



Measure #: 2024-048

TOWN COUNCIL MEASURE SUBMITTAL

Date: 01/22/2024

Submitted By: Town Manager

Telephone #: 508-699-0100

MEASURE DESCRIPTION:

Approval for Elections Department to "Opt Out of Mail in Ballots" for the Upcoming Election in April 2024

Signed: Michael Borg Digitally signed by Michael Borg
Date: 2024.01.21 15:25:01 -05'00'

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION:

Purpose:

To request an exemption from mail-in ballots for the April 2024 Town election.

Justification:

The timeline for preparing and distributing mail-in ballots for the Town election is closely aligned with the demanding schedule of the Presidential Primary election in March. The process begins 33 days prior to the Town election, involving a meticulous setup and approval procedure with Elections Systems & Software, followed by a printing phase. This concurrent scheduling poses significant challenges in ensuring the timely receipt of ballots by the Elections office, especially early voting and absentee ballots. Upon receipt, each ballot undergoes a rigorous accuracy check before being dispatched to voters. This overlapping timeframe creates an intensive workload, heightening the risk of errors in processing and mailing the ballots. Moreover, it compresses the period available for voters to receive, complete, and return their ballots, potentially impacting the integrity and efficiency of the voting process. Therefore, opting out of mail-in ballots is proposed to mitigate these risks and ensure a smooth and error-free election process.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Requires a Public Hearing

ATTACHMENTS:

REFER TO SUB-COMMITTEE:

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PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION CONTINUED:

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