

Dear Members of Ballot Law Commission

My name is Tara Faunce and I am a Newbury resident aiming to be undeclared candidate for State Representative of District 7, New London/Newbury in the coming November elections.

With this note, I am requesting to meet with Ballot Law Commission to discuss two of my nomination forms that were signed by District 7 voters but failed inspection, and therefore left me short of achieving the 150-nomination goal. I believe, thanks to the support of my town and the voters concerned, the issue has since been corrected and I wish to present these nominations to you.

Please let me provide some background.

- On July 27th, I submitted 96 nomination forms to the Newbury Town Hall. On July 28th, I submitted 67 nomination forms to the New London Town. Therefore, 163 forms were submitted.
- My intention of the submitting prior to the August 11 deadline was to receive feedback from the towns early in case further signatures would be required.
- August 3rd, Newbury informed me that of the 96 forms submitted, only four (or 4%) were deemed invalid. This low 4% rejection gave me more confidence in not triggering my contingency.
- August 11th, New London reviewed the 67 forms. I was very surprised to hear that 11 (or 16%) were deemed invalid.
- This left me two signatures short of the 150-nomination requirement to be on the ballot.

Since August 11, I have been working with New London town clerk's office and have found them very supportive and cooperative.

Through our discussions, I discovered that most of the 11 invalid New London signatures were due to a purge of the voter registration system. Residents that had not voted in the 2020 election were sent a town letter asking them to acknowledge their intent to stay voters and were removed if they did not respond.

Upon further investigation, I learned that the voters concerned were not aware of their removal. These voters include two owners of a local business, who have continuously shown good will and support of local causes and actively participated in town activities and petitions. Since learning of their status, these two business owners have re-registered themselves as voters.

It is these two signatures/nominations that I humbly seek your support to accept as valid. This would allow me to claim 150-nominations and thus lead to my candidacy for the November ballot.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tara M. Faunce