

CACR 22 - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2689

07/10

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION **22**

RELATING TO: elections.

PROVIDING THAT: all elections in New Hampshire shall be by ranked-choice voting.

SPONSORS: Rep. Labranche, Hills. 22; Rep. Hyland, Hills. 38; Rep. Laughton, Hills. 31

COMMITTEE: Election Law

ANALYSIS

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution requires all elections in the state of New Hampshire to be conducted using ranked-choice voting, the exact procedure of which to be provided for by the legislature.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

RELATING TO: elections.

PROVIDING THAT: all elections in New Hampshire shall be by ranked-choice voting.

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
3 of 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 the biennial or state elections, or of the primary elections therefor, or of city elections, or of
11 town elections by official ballot, are absent from the city or town of which they are inhabitants, or
12 who by reason of physical disability are unable to vote in person, in the choice of any officer or
13 officers to be elected or upon any question submitted at such election. Voting registration and
14 polling places shall be easily accessible to all persons including disabled and elderly persons who are
15 otherwise qualified to vote in the choice of any officer or officers to be elected or upon any question
16 submitted at such election. The right to vote shall not be denied to any person because of the non
17 payment of any tax. Every inhabitant of the state, having the proper qualifications, has equal right
18 to be elected into office. ***All elections in New Hampshire shall be conducted by ranked-choice
19 voting, the procedure of which shall be determined by the general court.***

20 II. That the above amendment proposed to the constitution be submitted to the qualified
21 voters of the state at the state general election to be held in November, 2022.

22 III. That the selectmen of all towns, cities, wards and places in the state are directed to
23 insert in their warrants for the said 2022 election an article to the following effect: To decide
24 whether the amendments of the constitution proposed by the 2022 session of the general court shall
25 be approved.

26 IV. That the wording of the question put to the qualified voters shall be:

27 "Are you in favor of amending article 11 of the first part of the constitution to read as follows:

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15 payment of any tax. Every inhabitant of the state, having the proper qualifications, has equal right
16 to be elected into office. All elections in New Hampshire shall be conducted by ranked-choice voting,
17 the procedure of which shall be determined by the general court.”

18 V. That the secretary of state shall print the question to be submitted on a separate ballot or
19 on the same ballot with other constitutional questions. The ballot containing the question shall
20 include 2 squares next to the question allowing the voter to vote “Yes” or “No.” If no cross is made in
21 either of the squares, the ballot shall not be counted on the question. The outside of the ballot shall
22 be the same as the regular official ballot except that the words “Questions Relating to Constitutional
23 Amendments proposed by the 2022 General Court” shall be printed in bold type at the top of the
24 ballot.

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

27 VII. Voters' Guide.

28 AT THE PRESENT TIME, the procedure for elections in the state of New Hampshire
29 is provided for in the statutes.

30 IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED, all elections within the state will be
31 conducted using ranked-choice voting, the exact procedure of which will be determined by the
32 legislature.