



# Student Voices in New Hampshire Legislature

The Importance of Students in NH Governance

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Social Work

### NH's Unique Government

24 Senators  
400 Representatives

### 424 Total Legislators in the State House

3rd largest in the english-speaking world behind U.S. House (435) and British Parliament (650)

Only \$100 per year  
The lowest salary for legislators in country  
ME & VT ~\$20,000

Without a salary or staff, legislators rely on constituents to inform them of important bills.

61 - Average age of a NH Legislator

### How

Many NH organizations support young adults getting involved in governance.



Education and support for testifying



Youth and Government Education Programme



Communicates relevant issues in the state house to Youth

### Anyone can walk into the state house

### Why

State and local elections directly shape student life through:

- > Public university funding
- > Educational materials
- > Cost of living
- > Housing

In 2025, NH cut \$34 million (17%) in USNH funding, causing:

- > Potential tuition increases
- > Reduced student services
- > Cuts to faculty & programs

### Student Participation

Students in the U.S. have the right to vote in their college state

NH has same-day voter registration & high turnout

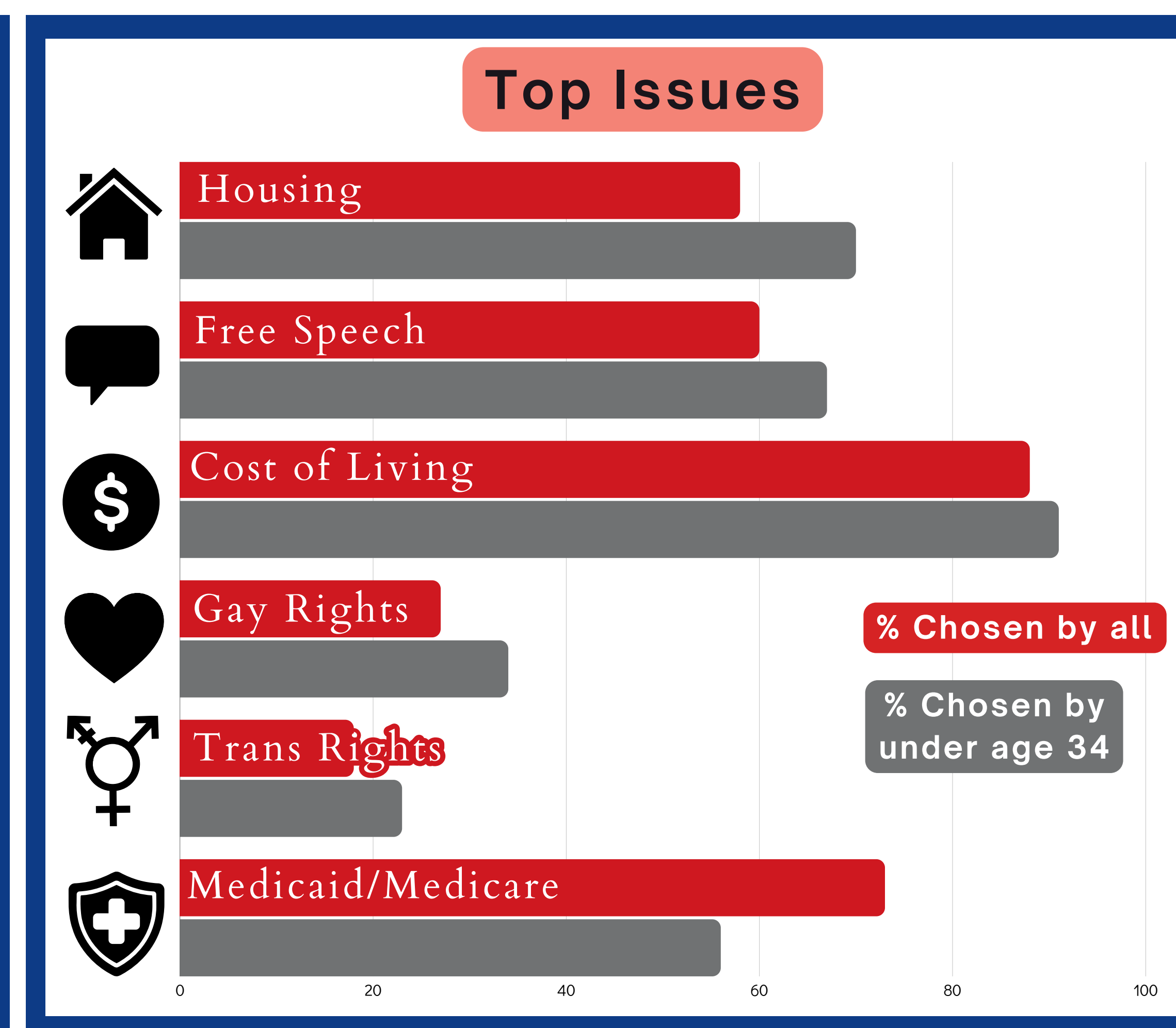
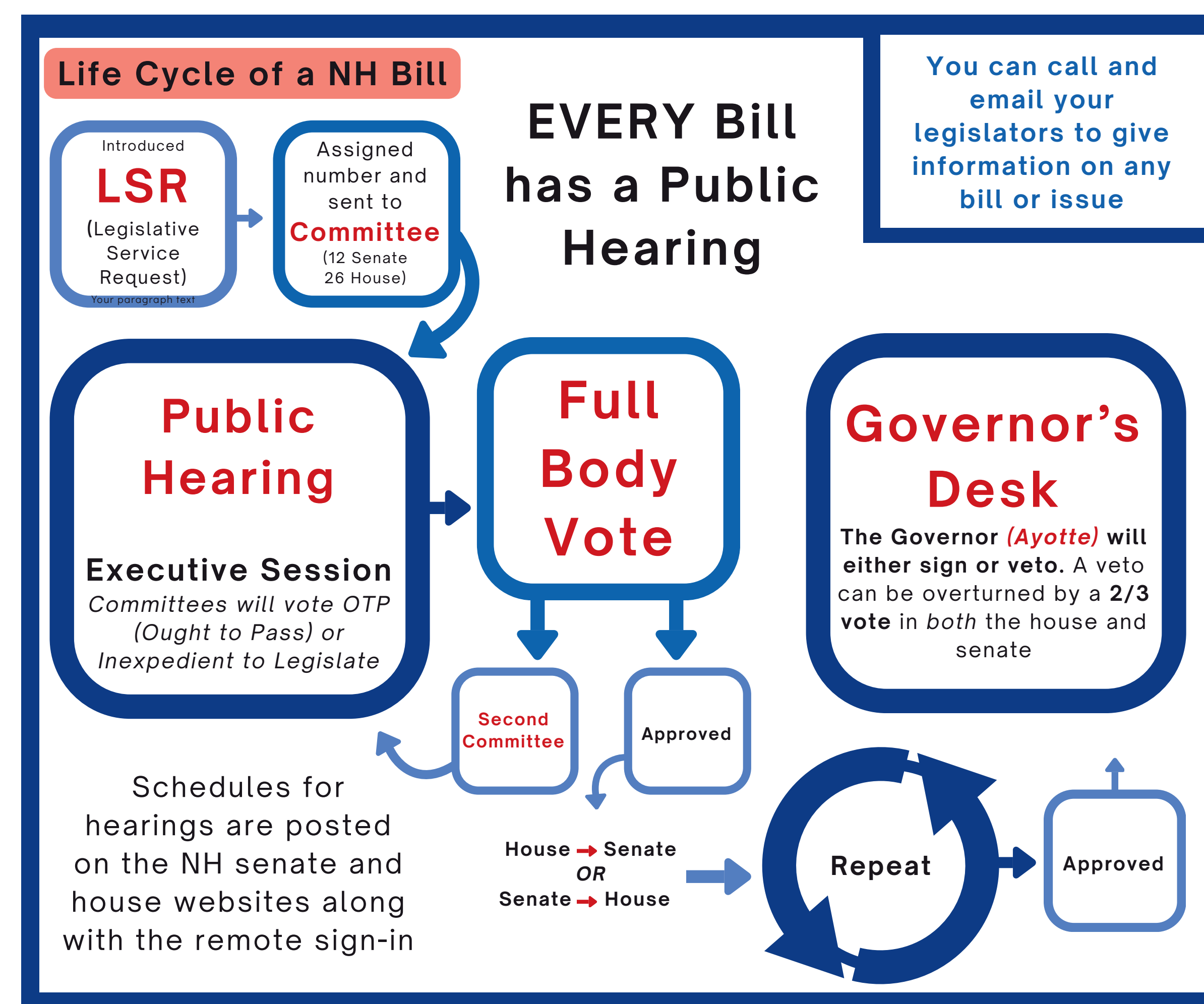
NH has a history of attempting to suppress the student vote

HB323 - April 2026 Removed student ID from use in voter registration.

SB3 - 2017 Created complicated paperwork to prove residence/domicile

HB1264 - 2018 Forces voters to establish residency, requiring vehicle registration and a new license which incurs fees

HB1520 - Pending Voters must be a "NH Citizen" or pledge allegiance to the state



### Conclusion

Student voices matter because it gives young adults unique opportunities to influence policy and advocate for change.

Efforts to discourage students from voting must be stopped.

### Key Sources & Acknowledgements

1- <https://youthpoll.yale.edu/fall-2025-results>

2- <https://www.concordmonitor.com/2025/09/12/unh-faces-budget-cuts/>

3- [https://www.uvm.edu/d10-files/documents/2024-06/Legislative\\_Pay.pdf](https://www.uvm.edu/d10-files/documents/2024-06/Legislative_Pay.pdf)

4- <https://granitepostnews.com/2026/04/08/ayotte-signs-bills-stripping-nh-students-of-voting-rights/>

5- <https://www.wmur.com/article/nh-supreme-court-to-issue-ruling-in-sb-3-voter-registration-law-appeal-friday/36908393>