

Here are some bills League will follow. Of the over 1100 LSRs (proposed bills) submitted by legislators in NH, only a fraction have had the actual text written (as of Dec. 31, 2018). A few LSRs that we wait for are listed at the end of this document. We didn't go thru the list carefully to find others, but surely will once the session starts and bills are assigned to committees. Note that proposed Constitutional Amendments and Resolutions are listed after the bills below.

## **ELECTION LAW**

HB105 modifies language on **voter registration forms** (cancelling some of SB3) and corrects domicile issues (League would *support*)

HB106 reverses language re **voting eligibility** that HB1264 messed with in 2018 (*LWV support*)

HB145 and 146 re counting **ballots** even if voters mark them incorrectly but intent is evident

HB242 clarifies the procedure used to fill vacancies in the office of state representative. (**Election Law**) Sponsor is League member Jan Schmidt, Nashua

## **EDUCATION**

HB149 allows reconsideration of funding formulas in co-op school districts (**education funding**)

HB 169 requires all public schools to submit annual reports to the department of education detailing the policies and procedures that are in place to identify and accommodate the needs of **gifted students**. (a holdover from last session, we think)

HB289 (**educ; separation of church & state**) repeals the provision permitting school districts to authorize the recitation of the Lord's prayer in public elementary schools under RSA 194:15.

HB 170 **Civics Instruction**. Amend RSA 189:11, II to read as follows [brackets indicate deletion]:  
II. As a component of instruction under paragraph I, a locally developed competency assessment of United States government and civics that includes, but is not limited to, the nature, purpose, structure, function, and history of the United States government, the rights and responsibilities of citizens, and noteworthy government and civic leaders, shall be administered to students as part of the required high school course in history and government of the United States and New Hampshire. [Students who attain a passing grade on the competency assessment shall be eligible for a certificate issued by the school district. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) test may be used to satisfy the requirement of this paragraph.] To be eligible for a graduation certificate, a student shall attain a locally sanctioned passing grade on the competency assessment, and a grade of 70 percent or better on the 100 question civics (history and government) naturalization examination developed by the United States Citizen and Immigration Services. Schools may modify the naturalization examination for a child with a disability in accordance with the child's individualized education program. By June 30 of each year, each school district shall submit the results of [either] the locally developed competency assessment of United States government and civics [or] and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) test to the department of education. (*League has looked at the topic of civics education and believes there are far better ways of developing civic awareness in students than studying for the citizenship test. In 2018 a bill requiring a semester course in civics passed but didn't specify the assessment tools. This mandates the citizenship test be included.*)

HB 175 **School Building Aid** (modifies some language re applications; does not seem to make appropriations.) Establishes a timeline for school districts to apply for building aid grants. Clarifies information to be provided in building aid applications. Provides for emergency projects.

HB 176 (makes appropriation for above; brackets indicate current language to be dropped) Beginning July 1, [2013] 2020, and every fiscal year thereafter, **school building aid grants** for construction or renovation projects approved by the department of education shall [not exceed] **not be less than \$50,000,000** per fiscal year [less any debt service payments owed in the fiscal year, unless otherwise provided by an act of the general court]. In addition, each fiscal year, there is hereby appropriated to the department of education for the purpose of making school building aid grants pursuant to this chapter, an amount equal to the difference between \$50,000,000 and the state operating budget appropriation for building aid-education, ...The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. [School building aid grants shall be funded from appropriations in the state operating budget and] No state bonds shall be authorized or issued for the purpose of funding such school building aid grants.

HB254 (**school building aid**) changes the amount which operators may retain from meals and rooms taxes collected. The bill continually appropriates certain meals and rooms tax revenues for school building aid grants.

HB177 **Education Stabilization Grants:** (seems to keep stabilization grants, changing the current declining by 4% per year status) This bill limits the education grant to each municipality for fiscal year 2020 and thereafter to an amount equal to the total education grant to that municipality for the fiscal year in which the grant is calculated plus the amount of the fiscal year 2018 stabilization grant to that municipality.

HB184 **Education Funding** increases funding for pupils attending full-day **kindergarten** programs, deletes the portion of kindergarten funding that is based on Keno revenue.

HB269 (**education**) deletes a provision which prohibited the state board of education from denying a **chartered public school** application based on lack of state funding.

HB222 (**Education**) requires the teaching staff of a **chartered public school** to consist of a minimum of 75 percent of teachers licensed by the state of New Hampshire.

#### **TAXES:**

HB182 establishes a **commission** to study adaptation of the **tax structure** of the state to economic and demographic change

HB207 enables municipalities to adopt an **education property tax credit** for individuals over 55 years of age who have no children in the public school system. (also HB129, age 65+, cap on ed prop taxes)

HB266 changes the residency requirement for the elderly **property tax exemption** from 3 to 10 consecutive years

HB241 clarifies the tax collection exemption from attachment or liability that applies to the **homestead right**, and provides that a municipality's failure to send notice of the exemption in certain cases doubles the exemption amount.

HB265 (**Taxes**) states that no New Hampshire business shall be required to collect sales taxes for a foreign jurisdiction unless mandated by Congress. (does this apply to interstate sales taxes??)

**OTHER:**

HB198 repeals the prohibition on texting while driving. (**public safety**)

HB156 create commission to study establishing a NH dept of **energy**

HB202 (**campaign finance reform**) requires that any presidential primary candidate file 5 years' worth of his or her federal income tax returns along with his or her declaration of candidacy to the secretary of state, and requires the secretary of state to certify and make publicly available such tax returns.

HB216 changing **legislators' mileage reimbursement formula**. Fiscal note states: This bill amends RSA 14:15-a by removing section II which currently allows members of the General Court to elect the maximum rate established in the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and Regulations (currently \$0.545 per mile) for their mileage reimbursements. Members will only have the option to receive \$0.38 per mile for the first 45 miles and \$0.19 for all miles in excess of 45. The proposal also adds a new section stating no deductions of any kind shall be made from compensation or mileage reimbursements for members of the House of Representatives. The Legislative Branch indicates as of December 1, 2018, approximately 90 percent of House members elect mileage reimbursement at the \$0.545 rate established in the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and Regulations. Mileage for one day with all members in attendance currently costs approximately \$16,270. At \$0.38 per mile for the first 45 miles and \$0.19 for all miles in excess of 45, the new cost would be approximately \$8,980, or a decrease in general fund expenditures of \$7,290 per day (\$16,270 - \$8,980 = \$7,290). The total estimated expenditure is indeterminable based on variables which include the number of members in attendance on any given day and the number of days each member might be in attendance during their term.

HB253 (**criminal justice**) prohibits employers from asking a job applicant about his or her criminal history prior to an interview.

HB229 (**Dept of Corrections**) removes the rulemaking exemptions for the department of corrections and requires various policies and procedures of the agency to be adopted by rules under RSA 541-A.

HB178 **Minimum wage** of \$10 per hr Also HB186-- \$9.50. Also LSR 2019-0761.

HB180 establishes a commission to examine the feasibility of the New England states entering into a compact for a **single payer health care program**.

HB277 (**healthcare**) establishes a commission to study a public option program for health insurance in NH.

HB 161 **Caller Identification; Blocking and Misleading Information Prohibited**. No person using an automated telephone dialing system or any other method for solicitation shall use any method, including per-call blocking or per-line blocking, to prevent caller identification information from being received by the called party station. The caller identification information shall contain a telephone number at which the telephone solicitor may receive telephone calls and shall not contain misleading, inaccurate, or deceptive information. (*including this only because nuisance calls are a pet peeve*)

(As of Dec. 31, 2018, looks like no Senate LSRs have been posted with completed text.)

**CACR1** portion of liquor \$ goes to alcohol/drug prevention

**CACR 2** Allows Legislature to increase its pay with Exec Council approval.

**CACR4** provides that the people of the state have the right of **local, community self-government**. (Sponsor is League member Jan Schmidt) In part it reads giving to municipalities the right: “to enact local laws that protect health, safety, and welfare by recognizing or establishing rights of natural persons, their local communities, and nature; and by securing those rights using prohibitions and other means deemed necessary by the community, including measures to establish, define, alter, or eliminate competing rights, powers, privileges, immunities, or duties of corporations and other business entities operating, or seeking to operate, in the community. Local laws adopted pursuant to this article shall not weaken existing protections for, or constrict the fundamental rights of, natural persons, or their local communities, or nature, as those protections and rights are secured by local, state, federal, or international law.” (*Note: Ellen Read et al have another LSR for a CACR that may be similar, no text yet posted as of 12/30/18.*)

**CACR 5** 17-year olds who will be eligible to vote in the general election may vote in that election's primary election.

**CACR 6** any qualified voter who desires to vote by absentee ballot may do so.

**HR 6** (Resolution) urges the United States to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war.

**HCR1 RESOLUTION** rescinding all requests by the New Hampshire legislature for a federal **constitutional convention**. SPONSORS: Rep. Notter, Hills. 21; Rep. D. Thomas, Rock. 5; Rep. Baldasaro, Rock. 5; Rep. Potucek, Rock. 6 COMMITTEE: Legislative Administration. This concurrent resolution rescinds all requests by the New Hampshire legislature for a federal constitutional convention. (*League asked to support by national League—our nat’l position—see Positions page of LWVNH.org*)

**We wait for text and bill numbers on these proposed bills:**

**LSR 2019-0220** waiting period purchase of **firearms**

**LSR 2019-0614 CACR** prohibiting a **tax on personal income**

**LSR 2019-0614** re **funding adequate education** (Marjorie Porter sponsor)

**LSR 2019--0789 HCR** resolution calling for Congress to amend constitution re term limits

**LSR 2019-0823 HCR** resolution urging the president and Congress to adopt a policy renouncing the first use of nuclear weapons.