

## Legislative alert June 5-9, from League of Women Voters NH

Our shortest report yet for 2017, as the session winds down:

The Senate passed its budget on Wednesday, May 31. The House will now need to pass it. If they don't, it will be amended and we'll be back and forth for a while. Eventually the Governor will need to sign it. Ideally this will all be done by the end of June...

**Next House session is Thursday, June 8, at 10 am.** We assume they will consider the budget as passed by the Senate, but no specific bills are listed in the calendar. They will also consider other bills amended by the Senate, we assume. (sorry about all these assumptions—best we can do at this point)

**Next Senate session is also Thursday, June 8, at 10 am.** The House passed some bills on June 1 with amendments, that the Senate may have to consider. This includes SB191, which uses Keno (gambling) to fund full-day kindergarten. Will some bills go to committees of conference perhaps? Again, no specifics on the calendar.

### Senate and House committee meetings in the coming weeks:

Most of the committee meetings are either work sessions on retained bills or regular meetings of various commissions. Below are two meetings that are of interest to the League:

Thursday, June 20, 1 pm (or at end of session) in LOB 207: full committee work session on retained **SB 193-FN**, establishing education freedom savings accounts for students (**the school voucher bill**); and **HB 609-FN-A**, establishing a children's savings account program and making an appropriation therefor. Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

Advance notice for Tuesday, June 20, 1 pm in LOB 207: presentation by the Dept of Education to the joint House and Senate education committees on the draft plan for education as amended by [the federal directive] Every Student Succeed Act.

We have opinions on many other bills that passed or failed, as do many other people and groups. Keep in mind that bills passed in both bodies need to be signed by the Governor to become law, so the public has one more chance to try to influence outcomes. The Governor can be reached at this website: <https://www.governor.nh.gov/contact/index.htm>

As a final note: thank you to all who came out in support of voters' rights by opposing **SB3** (the voter registration domicile bill). The bill passed the House on June 1 by a vote of 191-162, closer than party lines would suggest. We thank those legislators who listened to the many arguments opposing this bill. We are disappointed, to say the least, that the bill passed. On June 1 Governor Sununu issued a press release applauding the House for passing SB3, which he will surely sign.

At this point League will turn our attention to retained election bills and begin our work on education issues.