

CACR 11 - AS INTRODUCED

2015 SESSION

15-0656  
06/05

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

**11**

RELATING TO: voting at elections.

PROVIDING THAT: the general court may authorize all voters to choose to vote by absentee ballot.

SPONSORS: Rep. Rogers, Merr 28

COMMITTEE: Election Law

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ANALYSIS

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution provides that absentee voting is not limited to people who are absent or disabled.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics**.  
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through~~]  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen*

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

RELATING TO: voting at elections.

PROVIDING THAT: the general court may authorize all voters to choose to vote by absentee ballot.

*Be it Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, that the Constitution of New Hampshire be amended as follows:*

1 I. That article 11 of the first part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

2 [Art.] 11. [Elections and Elective Franchises.] All elections are to be free, and every inhabitant of  
3 the State of 18 years of age and upwards shall have an equal right to vote in any election. Every  
4 person shall be considered an inhabitant for the purposes of voting in the town, ward, or  
5 unincorporated place where he has his domicile. No person shall have the right to vote under the  
6 Constitution of this State who has been convicted of treason, bribery or any willful violation of the  
7 election laws of this State or of the United States; but the Supreme Court may, on notice to the  
8 Attorney General, restore the privilege to vote to any person who may have forfeited it by conviction  
9 of such offenses. The General Court shall provide by law for voting by qualified voters [~~who at the~~  
10 ~~time of~~] *in* the biennial or state elections, or [~~of~~] *in* the primary elections therefor, or [~~of~~] *in* city  
11 elections, or [~~of~~] *in* town elections by official ballot [~~, are absent from the city or town of which they~~  
12 ~~are inhabitants, or who by reason of physical disability are unable to vote in person,~~] in the choice of  
13 any officer or officers to be elected or upon any question submitted at such election. Voting  
14 registration and polling places shall be easily accessible to all persons including disabled and elderly  
15 persons who are otherwise qualified to vote in the choice of any officer or officers to be elected or  
16 upon any question submitted at such election. The right to vote shall not be denied to any person  
17 because of the non-payment of any tax. Every inhabitant of the State, having the proper  
18 qualifications, has equal right to be elected into office.

19 II. That the above amendment proposed to the constitution be submitted to the qualified  
20 voters of the state at the state general election to be held in November, 2016.

21 III. That the selectmen of all towns, cities, wards and places in the state are directed to  
22 insert in their warrants for the said 2016 election an article to the following effect: To decide  
23 whether the amendments of the constitution proposed by the 2015 session of the general court shall  
24 be approved.

25 IV. That the wording of the question put to the qualified voters shall be: "Are you in favor of  
26 amending Article 11 of the first part of the constitution to read as follows:

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14 shall not be denied to any person because of the non-payment of any tax. Every inhabitant of the  
15 State, having the proper qualifications, has equal right to be elected into office.”

16 V. That the secretary of state shall print the question to be submitted on a separate ballot or  
17 on the same ballot with other constitutional questions. The ballot containing the question shall  
18 include 2 squares next to the question allowing the voter to vote “Yes” or “No.” If no cross is made in  
19 either of the squares, the ballot shall not be counted on the question. The outside of the ballot shall  
20 be the same as the regular official ballot except that the words “Questions Relating to Constitutional  
21 Amendments proposed by the 2015 General Court” shall be printed in bold type at the top of the  
22 ballot.

23 VI. That if the proposed amendment is approved by 2/3 of those voting on the amendment, it  
24 becomes effective when the governor proclaims its adoption.