

# Republican Review

A Publication of the New Hampshire House Majority Office

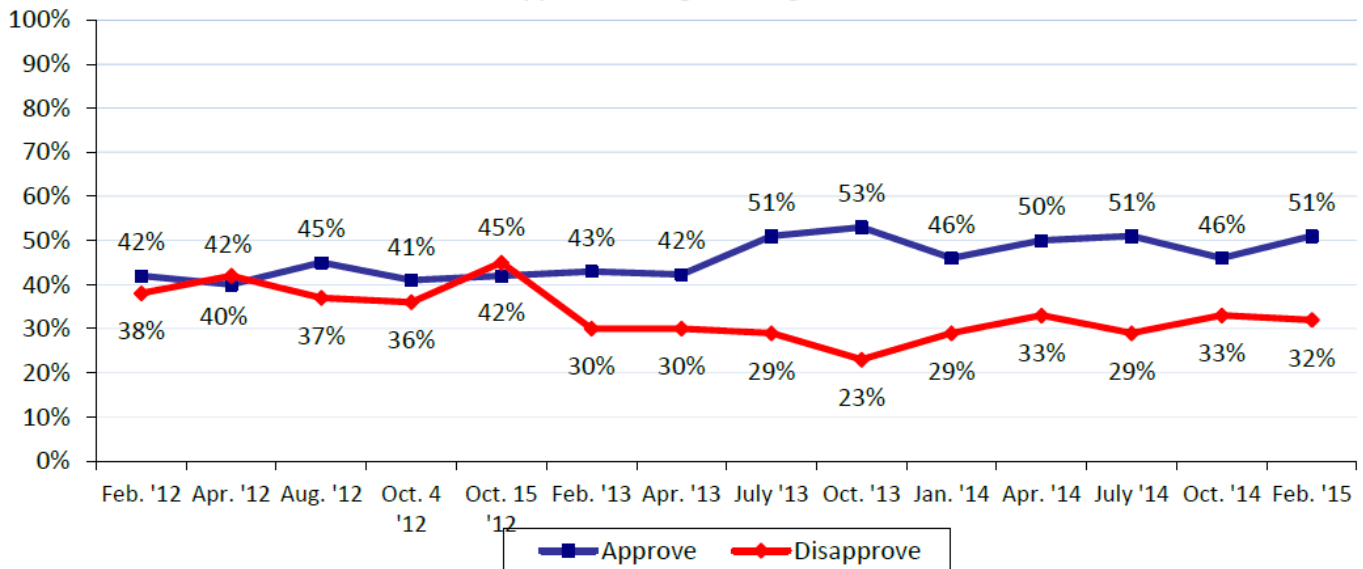
## WMUR/UNH POLL: LEGISLATURE APPROVAL

Currently, 51% of New Hampshire adults approve of how the State Legislature is doing its job, 32% disapprove, and 17% are neutral or don't know enough to say.

Approval is bi-partisan as 54% of Independents, 51% of Republicans and 49% of Democrats approve of the job the legislature is doing.

“The biggest issues facing the New Hampshire government are closing the current budget gap and putting together a budget for the next biennium,” said Andrew Smith, Director of the Survey Center. “Neither the governor nor the legislature can rely on the unpopularity of the other party as they continue their budget discussions.”

Approval Rating – NH Legislature



Reminder: Next week is break week. There will be no legislative activity.  
 The House Majority Office will be open all week.

There will be House Session on  
**Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am**

STAT OF THE WEEK	INDEX	PAGE
<p><b>\$463 million</b></p> <p>The estimated cost to consumers if HB673 were to become law, according to testimony from HB673 sponsor Rep. Shattuck (D-Hillsborough)</p>	<p>IMPORTANT DATES</p> <p>DEMS' RELEVENCY TOUR ANNOUNCED</p> <p>DEMS' SALES TAX BILL INTRODUCED</p> <p>DEMS' SOCIALIZED MEDICINE BILL DIES</p> <p>RGGI MODIFICATION BENEFITS RATEPAYERS</p> <p>UNH POLL: IMPORTANT ISSUES</p> <p>REP. WARD ELECTED BY NATIONAL GROUP</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p>

## IMPORTANT DATES

**February 23-27-** Break Week

**March 5-** Last day to report all HBs not in a second committee, except budget bills

**March 10-** Town Meeting Day

**March 12-** Last day to act on all HBs not in a second committee, except budget bills

**March 19-** Last day to report all HBs, except budget bills & last day to report list of retrained bills

**March 26-** Last day to report on budget bills & last day to act on all HBs, except budget bills

**April 2-** Crossover

## HOUSE DEMOCRAT INTRODUCES JOB KILLING SALES TAX BILL

CONCORD - House Majority Leader Jack Flanagan (R-Brookline) offered the following statement in reaction to the introduction of HB 673, a bill sponsored by Rep. Gilman Shattuck (D-Hillsborough), which would impose a 2.25% sales tax in New Hampshire. The bill has a public hearing before the House Ways and Means committee on Thursday.

House Majority Leader Jack Flanagan (R-Brookline)

“House Bill 673 is a proposal that would end what we call ‘The New Hampshire Advantage.’ New Hampshire continues to lead by example when it comes to low personal tax burdens. Being the only state in the region without a sales tax enhances our ability to attract visitors, commerce, and economic activity. House Republicans have pledged to stop any effort to establish a broad based tax. This bill would undoubtedly grow government on the backs of consumers and jeopardize our economic recovery.”

## GOT NEWS?

We want to highlight the great things our Republican legislators are doing in their home districts and communities. If you spot a story, or have an idea for us to cover, please call or email!

info@nhhousetorepublicans.com

603-271-3665

## SEEKING RELEVENCY, DEM LEADERS ANNOUNCE “LISTENING TOUR”

On Thursday, House Minority Leader Steve Shurtleff (D-Penacook) and Senate Minority Leader Jeff Woodburn (D-Dalton) announce they would be spending the break week on a “statewide listening tour to talk to the people of New Hampshire about their legislative priorities.”

In response, the House Majority Leader offered the following comment:

*“We spent the entirety of the 2014 campaign listening to our constituents. The voters agreed with the Republican message and elected Republican majorities to the legislature. Now is the time to act. Listening to our constituents should not be exclusive to political publicity tours, it should be something we do continually.”*

An itinerary of events for the listening tour was not immediately available.

## REPUBLICANS DEFEAT DEMOCRATS’ SINGLE-PAYER HEALTH CARE BILL

CONCORD - House Majority Leader Jack Flanagan (R-Brookline) and House Commerce Committee member Rep. Joe Hannon (R-Lee) today offered the following statements on the defeat of HB 686, a bill sponsored by House Democrats that would have established a socialized single payer health care system in New Hampshire. The bill was killed by a majority voice vote.

House Majority Leader Jack Flanagan (R-Brookline)

“I’d like to thank our Vermont neighbors for bringing to light the crippling costs associated with implementing a single payer health care system. They’ve abandoned their plan for socialized medicine, and today, the New Hampshire House roundly rejected this bill that would have led to skyrocketing taxes and a reduction in the quality of and access to care.”

Rep. Joe Hannon (R-Lee), Commerce Committee

“Bringing forward legislation of this nature while we are still in the early stages of the Affordable Care Act is a tacit admission that Obamacare is a failed policy.”

## REPUBLICANS MODIFYING RGGI PROGRAM TO BENEFIT RATEPAYERS

CONCORD - House Majority Leader Jack Flanagan (R-Brookline) and Rep. Michael Vose (R-Epping), member of the House Science, Technology & Energy committee, today offered the following statements on the passage of HB 208, as amended, that would modify New Hampshire’s enrollment in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, such that 100% of revenue would be rebated back to ratepayers. The bill passed by a roll call vote of 201-154.

House Republican Leader Jack Flanagan (R-Brookline)

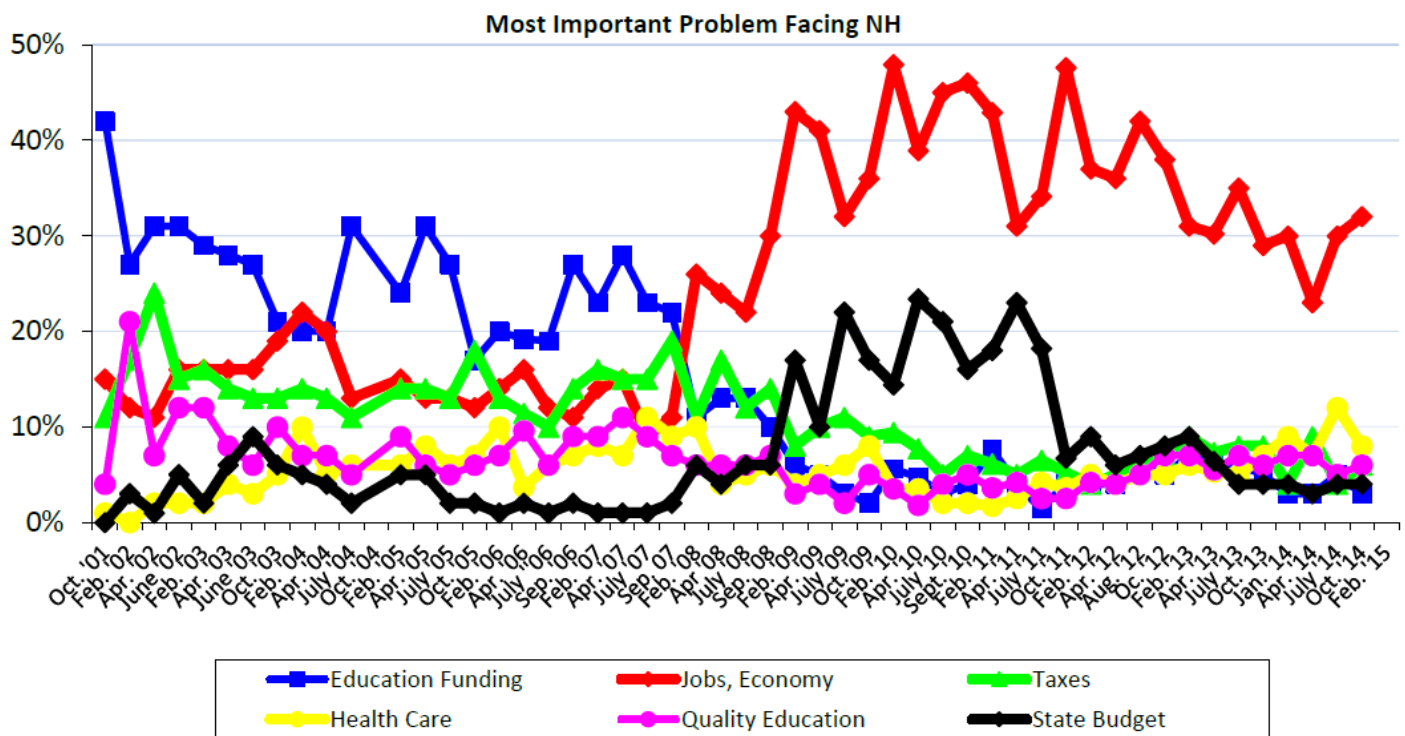
“Many of us pledged during the last campaign to find ways to reduce the overall cost of energy in New Hampshire and we believe HB208 would keep that promise by providing a net benefit to ratepayers. High electricity rates are an impediment to economic growth. Reducing costly mandates, or in this case modifying those mandates to be more cost neutral, is one way we can make New Hampshire more affordable and competitive.”

Rep. Michael Vose (R-Epping), House Science, Technology & Energy committee

“Most people don’t know that RGGI imposes extra costs on power generators who in turn pass that cost along to ratepayers. It’s a hidden tax. HB 208 returns the revenue from that hidden tax back to the people from whom it was taken and provides some measure of relief for families and businesses.”

## WMUR/UNH POLL: JOBS, JOBS, JOBS

Despite improving economic conditions, the state’s economy and unemployment continue to be seen as the most important problem facing the state. Currently, 29% of New Hampshire adults say that jobs and the economy is the most important issue facing the state, followed by education (10%), the state budget (9%), health care (8%), and taxes (5%). Granite Staters also appear to be fed up with snowfall as 1% cited the snow as the most important problem.



## REP. JOANNE WARD ELECTED TO LEADERSHIP ROLE WITH WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

At the 21st Annual State Directors' and 11th Biennial First Term Legislators' Conference in St. Pete Beach, Florida, Women In Government congratulated newly-reelected State Representative, who was in attendance.

"Women In Government congratulates Joanne Ward from Stratham on her recent inauguration to the New Hampshire state legislature. Women legislators play a critical role in effecting sound policy within their communities and beyond," said Dyan Alexander, Executive Director of Women In Government. "Joanne Ward is a recognized leader in her state, and we are excited that she was able to attend and share her leadership skills with other women policymakers throughout the country."

"Being able to participate with legislators from around the country was an invaluable experience. The policy presentations will serve as a basis for important legislation in this term. Trending issues across the country, are similar in many states, for example, energy costs, substance addiction, job creation, the ever increasing costs of health care and the cost of government. As a member of the Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs I would particularly like to keep working around the issues of substance addiction. Our state is losing too many young people to addictions" Representative Ward said.

At the 21st Annual State Directors' Conference, women state legislators heard from expert speakers on a variety of public policy topics and their impact on states. Topics included developing energy diversity, the role of nutrition in healthy aging, methods for creating opportunities for families, diabetes prevention and awareness, and many others. This meeting also provided attendees with the opportunity to network with colleagues across state borders and share best practices to advance successful public policies.

### About Women In Government

Women In Government Foundation, Inc. is a national, non-profit, non-partisan organization of women state legislators providing leadership opportunities, networking, expert forums, and educational resources. Women In Government serves all 1,785 women who serve in state legislatures from across the country. For more information, visit [www.womeningovernment.org](http://www.womeningovernment.org).

### In case you missed it:

A person in an owl costume testified before the House Commerce Committee on Tuesday.



### PRIMARY POLITICS: SHOVELING FOR VOTES?

The snow has been piling up and so have the potential candidates for President in 2016. Check out this novel idea and [discussion](#) between Joe McQuaid (@deucecrew), Union Leader Publisher, Mike Biundo, Republican Strategist, and Kathleen Ronayne, AP Reporter.

**@deucecrew:** *Is there an app I can use to download the snow from my roof? #NHsnow*

**@MichaelBiundo:** *. @deucecrew , I bet if you called one of these potential #2016 presidential candidates, they would do it. #FITN*

**@kronayne:** *@MichaelBiundo Picturing the headlines: "Presidential candidates demonstrate 2016 commitment by shoveling snow in NH"*