

[NH Voter: the newsletter of LWVNH December 2025](#)

Candidate Forums and Listening Sessions: A training for organizers

The League has long been active in organizing and hosting candidate forums. We also organize listening sessions with state reps in some localities, which give our elected officials an informal opportunity to share what they've been working on in the legislature, and hear from their constituents about issues that matter to them.

In an effort to expand these activities to other communities, the state board is offering a **zoom training for organizing forums and listening sessions**. The training will be held via **zoom on Monday, January 12, from 7 pm to 9 pm**.

Ideally a non-partisan local organization will be hosts and set the local groundwork. If you think you have local contacts that might be interested, please sign up for the workshop and invite them, too. We will send each person a paper copy of our manual in advance, and we'll go over the highlights and answer questions during the zoom call.

Registration by January 4 is required, to give us time to mail your manuals.

Email LWVnewhampshire@gmail.com Be sure to include your town/city so that we can link you with experienced organizers and moderators in your area, if we know of them. We also need your mailing address to send you the training manual via US Postal Service.

Help us help voters for town meetings 2026: Believe it or not, there seems not to be a state registry of when towns hold their municipal elections and their town meetings. Open Democracy is spearheading a project to find that out so information can be provided to voters in time for them to register, and in the case of voters who need to vote absentee, in time to get the required proof of ID documents.

Contact Ursula Maldonado ursula@opendemocracy.me if you can help by doing any of these things:

1. confirming when your town (and maybe another town or two in your area) will be holding elections this spring
2. confirm whether your town holds its deliberative session several weeks in advance of the election (called an "SB2" town) and when that meeting will be held.
3. gather names and addresses of nursing homes in your area that might benefit from outreach about the new absentee voting requirements, in time for Open Democracy to approach them with information and maybe the offer of notary public services. The smaller nursing homes might need the most help.

Legislation: The House and Senate will each meet on Wed., Dec. 17, to vote and possibly override the Governor's veto of 2025 bills. The list of vetoed bills (about a dozen) and the Governor's explanation are in the [House Calendar](#). Contact your own state rep(s) or senator if you want to express your views on any of them before Wednesday's session.

The first voting session of the legislature for 2026 will be on Tuesday, Jan. 7. They will take up some bills that were retained from 2025. Hearings on new bills start the following week.

Our first **Legislative Alert** in 2026 will highlight for you some bills of major public interest or those on which League has a position. Our Legislative Alerts are sent via Mailchimp, usually on Friday afternoons for the following week. Check your email! We can't cover everything, but major bills will have a **red Call To Action heading**.

Also in our first Legislative Alert we'll explain how voters can weigh in on bills online. Reminder that in-person testimony for House bills will happen at 1 Granite Place in Concord while the Legislative Office Building (behind the State House) is undergoing renovations.

Several years ago the LWVNH members at convention approved a **study of housing in NH**. Unfortunately things were moving so fast at the time, and the members who offered to join the study committee were so busy, we couldn't keep up. That doesn't mean we should ignore housing legislation. **Housing Action NH is a non-profit that follows housing issues in NH** much better than we can. They hold bi-weekly zoom meetings and publish an emailed newsletter. If you would like to stay on top of housing issues in our state, [sign up for the newsletter](#). It will include a way to sign up for the zoom meetings.

What League of Women Voters NH have been doing:

In accordance with the League's mission to "empower voters and defend democracy" many of us served as **poll observers or election workers** in the November city elections. Among other things we counted and then talked to many of the people who were denied a ballot for lack of necessary documents. Documentary proof of citizenship is not easily accessed by everyone, even though they are citizens eligible to vote.

Related to that, our **lawsuit against the state over the documentary proof of citizenship law** will head to court on Feb. 9, at the US district courthouse at 55 Pleasant Street in Concord. Judge Samantha D. Elliott will hear our case.

The state League spent voter service funds boosting Facebook posts about the new voting laws in the lead-up to the September primary and the November elections, distributed information, and participated in several zoom presentations about the new regulations.

Nearly the entire LWVNH board attended a recent **convening in Concord, with other voting rights and pro-democracy organizations**. We shared a retrospective of recent voting rights challenges and successes, including the impact of the new documentary proof of citizenship law. We also looked ahead to 2026 and beyond, elevating opportunities for collaboration, strategy alignment, and stronger protections for voters in New Hampshire. League's role in that work will be crucial, and we'll highlight actions big and small that members and supporters of voting rights can take in the next 10 months leading up to the **November midterm elections**.

Local/regional League news:

LWV of the Kearsarge/Sunapee Area held their annual meeting and luncheon in November, with a guest speaker on housing initiatives in the area. Two local board members tabled at No Kings march in October in Concord.

LWVNH Seacoast unit decorated a "vote" themed tree at Strawberry Banke for the Candlelight Stroll event. They also tabled at several events in the fall to spread the word about voting rights and new regulations, and distributed information about voting at senior centers in several cities.

LWVNH Peterborough Plus unit held another successful listening session, with state representatives and senators from the Jaffrey/Rindge/Dublin area in October.

LWVNH Nashua unit worked with Nashua Library to hold 4 candidate forums before their city election in November.

You may contact us by replying to this email, or by emailing LWVnewhampshire@gmail.com

*We encourage you to check out our **website** for information on voting, events, membership, and calls to action. LWVNH.org*