Legislation Alert from League of Women Voters NH for March 10-12 and a wee bit beyond.

NH House will meet in two long voting sessions, Wed. March 11 and Thursday March 12 beginning at 9 am. Thank you, hard-working Representatives! Senate will also meet both days.

There is a long list of bills on the House Consent Calendar (indicating probably no floor debate) and a very long list of bills on the Regular Calendar, including these of broad or League of Women Voters particular interest.

For some of these bills I have included part of the “blurb” as they call it, the rationale by the majority of committee members for why they recommended the bill a certain way, and sometimes I’ve included a snippet of the minority report as well. The full version of each can be found in House Calendar 10 for March 6. Bills that have been amended by the committee have the amended wording included in the supplemental Calendar 10 A for March 6. These Calendars can be found via this state website: http://gencourt.state.nh.us/house/caljourns/default.aspx

Taken out of order, League wants everyone to know that our priority bill for this year, the creation of an independent advisory redistricting commission, is up for a vote in the House on Wednesday. The link to the bill’s title below is the amended version up for a vote. Here is the full write-up from the Calendar. The time to call your reps and urge a YES vote is now!

**HB 1665-FN-A**, establishing an independent advisory redistricting commission. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 14-6. Rep. Wayne Moynihan for the Majority of Election Law. “Eighty percent of NH voters have expressed agreement that “gerrymandering” during redistricting creates unfair voting districts, and therefore support independent redistricting. The original version of this bill was much like last year’s bill. However, the amended version reduces the role of the independent commission to one of being clearly and solely advisory. It cannot be reasonably construed that this commission is unconstitutional, or otherwise taking over the duties of the legislature. The maps and plans ultimately created by the commission are clearly identified in the statute as being advisory only. All further action on the redistricting plans is in the hands of the legislative process, subject to amendments and redesigns as legislatively determined.

The qualities of the prior legislation are retained in this bill as amended. The fifteen commission members are not elected, and without personal interest in the district designs. Ten members are selected by the legislative leadership of the majority and minority parties. The remaining five members, who must be applicants who are registered to vote as “undeclared,” are selected by the first ten appointees. The commission’s meetings are advertised and open to the public. Any citizen may submit to the commission plans for redistricting created outside of the commission, which it will consider. Preliminary plans and maps shall be publicized and available on a web site, and for media scrutiny, public input and comment.

After the commission’s advisory plan is submitted to the legislature, the commission’s role is complete. This bill will definitively improve the process of decennial redistricting in NH. In prior decades redistricting has regularly involved months of litigation in multiple courts. This bill provides an open and transparent process, as politically neutral and balanced as the limits of human nature allow. It addresses the expectation of NH voters, delivered in testimony, and voluminous correspondence to the committee, that the state use a process for redistricting that is intentionally designed to avoid gerrymandering and use a politically balanced and neutral process designed to give voters the true power of their vote to decide who their representatives will be, rather than a process whereby elected representatives select who their voters will be.”
Rep. Katherine Prudhomme-O’Bien for the Minority of Election Law. “The NH Constitution states in Article 11, Part 2 that “The legislature shall form the representative districts at the regular session following every decennial federal census.” Any group of persons is now able to form and share their opinion on redistricting with the legislature, new legislation is not needed to allow this. If the people of New Hampshire believe their representatives have abused the redistricting process, they are free to seek other representation, as they have done in the past. This is the most effective and direct form of checks and balances upon this process available.” [This is the League’s priority bill this session. We had hoped for a unanimous Ought To Pass recommendation. Four of the 6 dissenters were not regular committee members, unfamiliar with the hard work that has gone into this bill by both parties. Please ask your representatives to vote YES on HB 1665.]

This Legislative Alert goes on for another 7 and half pages, too long to send as email. You may read the entire alert as a pdf on our website LWVNH.org “Hot Legislation”

Now back to the order in the Calendar:

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
HB 1350, requiring a locking safety device be provided for commercial firearm sales and transfers. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. Vote 12-8 “This bill is unnecessary as federal law mandates the inclusion of these devices with all new firearms. Mandating that they be included with used and private sales is a gross intrusion into the citizen’s rights to conduct private business and would create the first government mandate that an accessory be included with the private sale of any product. “

HB 1608-FN, prohibiting the manufacture, sale, transfer, and possession of large capacity ammunition feeding devices. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 11-9 “This bill would allow people who legally own these devices at present to continue to legally own them. However, it would prohibit their sale, transfer, or acquisition after passage of the bill”...[minority report] “It is the opinion of the minority that this law is unconstitutional. The exact same law was struck down just last year in the State of California.(See Duncan v. Becerra, 366 F. Supp.)”

HB 1613-FN, allowing prisoners serving life sentences to be eligible for parole after 25 years. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. Vote 15-5 “Although this bill is well intended, with the exception of the one prisoner on death row or someone who is convicted of murder while serving a sentence in a correctional facility, this bill makes all criminals eligible for parole after serving 25 years which includes first degree murder.” [minority report points out this would require a parole review only, not an automatic release]

EDUCATION
HB 1251, relative to participation in school sports programs for female student-athletes. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS vote 13-6 [note: this is the bill that would ban transgender students from female sports] see p. 46 of Calendar

HB 1285, relative to possession of firearms on school property. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 12-8. “It is the majority opinion of the committee that state law is not sufficient to enable New Hampshire law enforcement officers to prohibit the possession of firearms on school property. This bill prohibits possession of a firearm on school property, while allowing an exception for law enforcement officers and persons specifically authorized by local school boards...”
HB 1321, establishing a committee to study the **reporting criteria of chartered public schools.** MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 11-8 Rep. Linda Tanner for the Majority of Education. “This bill redefines the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee for Charter Schools that is in current statute, but has not been meeting or issuing reports for several years. This bill prescribes changes in the committee composition.... The Oversight Committee remains charged to meet twice a year, receive reports from the State Board of Education on the charter school program, and order recommendations for legislation.”

HB 1423, relative to reports on education **tax credit scholarships.** MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. Vote 11-8 “This bill seeks to add and clarify requirements for report-ing of the education tax credit scholarship organizations to the Department of Revenue Administration. The majority of the committee supports greater detail of how funds are distributed and how student academic improvement was determined.” [minority report:] “This bill, as presented, has multiple problems. It requires that home school scholarship recipient receipts for expenses be sent to the Department of Revenue Administration. For what purpose and what is to be done with them? When asked, nobody had an answer. The bill also asks for additional information that will risk the privacy of scholarship recipients. It might impact families’ willingness to apply for scholarships. And who would then lose? The kids.” [league note: this is the program that allows businesses to designate some of their tax money due to a scholarship fund for which families can apply, to be used for private, religious, or home schooled expenses]

HB 1636, relative to **special education services for children in charter schools.** MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. Vote 12-8. Rep. David Luneau for the Majority of Education. “Under long-established state law, the school district where a student resides pays for costs to implement the student’s individualized education program (IEP) regardless of whether the student attends a school in the district of residence or attends any other public school in New Hampshire, including charter schools. This bill would require the school district of residence to pay for 100% of the cost to educate a student with an IEP at a charter school -- not just the IEP costs, but all the costs for the student’s education. This is a sea-change to how charter schools are funded now. The committee recognizes that proponents of the bill would like to see changes to school funding, but a comprehensive approach is required. The commission to study school funding is charged with developing proposals to do this.” [minority report]Rep. Glenn Cordelli for the Minority of Education. “This bill addresses the situations in which a student with disabilities is in a public chartered school and receiving services from the resident district - as required by law. There have been issues regarding if the services are to be offered at the charter school or if the student is to be transported back to the resident district for services. The bill does not change state law, but just inserts federal and state special education language as a tool for parents. Too often, parents do not always know all their rights, especially when it comes to individualized education programs (IEP) and the issues around charter school services. This bill places appropriate language in statute for parents’ use in discussions with the district about least restrictive services.”

ELECTION LAW:
HB 1266, relative to **absentee ballot request forms.** OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. Vote 16-4 This bill as amended makes clear on the absentee ballot request form that persons who are incarcerated due to a misdemeanor or while awaiting trial are entitled to vote via absentee ballot. This bill also clarifies that it is optional for voters to provide their email addresses and phone numbers when requesting an absentee ballot. The majority believes these clarifications for already-eligible voters will
increase participation and alleviate privacy concerns. [approved by all regular members of the committee. Dissenting votes were cast by “substitutes” only. Does not change eligibility for voting standards, just the form for an absentee ballot]

HB 1279, relative to the terms resident, inhabitant, residence, and residency. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 12-8  [League note: this bill would reverse 2018’s HB 1264 about voter registration for those in the state for a limited time, such as contract workers and college students. The bill is in the courts right now. League supports overturning HB1264 by passing this bill, but the party line vote suggests the Governor would veto it anyway.]

HB 1390, relative to access to ballots and verification counts of machine-counted ballots. MAJORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 12-8 (party lines) “This bill allows audits of randomly selected ballot-counting devices after polls close and before the vote is certified, either by petition of registered voters or at the discretion of the moderator in order to ensure the accuracy of the device. There are concerns, however, with the risks to ballot security that repealing the right-to-know exemption for ballots would create.” [hence a study rather than passage is the committee’s recommendation]

HB 1415, establishing a committee to study disclosure anonymous out-of-state contributions preceding an election. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT vote 16-4 [same dissenters as noted earlier—non committee members.] [amendment changed the language to allow a broader study reporting of money in politics – League supports.]

HB 1534, establishing a commission to study the creation of online voter registration for the 2022 state elections. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 15-5. “… as amended would establish a commission to study the creation of online voter registration for the 2022 state elections. The 9-member commission … will be tasked with identifying the means, costs, and processes necessary to accept online voter registrations and to ensure their accuracy and security.” [League supports. Let’s move voter registration into the 21st century!]

HB 1651-FN, relative to prisoners’ voting rights. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. Vote 17-3 [3 of the 4 same dissenters—non-committee members] “…clarifies New Hampshire’s law on incarcerated voters by specifically referencing the statute giving said voters access to the absentee ballot process… despite their incarceration due to a misdemeanor or while awaiting trial. These changes make New Hampshire’s voting laws easier to navigate and create uniformity among the forms voters fill out and the laws underlying those forms… [League supports. This does not change current law that those serving sentences for felonies do not have voting rights until after their release from incarceration.]

HB 1653-FN, relative to domicile, residency, voter registration, and investigation of voter verification letters. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 12-8 [party line vote] [This bill would reverse SB3 from 2017, currently in litigation and awaiting a court decision. League is the plaintiff in this case against the state, and we support ending the process with an Ought To Pass vote. The party line vote suggests the Governor would veto this bill.]

HB 1672-FN, allowing voters to vote by absentee ballot. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 12-8 [party lines] “The majority believes that New Hampshire’s Constitution affords all eligible voters the freedom to use an absentee ballot. The majority also believes that eligible voters should not need to provide excuses to the state to access the
franchise. The majority trusts New Hampshire voters and the Secretary of State’s tireless efforts to ensure the integrity of the franchise.” [League supports]

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE
HB 1319, prohibiting the siting of new landfills or expansions of existing landfills near [within 2 miles of] state parks, national parks, or USDA forest land. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. Vote 11-9

HB 1422-FN, establishing a moratorium on the issuance of permits for new landfills or the expansion of existing landfills for the purpose of studying the creating of municipal waste districts. MAJORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. “The committee finally settled on a recommendation of Interim Study after motions of OTP/A and ITL failed. The committee believes that the topic is deserving of a more in-depth look at the pros and cons of a moratorium on new landfill permits.” Vote 15-5.

JUDICIARY
HB 1143, repealing limited liability for manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 12-8. “The firearms industry is the only industry which has a blanket immunity from civil liability under state law. This immunity has only been in place since 2004. Our firearms industry flourished for centuries before that law was passed, and it will thrive even after this bill becomes law. This bill is not a gun control bill. It does not restrict the Second Amendment in any way, nor does it take anyone’s firearms away. This bill simply allows anyone who has been harmed by the gun industry to seek justice through the New Hampshire civil courts. These cases might not be numerous or successful, but the victims deserve their day in court. The firearms industry should not be above the law.”

(three bills on right to privacy)
HB 1226, prohibiting surveillance by the state on public ways or sidewalks. OUGHT TO PASS. Rep. Gary Hopper for Judiciary. “This bill prohibits the state from surveilling its people with methods such as video or electronic surveillance.” Vote 16-3.

HB 1236, relative to the expectation of privacy. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. Rep. Sandra Keans for Judiciary. “Two years ago, the citizens voted overwhelmingly for a constitutional amendment to protect their privacy. This bill is a modest attempt to put some statutes in place to start the process. It does not cover everything and future legislatures will certainly find more areas to cover. It does require warrants for governmental bodies before they snoop. However, it does allow for an emergency situation....” Vote 14-5.

HB 1376, establishing a civil penalty for unauthorized sharing of electronic location information. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. Rep. Kurt Wuelper for Judiciary. “This bill seeks to begin protecting your privacy by enacting a civil penalty for unauthorized sharing of electronic location information by telecommunications service providers. The majority believes these companies should not be profiting from tracking you just because you pay for some other services, like cell phone service or internet access. The bill contains broad exemptions for law enforcement and for emergency agencies/situations. It would not apply to any free service, or anything to which you authorize to keep, sell, and/or use. We believe New Hampshire must act to protect our citizens in the digital age and this bill is a small step in the right direction.” Vote 11-8
HB 1475-FN, prohibiting abortions after detection of fetal heartbeat. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. Vote 12-7. “This bill would ban abortion after about six weeks of pregnancy, before most women even know they’re pregnant and well before viability. The US Supreme Court ruled long ago that bans on abortion prior to viability are unconstitutional and has repeatedly reaffirmed that position...”

[minority report] “...We believe that when enough states stand in defense of the pre-born, even the Supreme Court will change its mind and honor the compelling interest of the state to protect them. This bill will be a brick in the wall of protection for the most defenseless humans.”

HB 1640-FN, relative to parental notification prior to abortion. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGIS-LATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. Vote 13-6 “This bill removes the judicial bypass provision of the law, such that all minors would be forced to notify their parents without exception, even if notification would be harmful or dangerous to the minor....”

[minority report] “...We think parents have moral, legal, financial, and natural rights to care for their child, but are hindered in that when denied any chance to even know when their daughter has an invasive medical procedure. We think the judicial bypass hurts far more women than it helps and should be repealed.”

HB 1678-FN, relative to prohibiting abortion in certain cases. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGIS-LATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. Rep. Sandra Keans for the Majority of Judiciary. This is a ban on abortion following fetal diagnoses. The majority believes that we all have a responsibility to make sure that people with disabilities do not face discrimination and are treated with dignity and respect. But this bill does not address discrimination, nor does it address the needs of people with disabilities. Instead, it takes away an individual’s right to make one of life’s most deeply personal decisions and turns it over to the government. Laws that ban abortion before viability are unconstitutional. The US Supreme Court precedent clearly prohibits states from placing bans on abortion before viability. Banning pre-viability abortions based on the reason a woman seeks an abortion prohibits women in those circumstances from exercising their constitutional right to obtain the procedure. A ban on abortions sought because of the diagnosis of a disability or the sex of the fetus is, therefore, unconstitutional.” Vote 13-7.

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for the Minority of Judiciary. “The minority believes women are a vital part of our society and possess the same fundamental human rights as men. In spite of this, sex-selection abortion has been documented to increasingly exist in the U.S. and the victims are overwhelmingly female. Persons with Down syndrome, physical or mental deformities, or handicaps contribute to American culture and are a valuable part of our society. In some countries, Down has been virtually eliminated by aborting every baby with a prenatal Down diagnosis. We find that horrific and terrifying. Who is next? Left-handed people? We believe NH should stand for the inalienable right to life of every baby, no matter what the Supreme Court says.”

HB 1659-FN, relative to patient directed care and patient’s rights with regard to end-of-life decisions. MAJORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 11-8 “This legislation provides for legally assisted dying. The committee heard considerable testimony from the public. It is a complex subject and the sponsor has filed an extensive redraft which has not been subject to either public nor committee scrutiny...”

MUNICIPAL & COUNTY GOVERNMENT
HB 1160-LOCAL, allowing municipalities to collect an occupancy fee from operators of local room rentals. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 10-7. “This bill enables municipalities to charge up to two dollars as an occupancy fee for local room
rentals which goes directly to local government to help offset costs of added services for paying guests staying overnight.” [Minority report.] “This room fee will be in addition to the current rooms and meals tax of 9%. The fee represents an additional tax that was not supported by the minority. It would be more appropriate to insist on the original sharing of 40% of the rooms and meals tax with municipalities from the state which actually shares only approximately 28%.”

Several bills on warrant articles, default budgets, etc. related to local govt. See pp. 67-69 of the Calendar.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENERGY will be voting on a number of bills about energy that League has not been following. If you have been, check the Calendar starting on p. 70. Among them are these that have been in the news lately:

HB 1481, relative to the net metering cap for customer-generators. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. Vote 12-7.

HB 1496-FN, relative to the regional greenhouse gas initiative cap and trade program for controlling carbon dioxide emissions. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 10-8.

HB 1444-FN, requiring the adoption of vehicle emissions standards based on the California clean car standards. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 10-8.

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS [League note: HCR and HJR bills are resolutions expressing the views of the state to the federal government. They do not have statutory power.]
HCR 9, rescinding all requests by the NH legislature for a federal constitutional convention. Vote 18-2. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. “This resolution rescinds any active requests for Article 5 conventions. The amendment simplifies the resolution, paring it down to a clear statement of purpose. It also adds the date of 01/01/2020 so that it will not affect any such requests initiated after that date.” [League supports and so testified earlier, in line with our national position that Article V conventions must be carefully and specifically crafted and limited to one topic.]

HCR 10, urging Congress to grant states broader authority to set higher environmental standards than those established in federal law. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. “In September of 2011, the federal government revoked the ability of a state to set higher emission standards than the federal standards. The majority of this committee is not concerned which administration this may be aimed at. New Hampshire has several environmental issues facing us and the majority believes the state should choose whether or not we surpass the minimum federal standards.” Vote 11-9.

HJR 4, urging Congress to enact legislation or propose a constitutional amendment to grant statehood to the District of Columbia. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. “We believe that the citizens of Washington DC... should enjoy the same rights as all other citizens of the United States. As of now, none of our fellow Americans in DC enjoy the rights that their fellow Americans with representation in Congress have with an equal vote. They cannot set their own laws without the threat of Congress overriding those laws, or changing their budgets. The majority
believes we should stand up for our brothers and sisters in DC.” Vote 11-9. [League supports and so testified earlier, in line with our national position.]

TRANSPORTATION
HB 1401, prohibiting smoking and e-cigarettes in motor vehicles when a passenger is under 16 years of age. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 10-9 [minority view emphasizes the difficulty in enforcement]

WAYS AND MEANS
CACR 17, Providing that a new state broad-based tax may be enacted only to reduce property taxes. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. Vote 17-3

HB 1646-FN, relative to historic racing. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. Vote 14-6 [League opposes this bill to allow slot-machine like devices in charitable gaming venues in NH, as an expansion of gambling in our state. We so testified, and we agree with the minority position: “…The most consistent concern expressed by the minority of the committee in opposition to historic racing machines was the addictive nature of gaming. The minority found disingenuous the majority’s insistence on the technical differences between these machines and slot machines. The feeling was that an unsophisticated end user would not be aware of the differences and would be attracted to game play in direct proportion to the similarities between the two types of machines. Despite the passage of a committee amendment to disable the autoplay feature, those in the minority had heard too many stories of lives destroyed by gaming addiction to feel comfortable allowing yet another form of gaming-based revenue into the state’s income stream. …”]

Senate will meet in session Wed. March 11 at 3 pm and Thurs March 12 at 10 am.
Long list of bills on the Consent Calendar (usually, no debate on the floor because committees recommended bills unanimously)
On the regular Calendar:
COMMERCE
SB 687-FN, relative to transparency in prescription drug pricing and establishing a New Hampshire prescription drug affordability board. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.
ELECTION LAW
SB 631-FN, authorizing online voter registration. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2. [League supports]
SB 695-FN, relative to sharing voter registration information [with other states, to find duplicate registrations, etc.].Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2. [League supports]
FINANCE
SB 730-FN-L, establishing the granite state paid family leave plan. Interim Study, Vote 4-1.
HB 712-FN, relative to a family and medical leave insurance program. Ought to Pass, Vote 4-1.

Committee Hearings in the coming weeks on a limited number of bills:
TUESDAY, MARCH 10
SENATE EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, Room 103, LOB
9:00 a.m. SB 480, relative to participation in school sports programs for female student athletes. (previous hearing on SB 480 was recessed March 3)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
HOUSE PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB
12:00 p.m. or during session break. Executive session on HB 2020, relative to the **10-year transportation improvement plan.** [fix the roads I travel, please, every voter suggests]

**TUESDAY, MARCH 17**

**HOUSE ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB** [these are bills that have already passed the Senate]

10:00 a.m. SB 229-FN, establish a committee to study the value of conducting post-election audits

10:30 a.m. SB 231-FN, establish a committee to study truth in political advertising. [League supports]

11:00 a.m. SB 304-FN-A, establish a committee to study public funding of certain state election campaigns. [League supports]

11:30 a.m. SB 422, relative to changes of registration of voters at primary elections [League supports]

**SENATE ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, Room 102, LOB**

9:00 a.m. SB 457-L, establishing **communications districts.**

9:30 a.m. SB 459, relative to determining access to **broadband**

.9:45 a.m. B 424-L, relative to the property tax exemption for **solar energy systems.**

10:00 a.m. SB 559, relative to municipal **broadband infrastructure** bonds.

**HOUSE JUDICIARY, Room 208, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Full committee work session on HB 1642-FN, prohibiting the state or a state official from using a face recognition system.