

1 H.708

2 Introduced by Representative Greshin of Warren

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Elections; petitions; candidate nominations; municipal meeting
6 articles; electronic signatures

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to permit
8 petitions for candidate nominations and for municipal meeting articles to be
9 signed with electronic signatures.

10 An act relating to electronic signatures in election petitions

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

12 Sec. 1. 24 V.S.A. § 2291 is amended to read:

13 § 2291. ENUMERATION OF POWERS

14 For the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, welfare, and
15 convenience, a town, city, or incorporated village shall have the following
16 powers:

17 * * *

18 (26) To establish rules by which petitions for municipal meeting articles
19 and for nominating municipal officers may be signed by electronic signature in

1 a manner consistent with the provisions of 9 V.S.A. chapter 20 (uniform
2 electronic transactions act).

3 Sec. 2. 17 V.S.A. § 2354 is amended to read:

4 § 2354. SIGNING PETITIONS

5 (a) Any number of voters may sign the same petition.

6 (b)(1) A voter's signature shall not be valid unless at the time he or she
7 signs the voter is registered and qualified to vote for the candidate whose
8 petition he or she signs. Each voter shall indicate his or her town of residence
9 next to his signature.

10 (2) A voter's signature may be in the form of an electronic signature
11 which is in compliance with rules for electronic signatures adopted by the
12 Secretary of State.

13 (c) The signature of a voter on a candidate's petition does not necessarily
14 indicate that the voter supports the candidate.

15 (d) A voter shall not sign more than one petition for the same office, unless
16 more than one nomination is to be made, in which case he or she may sign as
17 many petitions as there are nominations to be made for the same office.

18 (e) A petition shall contain the name of only one candidate.

