

**If this week's legislative alert from the League of Women Voters NH is difficult to read in your email, you may read the same notice on our website at this link, where it is a friendly pdf.**

**Jan. 15-22** will be a busy week for committees in the House. The Senate has only one committee hearing bills next week: TRANSPORTATION in Room 103, LOB, presentations by the Depts of Transportation and Safety in the afternoon.

League of Women Voters NH is highlighting here the hearings on election law and education coming up. We've also included some bills on taxation on Wed. Jan. 16 and a bill about sanctuary cities and a CACR about drug/alcohol abuse prevention on Thurs. Jan. 17. The full calendar for House and Senate hearings can be accessed from the Legislature's website. <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/>

The bills listed below will be heard by committees in the coming week. The public is welcome to attend, to testify, to sign in as supporting or opposing. See last week's Legislative Alert from LWNH for more about the process. LOB = Legislative Office Bldg, across the street behind the state house.

### **Tuesday, Jan. 15**

HOUSE & SENATE joint EDUCATION committees, Rooms 205-207, LOB **Presentations:**

10:00 a.m. Commissioner Edelblut and Drew Cline (St. Bd of Educ chair)

10:45 a.m. Chancellor Gittell (Community College System)

11:30 a.m. Chancellor Leach (College & University System)

1:00 p.m. Caitlin Davis, Department of Education, School Funding

HOUSE ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB

10:00 a.m. CACR 5 [*proposed constitutional amendment*], providing that **17 year olds** who will be eligible to vote in the general election **be permitted to vote on that election's primary election.**

10:30 a.m. HB 242, re special elections. [clarifies the **procedure used to fill vacancies** in the office of state representative]

11:00 a.m. HB 315, repealing the authority to share voter information or data with other sites [specifically **Crosscheck**, which is prone to false positive identifications of voters registered in more than one place, resulting in deletion from voter roles of many eligible voters]- *League supports. Our apologies; last week we gave you the wrong date for this bill's hearing.*

1:30 p.m. HB 147, increases the time frame to appeal an **election recount.**

2:00 p.m. CACR 6, [*proposed constitutional amendment*] providing that any inhabitant who so desires may vote by **absentee ballot** in primary and general elections. *Some other bills about broadening eligibility for absentee voting will be coming in the next month or so as well.*

### **Wednesday, Jan. 16**

HOUSE EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB

10:30 a.m. HB 149, relative to the apportionment of costs in cooperative school districts.

11:00 a.m. HB 164, "requires school principals to report certain student behavior to the school board...also requires school boards to include reports of certain student behavior in the school board minutes." Includes bullying, violence, theft, etc. Would make these reports more publicly accessible.

11:15 a.m. HB 169, requiring school districts to submit an annual report concerning **gifted students.**

11:30 a.m. HB 181, relative to the house and senate members of the university system board of trustees.

1:00 p.m. HB 170, requiring a **civics examination** as a high school requirement. (*League thinks there are better ways of assessing students regarding civics and civic engagement than the suggested citizen test.*)

1:15 p.m. HB 171, establishing a commission to study equal access and opportunity for **students with disabilities to participate in athletics.**

HOUSE MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB

11:00 a.m. HB 145, provides that a ballot shall not be disregarded for failure to follow instructions if the voter's intent is clear.

11:20 a.m. HB 146, relative to the **counting of defective ballots**. (see above)

HOUSE STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, Room 206, LOB

1:00 p.m. HR 6 [*House Resolution*], urging the United States to lead a global effort to **prevent nuclear war**.

2:00 p.m. HCR 5 [*House Concurrent Resolution*], requesting the US Congress to propose a **constitutional amendment** to reverse the ruling of the US Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*.

HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS, Room 202, LOB

10:00 a.m. HB 182, establishing a commission to study adaptation of the **tax structure** of the state to economic and demographic change.

11:00 a.m. HB 185-FN-A-L, This bill contingently reduces the rate of the **interest and dividends tax** depending on state general fund revenues, and repeals the tax on December 31, 2024.

11:30 a.m. HB 117-FN, increasing exemptions under the interest and dividends **tax** and decreasing the total amount of research and development credits against business taxes.

2:00 p.m. HB 265, [states that no NH business shall be required to collect **sales taxes** for a foreign jurisdiction unless mandated by Congress.]

#### **Thursday, Jan. 17**

HOUSE EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB (*lots of school funding bills in this hearing—unrealistic to expect they will keep to the proposed schedule today*)

10:00 a.m. HB 175, requirements for **school building aid grants**. Includes establishing a timeline for school districts to apply for building aid grants, Clarifies information to be provided in building aid applications. Provides for emergency projects.

10:30 a.m. HB 176-FN-A, grants for **school building aid and making an appropriation therefor**. “Beginning July 1, 2020, and every fiscal year thereafter, school building aid grants for construction or renovation projects approved by the department of education shall 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, account 06-56-56-561010-6019-77. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. No state bonds shall be authorized or issued for the purpose of funding such school building aid grants.”

11:00 a.m. HB 177-FN, calculation of **stabilization grants**. “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.”

1:00 p.m. HB 184-FN, calculation of **kindergarten** students in the average daily membership and repealing prorated kindergarten funding based on Keno revenues. (*this would treat kindergartners like grades 1-12 in terms of calculating the per pupil state funding to school districts*)

1:30 p.m. HB 356, retention of certain reports by institutions of higher learning.

1:45 p.m. HB 357, relative to the **public school infrastructure fund**, provides that all moneys in the public school infrastructure fund are nonlapsing. (\$100,000,000 in the fund)  
2:00 p.m. HB 222, criteria for **teachers in charter schools** (*currently charter schools don't have the same requirement as other public schools for teacher certification*)  
2:15 p.m. HB 269, grounds for denial of a chartered public school application.  
2:30 p.m. HB 289, "repeals the provision permitting school districts to authorize the recitation of the Lord's **prayer in public elementary schools.**"

#### HOUSE ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB

10:00 a.m. HB 429, establishing a committee to study ways to improve civic engagement in NH  
10:30 a.m. HB 431, re election officers at additional polling places (applies to cities with wards)  
11:00 a.m. HB 452, establishing a **commission on the first-in-the-nation presidential primary.**  
1:00 p.m. HB 374, prohibiting certain state officers from forming **political action committees.**  
1:30 p.m. HB 408-L, relative to **postponement of town meetings and local elections.**

#### HOUSE FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB

1:00 p.m. CACR 1 [*proposed constitutional amendment*] , Providing that a portion of liquor commission revenue be used for **alcohol and drug abuse prevention**

#### MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Rooms 301-303, LOB

1:00 p.m. HB 232-FN-L, "establishes the NH **anti-sanctuary act**, which requires state and local government entities to comply with federal immigration detainer requests. The bill also prohibits state and local government entities from adopting policies that prohibit, restrict, or discourage the enforcement of federal immigration law. "

### Tuesday, Jan. 22

#### HOUSE EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB

10:00 a.m. HB 327-FN-A, making an appropriation to the community college system to continue the **math learning communities program** in partnership with NH high schools.  
11:15 a.m. HB 251, "requires nonpublic schools and any school receiving public funds for tuition, directly or indirectly, to perform criminal history background checks on school employees and designated school volunteers." [*Already required for public schools.*]  
11:45 a.m. HB 258, establishing a committee to study **teacher preparation and education programs**

#### HOUSE ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB

10:00 a.m. HB 202, "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."  
11:00 a.m. HB 440, "requires **candidates for federal office** to disclose federal tax information to be eligible for federal office and requires that information be made available to the public."  
(*League doesn't have specific positions on the two above bills.*)