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H.261

Introduced by Representatives Devereux of Mount Holly, Atkins of Winooski,
Branagan of Georgia, Evans of Essex, French of Shrewsbury,
Marcotte of Coventry, Martin of Wolcott, Myers of Essex,
Perley of Enosburgh, Potter of Clarendon, Reis of St.
Johnsbury, Shaw of Pittsford, Stevens of Shoreham, Townsend
of Randolph and Winters of Williamstown

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Municipal government; elections; listers; residency

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to allow municipalities to elect or
appoint nonresident listers.

An act relating to allowing towns to replace elected listers with appointed
appraisers

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2646 is amended to read:

§ 2646. TOWN OFFICERS; QUALIFICATION; ELECTION

At the annual meeting, a town shall choose from among its legally qualified
voters the following town officers, who shall serve until the next annual
meeting and until successors are chosen, unless otherwise provided by law:

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(5) One lister for a term of three years who shall be elected by ballot,
unless the town has voted to eliminate the office of lister in accordance with
the provisions of section 2651d of this title;

* * *

Sec. 2. 17 V.S.A. § 2651d is added to read:

§ 2651d. ELIMINATION OF OFFICE OF LISTER; APPOINTMENT OF
APPRAISER

(a) A town may vote at an annual meeting to eliminate the office of town
lister. If a town votes to eliminate the office of town lister, the selectboard
shall contract with a person, firm, or corporation approved by the director of
property valuation and review pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4052 or appoint a
professionally qualified real estate appraiser. The contracted person, firm, or
corporation or the appointee shall have the same powers, discharge the same
duties, proceed in the discharge thereof in the same manner, and be subject to
the same liabilities as are prescribed for listers or the board of listers under the
provisions of Title 32.

(b) A vote to eliminate the office of town lister shall remain in effect until
rescinded by majority vote of the legal voters present and voting at an annual
meeting duly warned for that purpose.

1 (c) The term of office of any lister in office on the date a town votes to
2 eliminate that office shall expire on March 31 after the vote or on the date upon
3 which the selectboard enters into a contract with a person, firm, or corporation
4 or appoints an appraiser under this section, whichever occurs later.

5 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on passage.