



**League of Women Voters  
New Hampshire**

April 6, 2016

Senator Regina Birdsell, Chair  
Public and Municipal Affairs Committee  
Re: HB 1482, AN ACT relative to the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck Program

Dear Senator Birdsell and members of the committee,

The League of Women Voters NH is a nonpartisan organization that works to encourage citizens to take an interest in politics and to vote. After study by its members, the League often advocates for legislation and public policies that serve the public interest.

The League supports keeping our voter database up-to-date but we oppose adopting the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck Program because it is based on poor methodology and does not adequately safeguard the rights of qualified voters. The program's reliance on a data match of just name and birthdate has resulted in so many false matches that some states, including Florida, have dropped out of the program.

New Hampshire currently works with other New England states to share voter registration information. Most of New Hampshire's in and out migration is with the other New England states. We recommend a study of this arrangement to see how it is working and how it could be improved before moving on to another program with states that have little interaction with New Hampshire in terms of migration patterns.

We're also concerned because the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck Program was created and is controlled by partisan elected officials. There are studies and pilot interstate voter registration crosscheck programs that are being done on a nonpartisan basis. ERIC, designed by the nonpartisan Pew Charitable Trust and IBM, has won high praise for the accuracy of its program which uses data from multiple sources to reduce incorrect matches. If the legislature wishes to expand crosschecks beyond New England it should look to nonpartisan, multifaceted programs.

The League of Women Voters NH urges the committee to reject the amended HB 1482 which eliminated the study committee called for in the original bill. Thank you,

Liz Tentarelli, co-president  
Joan Flood Ashwell, election law specialist  
League of Women Voters NH  
[www.LWVNH.org](http://www.LWVNH.org)