



JUNE 2024 NEW HAMPSHIRE TOGETHER CITIZENS ASSEMBLY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

- #1:** Improve Voter Awareness/ Increase public understanding of current NH election laws, policies, processes, and results *(87% Support)*
- #2:** Institute A “Single Ballot” Primary, with Partisan-Affiliation Optional *(85% Support)*
- #3:** Improve Pre-K-12+ Civics Education *(83% Support)*
- #4:** Create an Independent Redistricting Commission *(89% Support)*

1: Improve Voter Awareness/ Increase public understanding of current NH election laws, policies, processes, and results (87% Support)

Establish a Non-partisan Working Group of citizens to work with the NH Secretary of State’s Voter Information Coordinator to improve voter information in the following ways:

- Display posters in polling places that clearly publicize methods currently in place to avoid fraud in NH (“what’s happening behind the scenes” - full transparency)
- Help town websites become more uniform/better across the state (build on existing best practices; SOS has \$15M funding through Help America Vote Act to help towns with this)
- Promote awareness of all the resources/links for voters to access information
- Publish election process statistics in an easy to find place (may require legislative mandate)
 - E.g, Number of random audits/where, what % differences in machine v. hand counts, number of affidavits, number of new registrants, and voter list audit
- Provide physical copies of educational material at various locations such as libraries, senior centers, and clerk offices
- Identify trusted channels for key population segments to help disseminate information
 - E.g, Have the Secretary of State do interviews with WMUR explaining how the election process works in NH, myth busting, and promoting information resources

#2: Institute A “Single Ballot” Primary, with Partisan-Affiliation Optional (85% Support)

Institute a Single Ballot Primary, equally accessible to all candidates, with the following features:

- All properly registered candidates would be listed on a single ballot
- Candidates may include party of preference next to their name at their discretion
- Organize a Voter Education campaign to ensure ease of voting with this new system
- Eliminate requirement for voters to declare a party in order to participate in the primary
- To be determined during drafting: Signature threshold required for ballot eligibility; Formula to determine the appropriate, representative number of candidates that advance to the general election

#3: Improve Pre-K-12+ Civics Education (83% Support)

Establish a Civics Education Advisory Board under the Secretary of State's Civics and Education Voting Coordinator, tasked with supporting and/or developing a model Civics Education curriculum framework (in accordance with SB 216 and RSA 189:11) and designed for adoption by local cities and towns, that will:

- Revisit and strengthen Civics and Government competencies (in addition to the NH DOE's State Constitution curriculum), including relevant skills related to registering to vote, voting, lobbying, and representing (sic.)
- Teach a balance of rights and responsibilities through an interdisciplinary Pre-K-12+ curriculum
- Use a similar standardized measure of proficiency to ELA, Math, Science for the Social Studies

#4: Create an Independent Redistricting Commission (89% Support)

Create an independent redistricting commission with citizen participation, based on previous efforts (HB706 - 2019 / HB1665 - 2020 which passed) that includes:

- Full transparency
- Keep communities together
- Allow communities (towns or cities) large enough to qualify for their own district (more than 3,444) to have this (*62 towns qualify to have their own rep and don't!*)
- As close to a "square" and "straight line" as possible
- "Districts shall be drawn in compact shapes and avoid jagged edges and extensions"