

November 12, 1999

William Gardner, Secretary of State
State of New Hampshire
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Dear Mr. Gardner:

I call your attention to the Special State Primary Election Held in Raymond on November 2, 1999; to fill the Representative seat vacated by Richard Dolan.

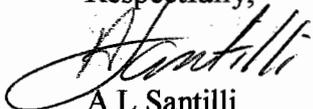
I would like to have you rule on the validity of the posting of the meeting and therefore the legality of the votes cast.

According to RSA655: 12 (Posting of the Notice of the Primary) within the posting notice **the location of the central polling place shall be listed**. In the posting that was posted at the Iber Holmes Gove Middle School, a copy is attached, the only notice that is made is that the Special State Primary will be held in **the voting place in Raymond**. There is **no identification of the polling place**. This would perhaps be acceptable and be able to be remedied by the provisions of RSA31:5-b if it were not that the polling place was moved to another location in town with out any warning to the voters whatsoever. Granted, there was a small item in the local paper the Friday before the election, in the Union Leader the day of the election and a large sign at the entrance to the Iber Holmes Gove Middle School the day of the election? However, this does not meet the posting requirements.

What makes the issue more confusing is that all references to the change in the polling place referred to the new location as "the old Rite Aid Building." The Rite Aid Store has been relocated for at least three years and those voters new to town would have no idea where this location is. Furthermore, in the last several years there have been attempts to move the polling place to the local high school from the middle school and each time the voters have resoundingly made it known they didn't want the polling place changed.

As a recount of the election is scheduled for Tuesday November 9, I would hope that a Ruling on the validity of this election could be made with all due dispatch.

Respectfully,



A.L. Santilli
P.O.Box 61
Raymond, NH 03077

RECEIVED

NOV 15 1999

**NEW HAMPSHIRE
SECRETARY OF STATE**