



# 2023 Moderators Update & 2024 Legislative Preview

NATCH GREYES,  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COUNSEL

# Agenda

Preliminary Information

2023 Law Changes

2024 Legislative Session  
Preview



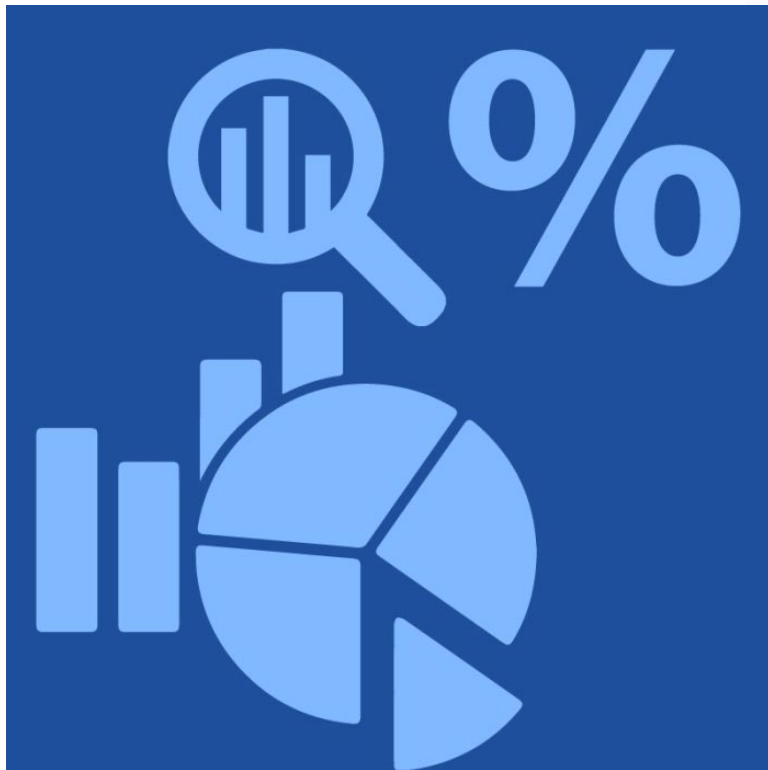
# NHMA's Legislative Policy Process

WE NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER!



[governmentaffairs@nhmunicipal.org](mailto:governmentaffairs@nhmunicipal.org) / [603.224.7447](tel:603.224.7447) / [www.nhmunicipal.org](http://www.nhmunicipal.org)

# Bill Data 2024



1035 LSRs Filed

Several dozen LSRs with a municipal component withdrawn, so far.

More than 440 bills tracked by NHMA. Almost 45% of all bills filed have a municipal component.

Conversations going with dozens of legislators and lobbyists about their bills and bill ideas.

# 2023 Law Changes

# Only Three Election Law Changes!

- ***Candidate Sign Retrieval Broadened.*** Chapter 41 (HB 286) allows members of a candidate's campaign or local political committee to retrieve campaign items removed by the state, city, or town. **Statutes amended: RSA 664:17. E.D. July 18, 2023.**
- ***Ballot Language Altered.*** Chapter 43 (HB 336) changes the language on election ballots relative to the number of candidates from "vote for not more than" to "vote for not more than 1" (if only one position) or "vote for up to [number of positions]" (if multiple positions). **Statute amended: RSA 656:6. E.D. July 18, 2023.**
- ***Absentee Ballot Request Deadline Changed.*** Chapter 184 (HB 244) bill changes the latest time that an absentee ballot may be requested to noon, if mailed, the day before the election or 5:00 p.m. if requested in person at the town clerk's office. **Statute amended: RSA 657:15. E.D. October 3, 2023.**

# 2024 Legislative Preview: 61 Election Law Bills

# Anti-Lobbying Bill: HB 1479

- Asking Members to Write Letter to House Leg Admin Committee **Opposing**.
  - As the only organization that provides municipalities with legislative advocacy services, NHMA is a voluntary and member-driven organization that relies on local funds appropriated through the legal, transparent, local budget process and the bill dilutes the authority of town voters by depriving them of membership in NHMA.
  - Organizations like ours deliver valuable services outside our legislative advocacy. We provide training and educational opportunities, often with state partners, to ensure their members understand the law and best practices. Undermining their ability to exist would mean local officials will not receive explanations of the effects of legislation on themselves and their constituents and must try to make public policy without all the information they need.
  - NHMA is far from the only advocate that is threatened because many local officials and employees are members of professional organizations that provide advocacy services in their areas of expertise.



# Election Law: Part 1 of 7

- SB 380, moves the State Primary to June. (Monitor)
- (HB 115, moves the State Primary to August. (Monitor))
- SB 446, changes wording for multiple office selection. (Monitor)
- SB 449, continues the state election audit process that has been in place for the last several cycles. (Monitor)
- SB 453, \$550k for the statewide portal. (Support)

# Election Law: Part 2 of 7

SB 535, changes wording on absentee ballot form. (Monitor)

SB 536, allows no excuse absentee voting.

SB 537, allows preprocessing of absentee ballots. (Support)

SB 576, requires the executor of an estate to inform the town or city clerk of the death of a voter. (Monitor)

# Election Law: Part 3 of 7

HB 447, \$3 mil for purchase of ballot counting devices, secure laptops, ePoll books. (Support)

HB 1014, registering high schoolers to vote. (Monitor)

HB 1064, changing public inspection of absentee voter lists. (Monitor)

HB 1064, creating a period for the placing of and removal of political advertising on public property. (Monitor)

HB 1098, delivery of ballots to elder care facilities. (Monitor)

# Election Law: Part 4 of 7



HB 1099, allowing partisan school district elections. (Monitor)



HB 1119, changing wording for when an absentee ballot may be requested due to fear of storm.



HB 1133, allows UOCAVA voters to email back completed ballots.



HB 1136, relative to requiring a reconciliation of votes cast and undervotes with the total of ballots cast. (Monitor)



HB 1146, allowing voters to file affidavits to remove themselves from the voter list. (Oppose)

# Election Law: Part 5 of 7

HB 1149, defining “residency.”  
(Monitor)

HB 1157, removing the requirement that electronic ballot counting devices return the ballot containing an overvote to the voter and requires electronic ballot counting devices to report the tally of overvoted and undervoted ballots. (Monitor)

HB 1264, relative to the definition of accessible voting systems.  
(Negotiating)

HB 1348, negates election results at polling places at which total ballot counts exceed the total number of registered voters.

HB 1364, makes it a crime to intimidate election officers, to improperly influence the electoral process, and to tamper with electronic ballot counting devices. (Support)

# Election Law: Part 6 of 7

- **HB 1370**, modifies the requirements for ballot preserving containers provided by the secretary of state. (Monitor)
- **HB 1381**, requires moderators and other election officials to attend training put on by the secretary of state. (Oppose)
- **HB 1384**, defines and prohibits noncompliance by a town or ward moderator or clerk with respect to elections. (Oppose)
- **HB 1442**, creates a penalty for the failure of election officers to adhere to election law. (Oppose)
- **HB 1478**, prohibits a person from serving on the local select board or other municipal governing body and the school board in the same jurisdiction. (Neutral)

# Election Law: Part 7 of 7



HB 1523, revises the moderator's worksheet for counting votes in elections.



HB 1557, requiring the secretary of state to enter into a membership agreement with the Electronic Registration Information Center. (Support)



HB 1569, removes any exceptions for proving voter identification and voter affidavits and procedures for affidavit ballots. (Monitor)



HB 1577, enables the viewing of digital images of ballots under RTK. (Oppose)



HB 1704, requires the reconciliation of ballots before and after an election and details penalties for violating election laws, especially dereliction of duties. (Oppose)



HB 1705, allows review of digital images of ballots under RTK. (Oppose)

# Fast Democracy Bill Table Reorganization

ALL BILLS

NHMA SUPPORTS

NHMA OPPOSES

Bills by Topic:

MUNICIPAL MANAGERS, ADMINISTRATORS, SELECT BOARDS AND COUNCILS

PLANNING / ZONING / LAND USE

RIGHT-TO-KNOW

STATE AID

MUNICIPAL BUDGET

PROPERTY TAX

RETIREMENT

EDUCATION FUNDING

TAX COLLECTORS

TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUND

HUMAN RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS / LABOR LAW

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

LIBRARIES

LOCAL WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

MODERATORS AND OTHER ELECTION OFFICIALS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ENERGY

PUBLIC HEALTH

PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC WORKS

FINANCE - ALL BILLS

SOLID WASTE

TOWN AND CITY CLERKS





# Check Out Our Bill Tables

Get e-mail updates

Subscribe to this bill list

## Property Tax



1-33 of 33

NH 2024 HB 202

Title: relative to property tax abatements.

Support

Janigian Piemonte

The bill establishes a method to equalize market value for purposes of calculating property tax abatements.

Applicable NHMA Policy: NHMA supports legislation that allows municipalities to manage property tax levies in a manner that stabilizes tax rates and ensur

NHMA's Position: Support.

Tracking

NH 2024 HB 433

Title: providing that property tax exemptions granted prior to a home sale shall not be applied to the new homeowner.

Post Harvey-Bolia Bill Boyd

Tracking

NH 2024 HB 456

Title: relative to collecting road tolls on the output of separately metered electric vehicle chargers.

# And Subscribe for Weekly or Daily Updates!

Get e-mail updates

Subscribe to this bill list

Subscribe to this bill list

Do you want to get daily or weekly updates this bill list:

Assessors

Do you want to subscribe to the New Hampshire Association of Assessing Officials' bill list, so you don't miss any major developments or upcoming hearings?

Name

Email address

Confirm your email address

How often do you want to receive E-Mail updates on the newest bill actions and upcoming hearings? Note: of course you'll only receive an email if there are new developments to report and you can always unsubscribe with one click.

Daily  Weekly

Subscribe





# *Thank you!*

Natch Greyes, Government Affairs Counsel, NHMA  
Katherine Heck, Government Finance Advisor, NHMA  
Phone: 603-224-7447  
[governmentaffairs@nhmunicipal.org](mailto:governmentaffairs@nhmunicipal.org)  
[www.nhmunicipal.org](http://www.nhmunicipal.org)



25 Triangle Park Drive  
Concord, NH 03301  
[www.nhmunicipal.org](http://www.nhmunicipal.org)  
[nhmainfo@nhmunicipal.org](mailto:nhmainfo@nhmunicipal.org)  
603.224.7447

The New Hampshire Municipal Association is a nonprofit, 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.