

From: OPEN DEMOCRACY

See table of bill hearing info below summaries.

This Tuesday, there are 4 bills we urge you to take action on being heard before the Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee. These weekly actions and more are also posted on our Open Democracy Action [Team Member Toolkit Page](#).

First, we encourage you to **oppose** the non-germane amendment proposed for [HB 464](#), prohibiting certain candidates for political office from participating in counting ballots. While the bill seeks to improve election security, the amendment is not ready for prime time. It allows for the voter registration database to link with vital state records (birth, death, marriage, and divorce documents), the Department of Safety, and the Social Security Administration - but in section 5 line 19, conversely states that, "access to such data shall not relieve the responsibility to provide appropriate proof of voter qualifications". This seems to make an **otherwise good idea redundant**, and could use some reconsideration. It also **decreases transparency** by reducing public access to identifying information for low-dollar contributors, which could potentially obscure the origins of smaller-scale, but cumulatively significant, fundraising.

Next, we urge you to **oppose** [HB 367](#), which seeks to change the method for adopting partisan town elections to be the same as rescinding partisan town elections. This opens the door to more partisan local elections at a time when our communities desperately need unity, not division.

We encourage you to **support** [HB 67](#), relative to agreements with the secretary of state for the use of accessible voting systems. This is an essential step toward ensuring that every eligible voter, regardless of physical ability, can participate fully in our democratic process. This legislation transitions the state's accessible voting systems from a temporary pilot program to a permanent requirement, mandating that all cities, towns, and school districts using official ballots provide at least one accessible voting system at each polling place.

Finally, we urge you to **support** [HB 546](#), relative to financial disclosures and the public reporting of those disclosures by the secretary of state. This would enhance transparency and accountability by mandating that legislators disclose any contributions of \$1,000 or more from industries or political action committees within 30 days. Additionally, it requires candidates who receive over \$1,000 in campaign funds to submit monthly receipts to the Secretary of State, who will then provide summaries to the Legislative Ethics Committee.

Below is a list of all the bills being heard Tuesday May 6th, the time and location of their hearing, the link to sign in on them online, and our recommendation on whether to support or oppose.

Support or Oppose?	Bill	Action *Click for Links*
Oppose	HB 464	Public Hearing: 5/6/2025 at 9:15 a.m.

	amendment #2025-1807s	Location: Legislative Office Building Committee: Senate Election Law
Oppose 	<u>HB 367</u> changing the method for adopting partisan town elections to be the same as rescinding partisan town elections	Public Hearing: 5/6/2025 at 9:30 a.m. Location: Legislative Office Building Committee: Senate Election Law <u>Link to Sign in on Senate Bills</u>
Support 	<u>HB 67</u> relative to agreements with the secretary of state for the use of accessible voting systems	Public Hearing: 5/6/2025 at 10:00 a.m. Location: Legislative Office Building Committee: Senate Election Law <u>Link to Sign in on Senate Bills</u>
Support 	<u>HB 546</u> relative to financial disclosures and the public reporting of those disclosures by the secretary of state.	Public Hearing: 5/6/2025 at 10:15 a.m. Location: Legislative Office Building Committee: Senate Election Law <u>Link to Sign in on Senate Bills</u>

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