

1 H.504

2 Introduced by Representatives Goslant of Northfield and Donahue of

3 Northfield

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Municipal government; municipal charters; Town of Berlin;

7 amendments

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to amend the  
9 charter of the Town of Berlin to eliminate the Town Clerk as an elected office  
10 and instead allow the Town Selectboard to appoint a Town Clerk. This bill  
11 also proposes to amend the Town charter to authorize the Town Treasurer,  
12 upon approval of the Selectboard, to waive the personal property or inventory  
13 tax when the total assessed value of the personal property or inventory is equal  
14 to or less than \$1,650.00.

15 An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of  
16 Berlin

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

2 Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL

3 The General Assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the Town  
4 of Berlin as set forth in this act. The voters approved the proposals of  
5 amendment on November 8, 2022.

6 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 105 is amended to read:

7 CHAPTER 105. TOWN OF BERLIN

8 \* \* \*

9 § 42. ELECTED OFFICERS

10 The following officers of the Town and such other Town officers as are  
11 provided by law and previous vote of the electorate as to number, length of  
12 term, and manner of election at an annual meeting shall be elected by  
13 Australian ballot, unless otherwise stated, and shall include the following:

14 (1) a Moderator to be elected from the floor, for a term of one year;

15 (2) ~~a Town Clerk, for a term of three years; [Repealed.]~~

16 (3) Selectboard members, three of whom shall serve staggered three-  
17 year terms and two of whom shall serve one-year terms;

18 (4) such other Town officers as the Town shall order as provided by law.

19 \* \* \*

20 § 44. APPOINTED OFFICERS

21 \* \* \*

1 (b) The Selectboard shall appoint, recommend, or approve, as applicable,  
2 the appointment of the following officers who will serve at the pleasure of the  
3 Selectboard, following the notice and warning as required by this charter and  
4 the Administrative Code:

5 \* \* \*

6 (10) Administrative Assistant to the Public Works Board; and

7 (11) Town Clerk.

8 \* \* \*

9 § 73. PENALTY FOR DELINQUENT INSTALLMENTS AND PERSONAL  
10 PROPERTY OR INVENTORY TAXATION

11 \* \* \*

12 (c) When the total assessed value of personal property or inventory  
13 ~~taxation~~ is equal to or less than \$1,650.00, the Town Treasurer may, upon  
14 approval of the Selectboard, waive the personal property or inventory taxation.

15 \* \* \*

16 Sec. 3. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION; APPOINTED TOWN CLERK

17 On the effective date of this act, any elected Town Clerk in office shall  
18 continue to serve until the end of the Town Clerk's term or an earlier date that  
19 the Selectboard appoints a Town Clerk.

20 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

21 This act shall take effect on passage.