

## **NH Voter, the newsletter of the League of Women Voters NH – October 2025**

Eleven of NH's big cities are holding elections on November 4, and Berlin is also voting for a new state rep to fill a vacancy. If you live in one of those cities, make your plan for voting and help friends and neighbors make their plans too:

### **What you need to know to help neighbors vote:**

- \*Who needs to register and when
- \*How to register, what paperwork to bring
- \*New laws on absentee voting
- \*[Download this flier](#) to share (or email us and we'll send a bunch if there's a way you can distribute at your church, condo assn, or civic group)

For those of you who have not been as obsessed with voting law changes as your board has been, here are two highlights to share:

### **New law re Voter registration: Anyone registering for the first time in New Hampshire must show proof of citizenship as well as the usual photo ID and proof of age and where they live.**

Proving citizenship is easily done with a passport (only US citizens have US passports). If someone doesn't have that, a birth certificate or naturalization papers will prove citizenship. But if the name on those papers doesn't match the current photo ID, a new registrant must also show papers that will link the name change, such as a marriage license. (Note that in NH, a "real ID" does not prove citizenship because it is not so marked.)

Repeating: this documentary proof of citizenship is required **ONLY for people who are not already registered somewhere in New Hampshire.**

If someone moves to a new town or even to a new ward in a city, they do need to register. But their voter information is already on the statewide database. So all they need to bring are a photo ID and something with their new (current) address on it.

**New law re absentee voting:** Anyone who is eligible to vote absentee must fill out an absentee ballot application. Starting this year, they must also **prove identity**. This can be done in **3 ways – pick one:**

\*show a photo ID when you pick up or drop off your absentee ballot application at your town clerk's office. The clerk will mark you "verified" on the voting list. *OR*

\*photocopy your ID and submit the photocopy with your absentee ballot application.

*OR*

\*if you have no ID, have your signature on the absentee ballot application notarized. Remember that you will mail or have someone drop off your absentee ballot application at your own town/city clerk's office. Get it there well in advance, to allow time for your ballot to be mailed to you and you have time to mail it back.

These new requirements are now the law. The documentary proof of citizenship requirement will be challenged in court in February. For now, each of us can help our friends and neighbors and new voters understand the law. We are past the point where arguing with the legislature can change any of this.

**National issues about voting are on our radar**, including mid-decade redistricting and the federal executive's demand for personal voter information. Be sure that the national League and the state League are paying attention and taking action when we can. More in future newsletters.

Available now: **2025 "Know Your Elected Officials" brochures** for **Nashua, Hollis, Merrimack**, and towns in the **Peterborough area**. Also, for the first time, **Rochester and Dover**, which will have to be redone after the November municipal elections (but state/federal info stays the same). Check our [Publications](#) page to download these brochures. There are other useful handouts on the same Publications page.

**Membership renewal and dues payments:** If you have gotten an email from the national League of Women Voters that your membership is about to expire, and you didn't follow the link to pay your dues online, it's not too late. We have removed no one from this email list, but your membership may have lapsed. To renew, go to [this website](#). Then follow the directions below. And if it absolutely doesn't work because your computer browser hates you, you may mail a physical check to renew your membership. Directions are included below.

**Membership renewal or new members instructions:**

Go to the portal <https://portal.lwv.org/membership?state=NH&league=0012E00001usO9RQAU> Type in your email. Click the "continue with email" button just below your email. *[ignore the comment about a password.]*

Almost immediately you'll get an email in your email account, with a 6-digits verification number. Copy that number and go back to the membership renewal portal webpage.

Put the 6-digits number in the same space where you entered your email a few minutes ago, click "verify" and continue.

If you are renewing, update your information if something has changed. If joining, input your information. Email is very important. Then pay your dues with a credit card or bank account card. You may pick any amount of \$20 or more. If you don't like the choices on the list, go to the box where you can enter a custom amount. Whatever amount you can pay will be divided between the national League and the state League, which covers the local units' expenses.

If you are unable to join or renew online after several tries, please don't give up. Instead you may mail us a check and we will process it for you. *Check must be made out to LWV-US. Mail it to LWWNH, 4 Park St #200, Concord NH 03301.*

**Upcoming events:** Check the [Events](#) page of our website. On October 30, the **LWVNH PeterboroughPlus unit** is holding a listening session with state reps and senators for **residents of Jaffrey, Rindge, and Dublin**. A major topic of discussion will be education funding. Public invited.

News from **the new NH Seacoast unit:** the steering committee is holding meetings, planning events and looking for outreach opportunities. Most recently they tabled at Dover's Apple Harvest Fest. They also got the Dover Senior Center to share our information about absentee voting via their newsletter. Seacoast members have also committed to decorating a LWV tree for the Strawberry Banke Festival of Trees. Help making decorations in a voting theme is welcome. If you live in the Seacoast area, look for emails from them and join the fun.

If you live in a city you still have time to check out our [candidate forums page](#), which includes some online voters guides (interviews with candidates) prepared by local news sources as well as the forums still coming up and those that were recorded and are available online.

**LWVNH Greater Nashua** teamed up with Nashua Library for a four-session series of candidate forums for municipal and school board elections. Last one is still to come: October 30 will be the Nashua aldermen at large candidates, 6:30 at Nashua Library.

On a totally different topic: Check out the [new civics curriculum with a NH focus](#), for grades 3-6. It was developed by the NH Historical Society. <https://moose.nhhistory.org/> Find out if your school system is taking advantage of these curriculum materials. Looks like it could be adapted to other age groups too.

If you have questions about voting, elections, or other League work, please visit our website, [LWVNH.org](http://LWVNH.org) And know that you can send us email at [LWVnewhampshire@gmail.com](mailto:LWVnewhampshire@gmail.com) at any time.