of state shall provide the list requested pursuant to paragraphs III and III-a at least once per week and at least twice per week for the 4 weeks prior to the election.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes political parties to request and subscribe to the absentee ballot request list from the secretary of state, and adds the date the absentee ballot was returned to the information provided.