

From: [Bristol Clerk](#)
To: [Bristol Town Administrator](#)
Subject: FW: S.172 signed by Governor - in effect
Date: Monday, January 17, 2022 8:29:27 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)

FYI

Sharon Lucia
Town Clerk
Town of Bristol
PO Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
802.453.2410 x5
clerk@bristolvt.org
www.bristolvt.org

NOTE: We are now open to the public. Our new office hours are Monday – Thursday - 8 am to 4:30 pm. The office is CLOSED on Fridays. Appointments are still required for research in the Land Records.

Please note that this email message, along with any response or reply, is considered a public record, and thus, subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Law ([1 V.S.A. §§ 315-320](#)).

From: Carol Dawes <cdawes@barrecity.org>
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2022 3:48 PM
To: Carol Dawes <cdawes@barrecity.org>
Subject: S.172 signed by Governor - in effect

Hi all clerks,

Governor Scott has signed [S.172](#), which provides the following emergency options for town meeting:

- Enables municipalities to move town meeting to a different date later in the year,
- Enables municipalities to switch from floor meetings to Australian ballot voting.

Please click on the link and read the bill for details.

We hope Gov. Scott will sign [S.222](#) and [S.223](#) early next week.

Stay warm this weekend,

Carol

Carolyn S. Dawes CVC CVT
Barre City Clerk/Treasurer
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(802) 476-0242
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State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

For Immediate Release

Friday, January 14, 2022

Contact:

Jason Maulucci, Press Secretary
Office of the Governor
Jason.Maulucci@vermont.gov

ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNOR PHIL SCOTT ON LEGISLATION

Montpelier, Vt. - Governor Phil Scott announced action on the following bill, passed by the General Assembly.

On January 14, Governor Scott signed [S.172](#), *An act relating to authorizing alternative procedures for 2022 annual municipal meetings in response to COVID-19*, and sent the following signing letter to the General Assembly:

Dear Legislators:

Today, I signed S. 172, *An act relating to authorizing alternative procedures for 2022 annual municipal meetings in response to COVID-19* because I believe public concerns regarding large gatherings may discourage some who would otherwise participate in Town Meetings and alternative arrangements will help increase voter turnout.

Unfortunately, the Legislature has missed another opportunity to expand voter access further by expanding automatic mailing of ballots beyond general elections (Act 60) to include school budget votes, local elections and primary elections. Last year after signing Act 60 into law, I asked the Legislature to take this up when they returned in January, and if passed could be a model for the country.

General elections already have the highest voter turnout. What we need is increased voter participation for elections like those on Town Meeting Day or school budget votes, which experience a fraction of the turnout of general elections.

I ask the Legislature to begin work with the Secretary of State to establish a timeline and process to achieve the universal, proactive mailing of ballots to registered voters for **ALL** elections in Vermont. Please know I'm willing to work with you to fund this initiative.

Sincerely,

/s/

Philip B. Scott
Governor

To view a complete list of action on bills passed in 2022, [click here](#).

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