



June 8, 2022

Governor Chris Sununu
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Sununu,

We are writing to express our concerns over the provisions of New Hampshire Senate Bill 418 (SB-418) that will adversely affect our military service members' ability to exercise their right to vote by absentee ballot.

The provisions within SB-418 that extend the time for certification of vote totals will result in a three day overlap between the day military absentee ballots must be sent to military members per federal law under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) and the last day for New Hampshire local election officials to certify vote totals. Per SB-418, September 21, 2024 is the deadline for UOCAVA ballots to be sent out and September 24, 2024 is the last day for local election officials to certify the vote totals.

SB-418 as currently written establishes a complicated process that may restrict voting access guaranteed to our military service members by federal law and make it impossible for local election officials to certify the primary election and send general election ballots to active duty military voters in time to comply with the 45 day requirement mandated by UOCAVA.

For this reason, unless there is some way to address these concerns, we urge you to veto SB-418 and request the State of New Hampshire legislature find a solution that does not jeopardize the right to vote of our military service members. Our military members support and defend our Constitution every day around the world, and we ask that you defend their right to vote.

Signed,

Gen. Tony Zinni, USMC (ret.), former Commander, US Central Command
Adm. Steve Abbot, USN (ret.), former Acting Homeland Security Advisor to the President
Secretary Louis Caldera, 17th Secretary of the Army
Secretary Debbie Lee James, 23rd Secretary of the Air Force
Secretary Sean O'Keefe, 69th Secretary of the Navy
Gen. George Casey, USA (ret.), 36th Chief of Staff of the US Army
Adm. Jim Loy, USCG (ret.), former Acting Secretary of Homeland Security
Gen. John Jumper, USAF (ret.), 17th Chief of Staff of the US Air Force
Adm. Thad Allen, USCG (ret.), 23rd Commandant of the US Coast Guard
Gen. Craig McKinley, USAF (ret.), 26th Chief of the National Guard Bureau

Count Every Hero is a nonpartisan Count Every Hero is a cross-partisan initiative that originally formed as a response to misinformation campaigns during the 2020 elections that threatened service-members' freedom to vote and have their votes counted. We are motivated by the Constitution, which created a republic where political power is vested in the American people. As veterans, our oath and devotion to the Constitution drives us to ensure that no policy or politician weakens that power.