



NEW HAMPSHIRE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION



2017 Legislative Wrap-Up

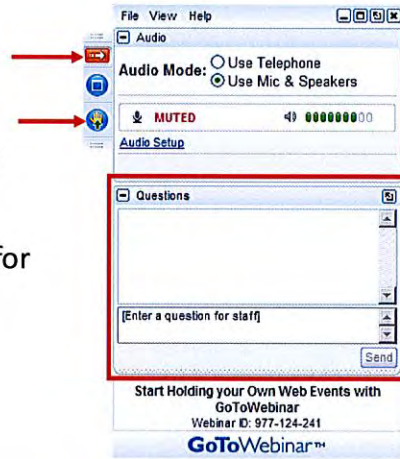
Presented by:

Cordell A. Johnston, Government Affairs Counsel
Barbara T. Reid, Government Finance Advisor

June 28, 2017

How to Participate Today

- Open and close your Panel
- Submit text questions
- Q&A addressed at the end of today's session
- Couple of pop quizzes today for your entertainment




2017 Legislative Wrap-up

Agenda

- I. Budget Highlights
- II. Retirement
- III. Finance/Taxes/Assessing
- IV. RTK/Public Records
- V. Land Use
- VI. Election Law
- VII. Other

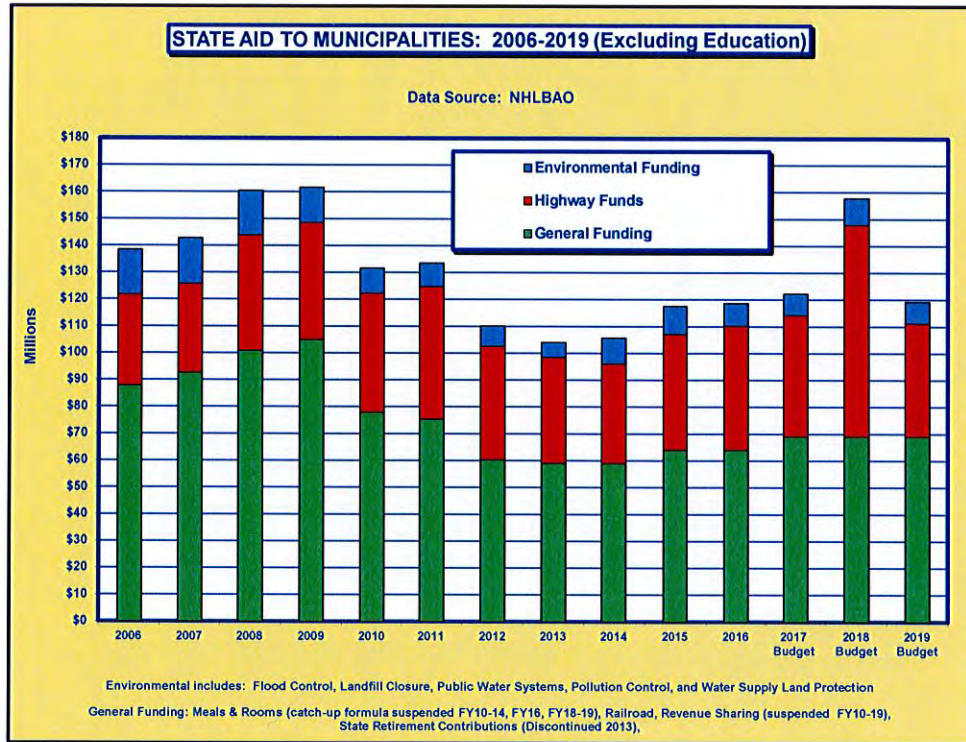


State Aid to Municipalities

Aid by Category:	FY 18	FY 19
 Meals & Rooms Distribution	\$ 68,805,057	\$ 68,805,057
Highway Block Grants	\$ 35,226,028	\$ 35,349,278
Add'l Highway Block Grants (SB 38)	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 0
Municipal Bridge Aid	\$ 6,800,000	\$ 6,800,000
Add'l Municipal Bridge Aid (SB 38)	\$ 6,800,000	\$ 0
Environmental Grants	\$ 7,332,728	\$ 5,383,716
Add'l Environmental Grants (SB 57)	\$ 1,721,554	\$ 1,796,837
Flood Control	\$ 866,250	\$ 866,250
Total	\$157,531,617	\$119,001,138

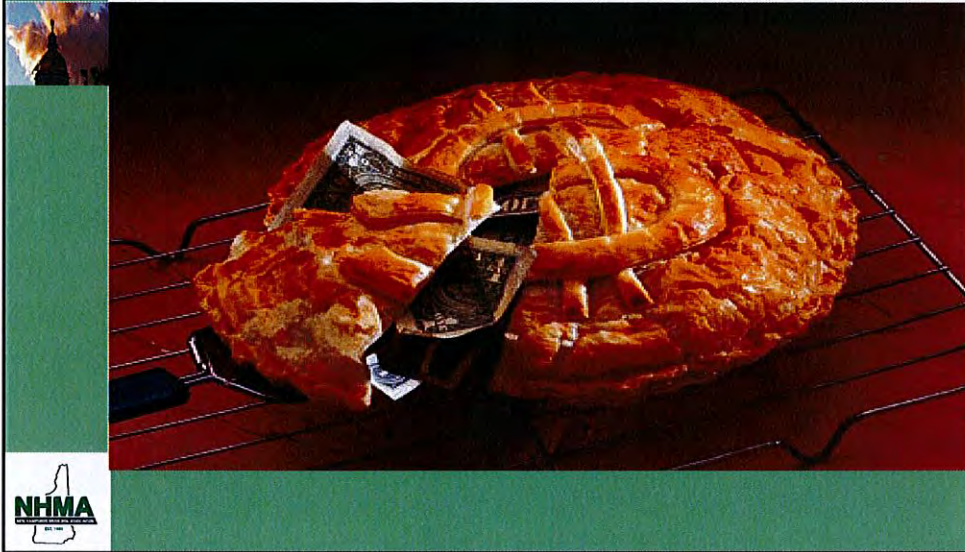


- Meals & Rooms Distribution – flat funded – catch-up formula suspended
- Highway Block Grant – 12% of Highway Fund revenues
- Additional Highway Block Grant – FY 18 only – coming from June 30, 2017 general fund surplus
- Bridge Aid – 10-year waiting list
- Additional Bridge Aid – advance 10 projects, red list bridge focus
- Environmental Grants – existing obligations
- Additional Environmental Grants – SB 57 - 19 projects
- Flood Control – fully funded regardless of payments from other states
- Police Academy – fully funded with general funds
- Revenue sharing suspended

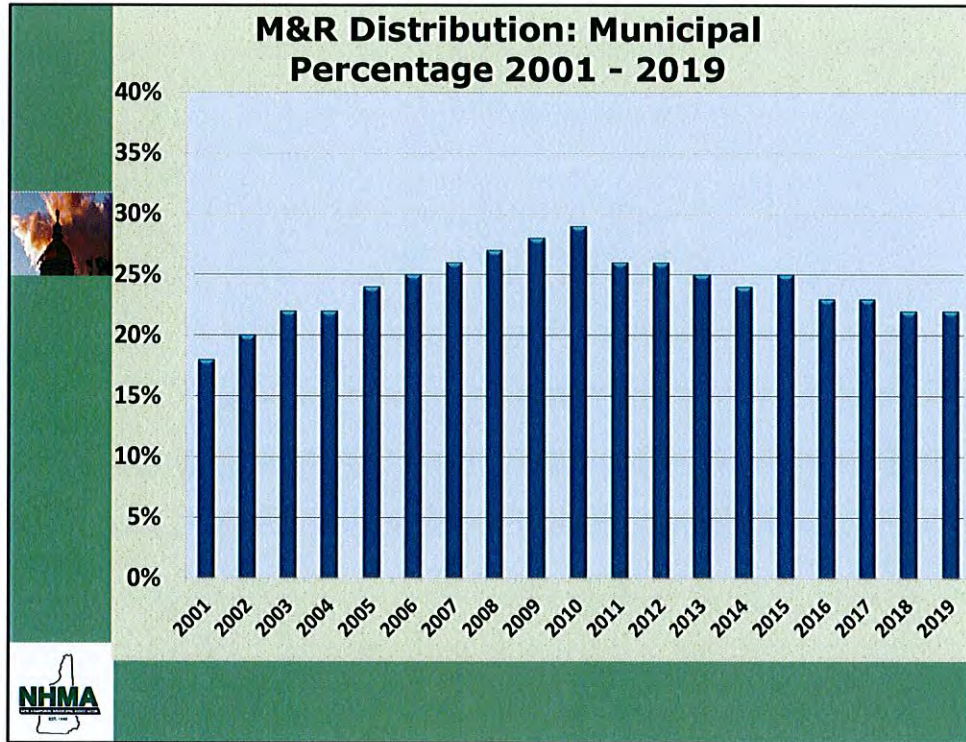


- 2018 Highway reflects \$36.8 million in SB 38

Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution

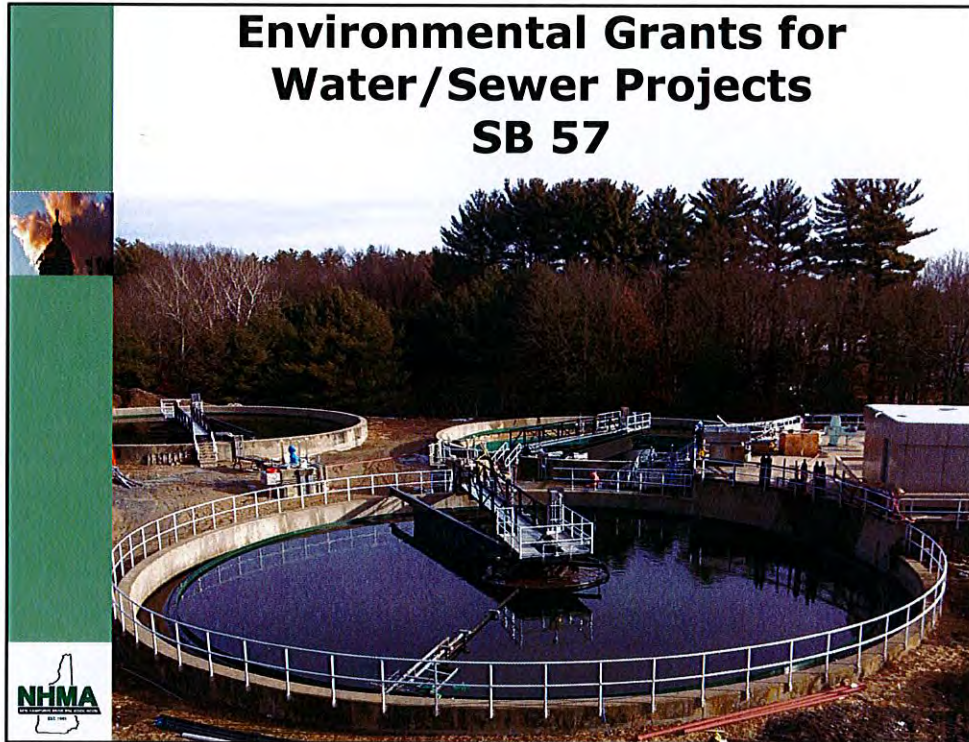


- **60%** state, **40%** municipal based on population.
- Catch-up provision: 75% of any increase in the meals and rooms tax revenue over the previous year goes to municipalities, with a \$5 million cap in any one year.
- Catch-up formula suspended in 2010 – 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2019



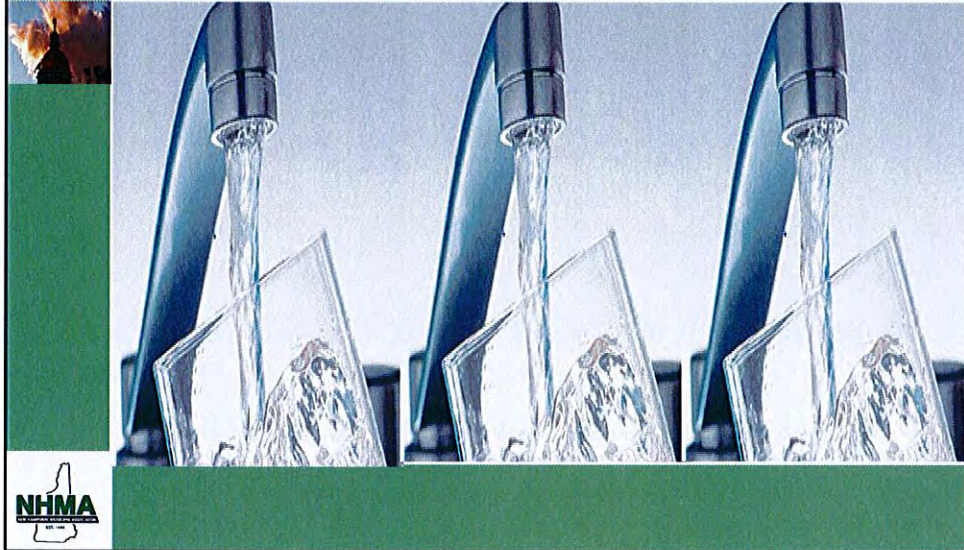
- Meals and Rooms tax revenue continues to come in strong.
- Funding cities and towns at the 2016 level results in the municipal percentage continuing to fall.

Environmental Grants for Water/Sewer Projects SB 57



- SB 57 – Combined with HB 119 to fund 19 projects on the delayed and deferred list for \$3.5 million over the biennium.
- Funding coming from the June 30, 2017 surplus.
- Moratorium still in place for the biennium.

Drinking Water Trust Fund



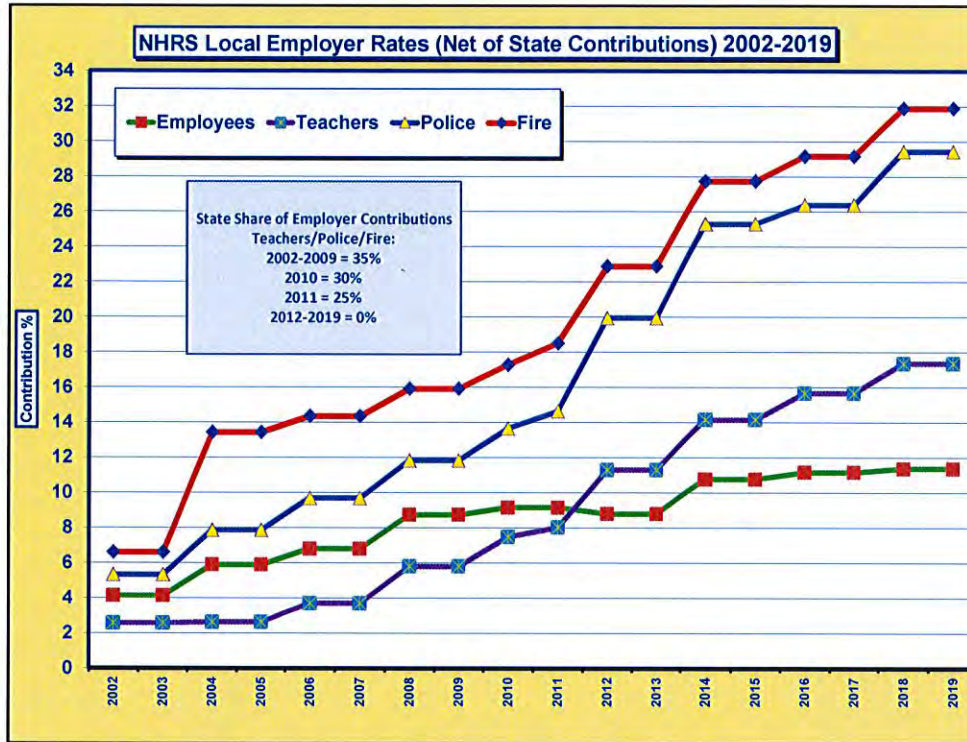
- Amendment to Drinking Water Trust Fund established last year under SB 380 – changes the spending authority from Department of Environmental Services to the DWT Commission and expands the Commission membership.
- Approximately \$300 million in the trust fund.

Roads and Bridges

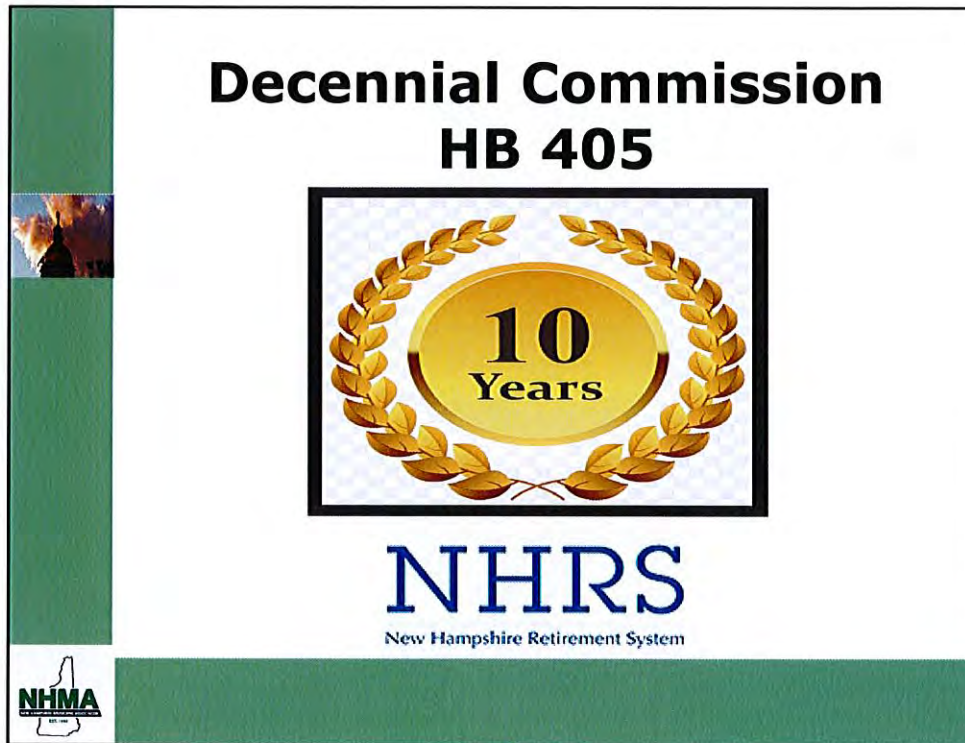
SB 38



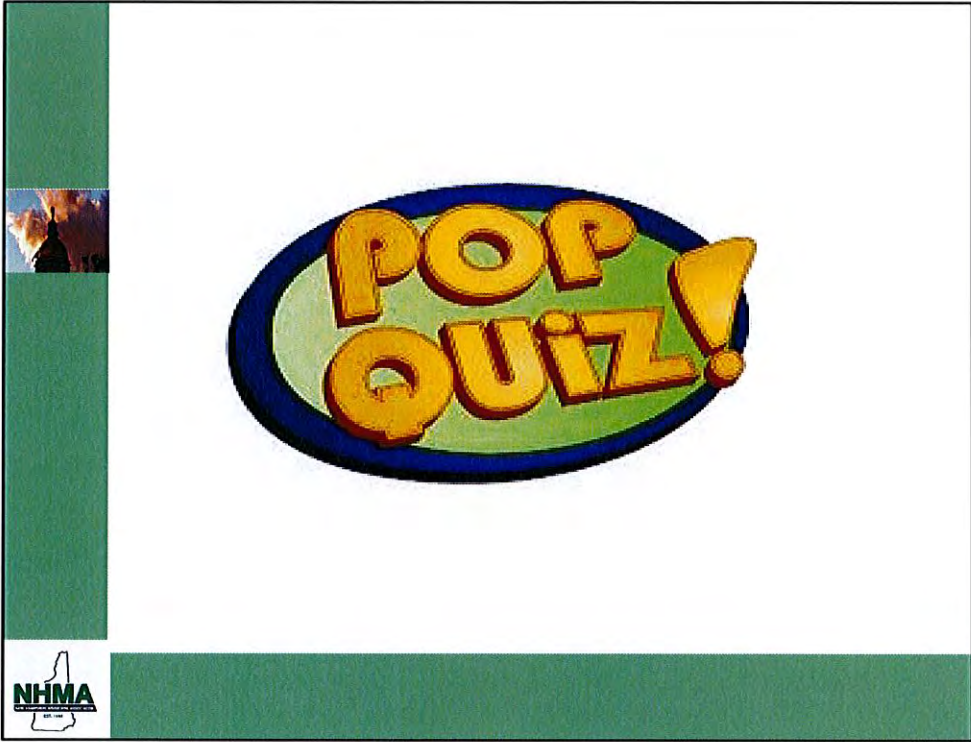
- \$30 million for additional Highway Block Grants distributed under the current apportionment formula.
- Treat as unanticipated revenue – accept and expend under RSA 31:95-b for additional road/bridge projects beyond what is in current budget. Can NOT supplant existing highway budget!
- Funded from June 30, 2017 surplus
- \$6.8 million additional bridge aid for 8 -10 projects.




- Rate changes on compensation paid on or after July 1, 2017
- HB 413 - reinstate a portion (15%) of the state retirement contribution for teacher, police and firefighters. Passed the House 267-83 vote but retained in House Finance Committee.
- HB 369 – extended the amortization period for paying the unfunded liability. Retained in House
- SB 219 – grants one-time \$500 additional allowance for retirees. Re-referred in Senate
- HB 561 – working after retirement. Re-referred in Senate.



- 2007 Commission – issued 175 page report which included many of the reforms enacted in 2008-2011
- Comprehensive review of the system to make recommendations for statutory changes
- RSA 100-A:57
- Convenes July 1 with Report due December 1, 2017
- 17 members
- HB 405 added to the duties of the commission to include review of working after retirement, amortization of the unfunded liability, effect that changes to employer rates have on municipalities.





New Hampshire adopted the first legal lottery in the twentieth century United States in what year?

- 1. 1932**
- 2. 1948**
- 3. 1963**
- 4. 1971**
- 5. 1984**



Transportation Improvement Fund HB 121



- HB 121: increases from \$5 to \$10 the additional local option fee that may be assessed with annual motor vehicle registration fees.
- Local decision to use money for a variety of transportation improvements: roads, bridges, sidewalks, bike paths, bus service.
- Killed in the House in 2016
- Passed the House but was re-referred in the Senate

Audit of Motor Vehicle Records HB 417



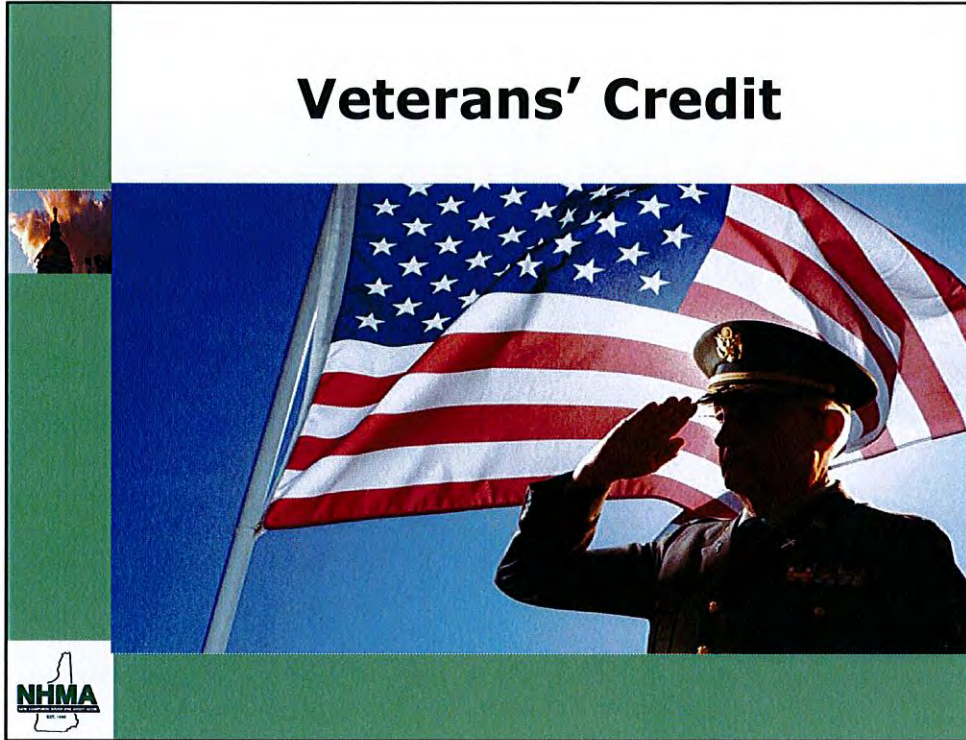
- HB 417 clarifies municipal auditors right to access motor vehicle records.

Investment Option SB 72



- Initially, SB 72 authorized NH Public Deposit Investment Pool (NHPDIP) to offer certificates of deposits.
- Amended to create a study committee with report issued by November 1, 2018.

Veterans' Credit



SB 80: phase-in of the “All Veterans’ Credit.”

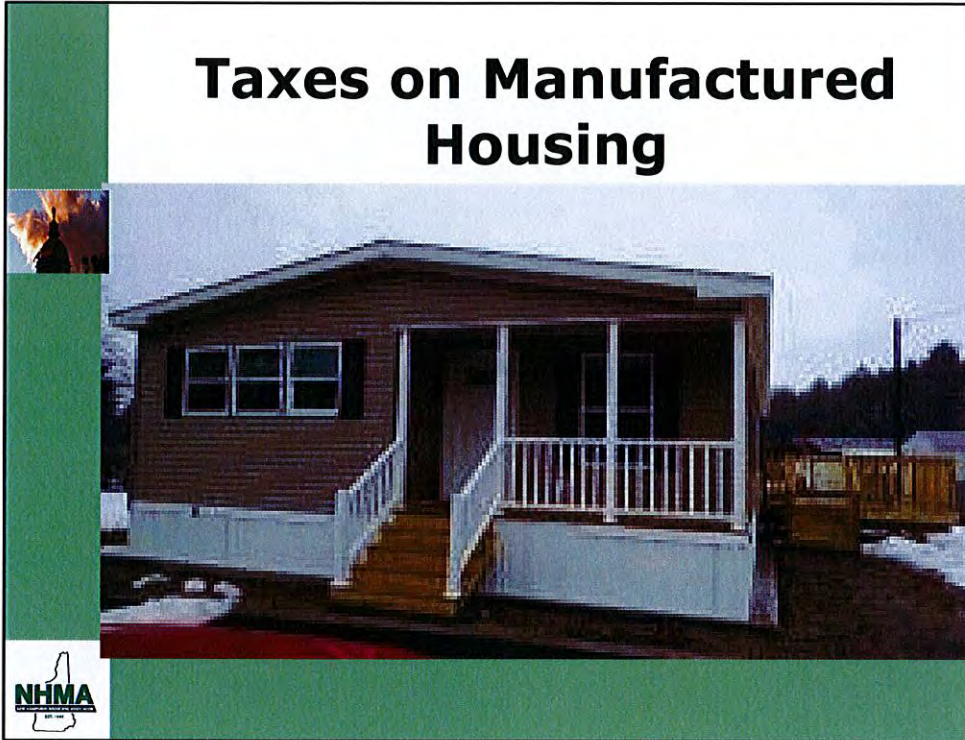
SB 168: increasing the optional amount of the veterans’ credit from \$500 to \$1,000—
DID NOT PASS.

Valuation of Utility Property




HB 324: relative to the valuation of utility property—retained in House.

Taxes on Manufactured Housing




HB 565: process for collecting delinquent taxes on manufactured housing—retained in House.

Right-to-Know Law




Right to Know Law



RSA PUBLIC RECORDS
Chapter 91-A (RSA 91-A:4 through 91-A:6)

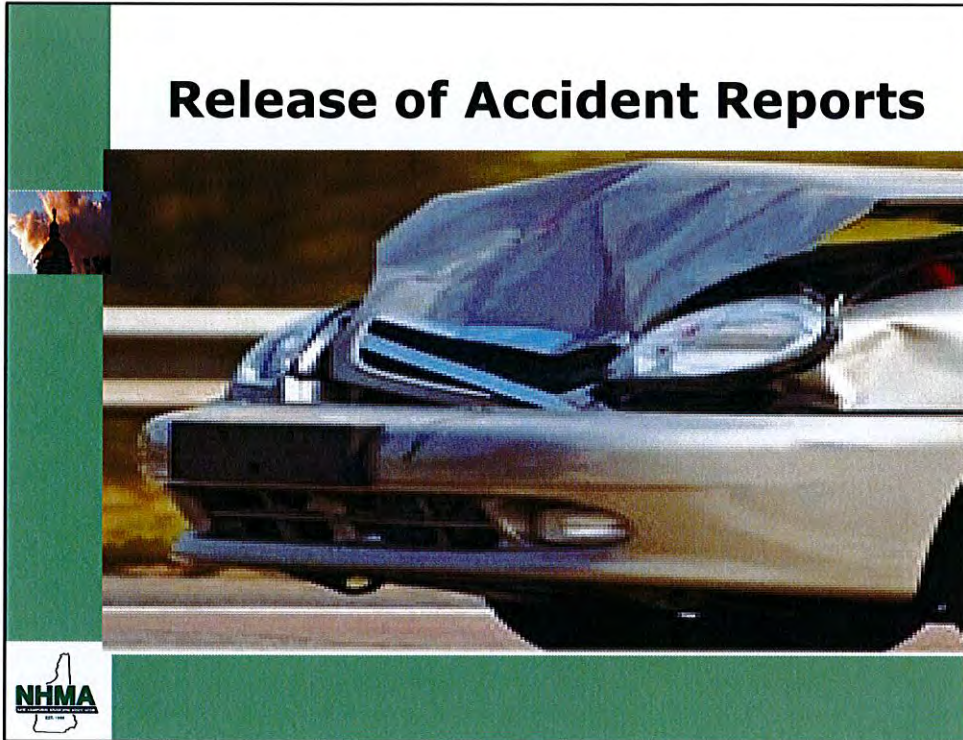
EXEMPTIONS TO THE CONFOUNDED BY A PUBLIC BODY:

- Records pertaining to internal personnel practices
- Internal, financial, personnel or other records, records
- Confidential, commercial or financial information and any other records whose disclosure would be an invasion of privacy
- Where an exemption under the general exemption is not known as official purposes, including, but not limited to, public health, safety or other public purposes
- Information that is confidential and whose disclosure would be likely to result in the identification of confidential sources of information
- Where legal advice



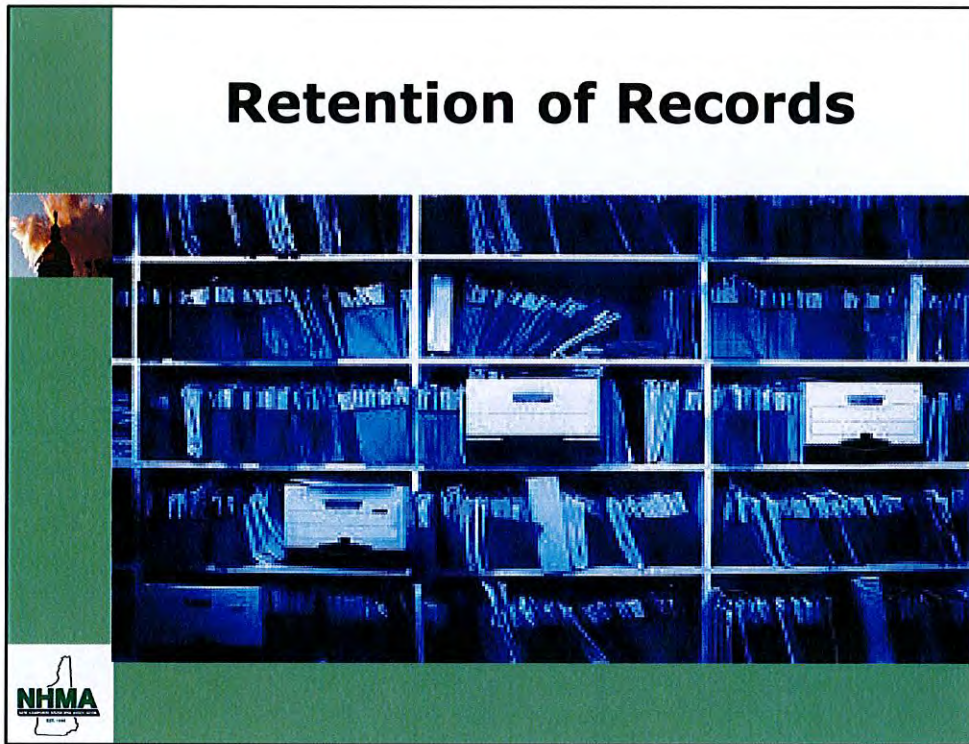
HB 170: posting notice and minutes. If public body has a website, it must either post meeting notices on website or post notice stating where meeting notices are posted. Must either post approved minutes on website or post notice stating where minutes may be reviewed and copies obtained.

Release of Accident Reports

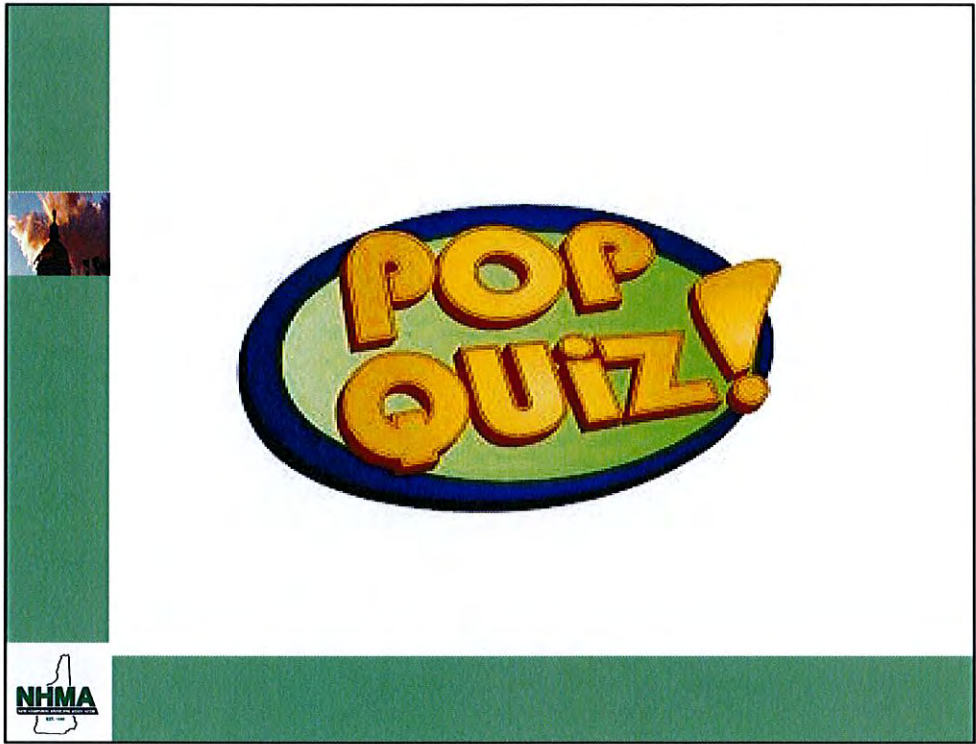


HB 437: clarifies that local police departments may release motor vehicle accident report to a person involved in the accident, injured pedestrian, owner of property damaged, or insurance company.

Retention of Records



HB 108: clarifies that paper records, regardless of required retention period, may be scanned and retained in portable document format/archival (PDF/A); paper records may then be destroyed (subject to other requirements of law). Electronic records with retention period under 10 years may be retained in original electronic form.



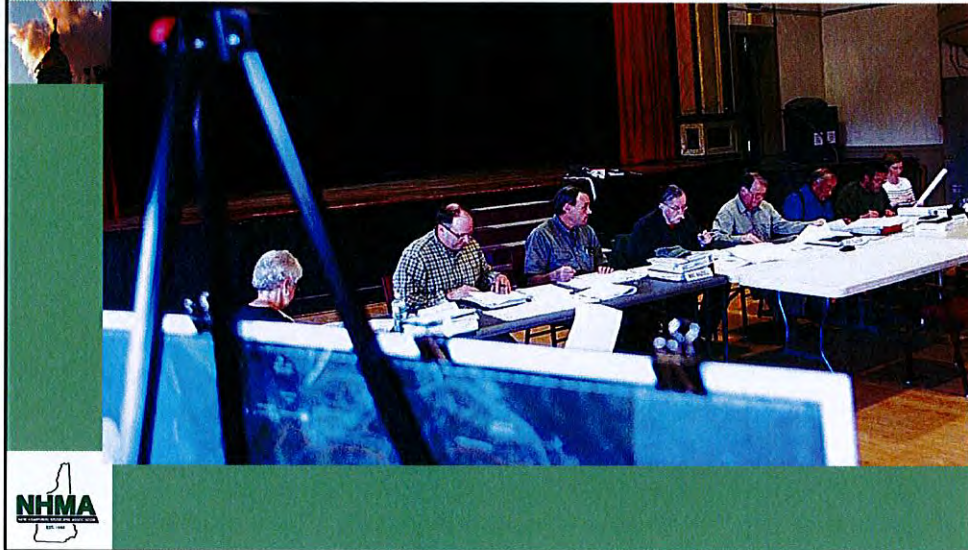


The first capital city of New Hampshire was located in which municipality?

- 1. Portsmouth**
- 2. Kensington**
- 3. Exeter**
- 4. New Castle**
- 5. Concord**



Voting on Variances



HB 86: Zoning board of adjustment must vote separately on each of five criteria for granting a variance. Variances is granted only if each criterion receives at least three votes in the affirmative.

Accessory Dwelling Units



HB 265: Municipalities are not required to allow ADUs associated with attached dwellings like townhouses, or with manufactured housing. Separate condominium conveyance of ADU not allowed, unless specifically allowed by municipality.

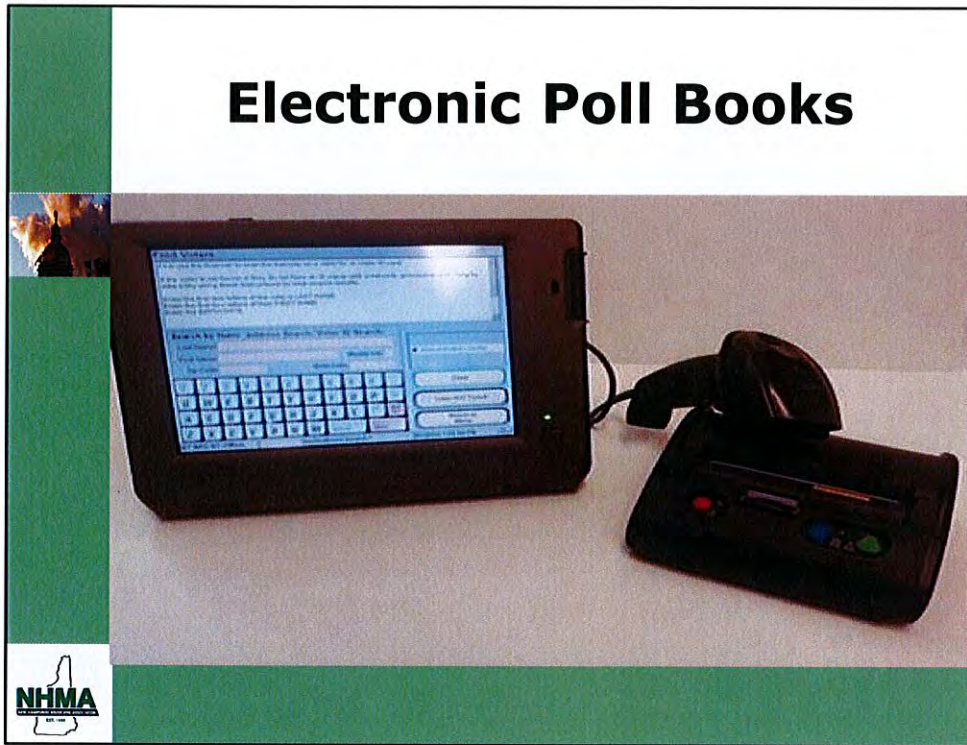
HB 258: Applicant for ADU must obtain septic approval from DES in advance. Approved system must be installed if existing system did not receive DES approval or if existing system needs to be repaired or replaced.

Short-Term Rentals



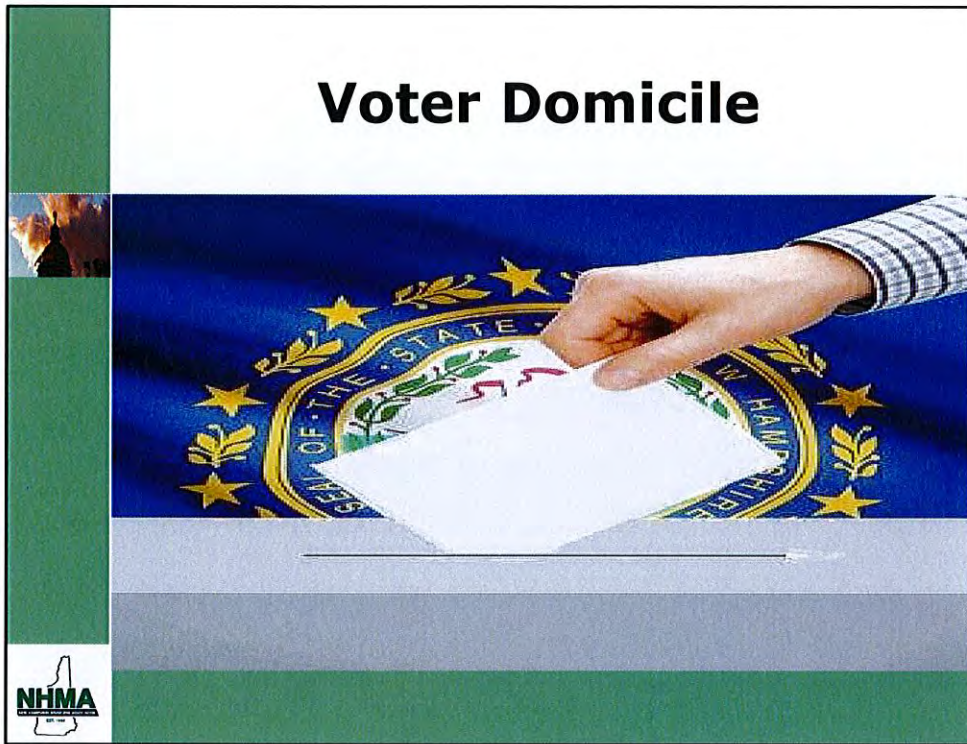
HB 654: Municipality may not use RSA 48-A to impose additional restrictions on short-term or vacation rentals. Does not affect zoning authority. Committee to study regulation and taxation of short-term and vacation rentals.

Electronic Poll Books



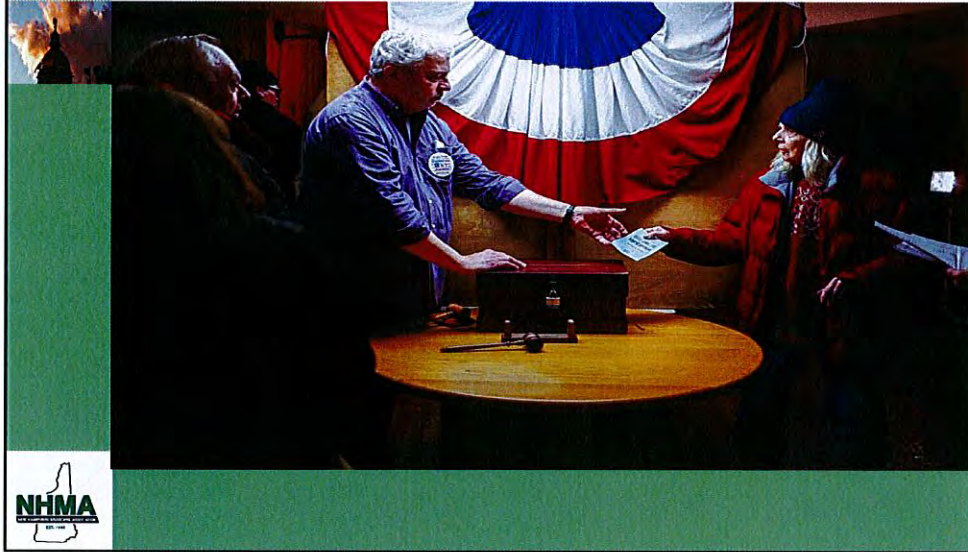
SB 113: authorizes municipalities to conduct an electronic poll book trial program, subject to many conditions.

Voter Domicile



SB 3: establishes new requirements for voter registrants to prove domicile; requires separate registration form for those registering at polling place or within 30 days before election; requires supervisors to take steps to verify domicile for those who did not present satisfactory evidence when registering or within 10 days after election.

New SOS Position to Train Clerks



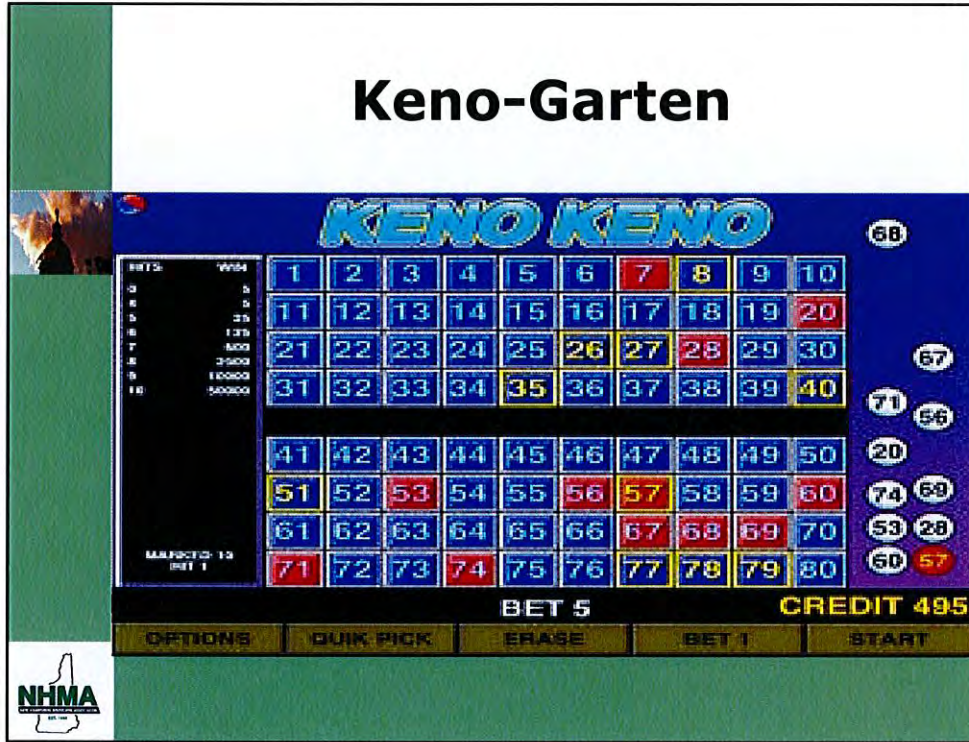
New attorney position, added by budget committee of conference to address “great misunderstanding of election laws at the local level.”

Bonding for Public Works



HB 371: increases to \$125,000 (from \$35,000) the threshold above which a municipality must require a bond for public works construction projects.

Keno-Garten



SB 191: Keno authorized, proceeds to fund full-day kindergarten. Allowed only on premises holding a valid liquor license. Only if authorized by vote of municipality at annual town meeting or regular municipal election.





NHMA RELEASES NEW PUBLICATION ON NEW HAMPSHIRE'S RIGHT-TO KNOW LAW

Check out our new "go-to" resource for public officials when confronted with the numerous legal issues surrounding New Hampshire's Right-to-Know Law.



Order Today

Only \$55 for Members
\$95 for Non-members

The Right-to-know Law (RSA Chapter 91-A) affects every aspect of local government in our state. Every board, committee, commission, and sub-committee in every town, city and village district in New Hampshire must comply with this law. As a result, all local officials and employees must understand the law and their responsibilities regarding both public meetings and governmental records.

Join Legal Services Counsel Stephen Buckley, Government Affairs Counsel Correll Johnston, and Staff Attorney Margaret Rymes for a full day workshop on Thursday, September 14 on the Right-to-know Law. They will address some of the most difficult issues under the law, including confidential information, electronic records and communication, procedures for nonpublic sessions, and communications outside a meeting. There will be ample time for questions and answers on all aspects of the law.

Go to NHMA's online store at www.nhmunipal.org/shop to order your new book today!



Learn more about the Right to Know Law at a full-day workshop on Thursday, September 14 at NHMA Offices in Concord. \$90 includes workshop, meals and new book! Check our website for registration details.



Mark your Calendars for the 2017 Municipal Law Lecture Series

Saturday, September 23

Medallion Opera House,
20 Park Street, Gorham

Saturday, October 14

NHMA Offices, 25 Triangle
Park Drive, Concord

Full Day Workshops with Three Lectures

Land Use and Water Protection
Telecommunications and Land Use Boards
Land Use Board Procedures: From Application to Decision



**Agenda and registration information will be available in July.*



Mark your calendars for the 2017 Budget & Finance Workshops

Tuesday, September 12
SERESC Conference Center,
29 Commerce Drive, Bedford

Tuesday, September 26
Attitash Grand Summit Hotel,
104 Grand Summit Drive, Bartlett

Attendees will receive the *NEW* 2017 Edition of *The Basic Law of Budgeting: A Guide for Towns, Village Districts & School Districts!*

**Agenda and registration information will be available in July.*





SAVE!
the **DATE!**

November 15-16, 2017

**New Hampshire Municipal Association's
76th Annual Conference
The Radisson Hotel
Manchester, New Hampshire**

2017 Sponsor & Exhibitor Kit available in July.





*for attending
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presentation
today!*

Mission Statement

The New Hampshire Municipal Association is a non-profit, non-partisan association working to strengthen New Hampshire cities and towns and their ability to serve the public as a member-funded, member-governed and member-driven association since 1941. We serve as a resource for information, education and legal services. NHMA is a strong, clear voice advocating for New Hampshire municipal interests.

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