



# REPUBLICAN REVIEW

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

## REPUBLICANS UNITE ON AGENDA BILL VICTORIES

Election Law Reform, Fetal Homicide, and Croydon Bill All Win Handily on Thursday

SB 3 (Election Law Reform), SB 66 (Fetal Homicide), and SB 8 (Croydon Bill) all sailed through the House of Representatives Thursday, with strong Republican majorities voting in favor of the measures. These, in addition to several other bills passed during the Thursday session, mark significant progress in achieving goals laid out in the Republican legislative agenda, and by Governor Sununu.

Senate Bill 3 had received a party line vote in the Election Law committee and was expected to receive a similar polarized vote on the House floor. 95% of Republicans participating in the vote supported the committee's recommendation, in addition to 2 Democrats who broke ranks.

House Majority Leader Dick Hinch said, "I applaud the hard work of our Election Law experts in the House and Senate and am pleased to see SB3 pass the House. New Hampshire holds more local and state elections than any other state in the nation, with numerous outcomes being decided by single digit margins. SB3 will help maintain confidence in our elections by eliminating drive-by voting and removing the domicile loophole by making domicile a verifiable act. SB3 holds all residents to an equal standard and makes sure that every duly qualified voter who shows up to the polls has the opportunity to vote."

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### The following message was sent to Republican House members by email after the Thursday session:

*Fellow House Republicans,*

*Thank you for uniting today to support several major pieces of our Republican legislative agenda. After many years of attempting to pass election law reform, expand school choice options, and pass a fetal homicide law, we can finally rest assured that these important policy initiatives will reach the Governor's desk and be signed into law.*

*Even with a slim Republican majority, when we work together, we can make meaningful progress on conservative, Republican policy goals that will make New Hampshire an even better place. We may not agree 100% with the content of every bill or 100% of the time with fellow Republicans, but we are all on the same team, and we must have a mutual respect for each other and an appreciation for the work that has gone in to every bill.*

*As we continue through this year and through the term, I encourage you to work with each other, and reach out to my office or the Majority Office any time you have a question or concern so can move forward together and demonstrate to our constituents that Republicans can govern responsibly and with purpose.*

*I look forward to the work ahead of us in June, and I welcome your involvement and input as we enter the committee of conference phase of the legislative process.*

*Sincerely, Shawn N. Jasper, Speaker*

#### **Session Notice:**

The next House session will be Thursday, June 8, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.

For future planning, there will be no legislative activity or mileage reimbursement between June 26th and August 18th, unless special circumstances arise and authorization is granted.

## GOP AGENDA

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On Thursday, the House also passed SB66, also known as “Griffin’s Law” after former member, Rep. Leon Rideout’s grandson. This is an important bill that provides that a viable fetus, defined in the bill as 20 weeks, shall be included in the definition of “another” for the purposes of first and second degree murder, manslaughter, negligent homicide, and causing or aiding a suicide.

92% of Republicans participating in the vote supported the committee’s recommendation, in addition to 4 Democrats who broke ranks.

We believe that this is not a pro-choice or pro-life issue, as the committee amendment, adopted by the House, actually provides protection for women who wish to terminate their pregnancy. This bill is solely about protecting pregnant women and their unborn children and about allowing for families to seek justice in the event of the death of an unborn child due to the criminal acts of another.

Because SB66 was amended, it will go back to the Senate for approval. They can request a committee of conference on the bill, concur with the changes, or non-concur. In the event the Senate concurs, it will head to Governor Sununu’s desk for signature.

Senate Bill 8, relative to school attendance in towns with no public schools, sailed through the House with a bipartisan vote. 98% of Republicans participating in the vote supported the committee’s recommendation, in addition to 13 Democrats who broke ranks.

House Education Committee chairman Rick Ladd (R-Haverhill) said that the goal of the bill is to. "provide an adequate education that is more than adequate, that’s the best education possible for students in school districts where the only option is to send them to a failing school or a private school."

## Senate Passes Budget Plan

Late on Wednesday, the State Senate passed their budget plan, marking the next step in the budget process. Each of the bills (HB144 & HB517) passed by a 14-9 vote.

On Tuesday, Senate Finance Committee Chair Gary Daniels along with the Legislative Budget Assistant presented an overview of the budget to legislators in Representatives Hall. The presentation and outline document are available online:

- [Senate Budget Briefing Document](#)
- [Senate Budget Briefing Video](#)

The House is expected to receive the budget early next week. At the House session on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, we will have the opportunity to concur with the proposal as-is, or non-concur with the Senate and request a committee of conference.

As a reminder, Section 228 of HB517, as passed by the Senate contains language that all sections of the committee amendments to HB1 and HB2, as passed by the House Finance committee will be considered germane for the purpose of committee of conference negotiations.

House Majority Leader Dick Hinch said, “The passage of SB8 is an important step forward. This bill will give school boards and parents more choices in order to send their students to the best possible school. SB8 guarantees all students will have the chance to receive an adequate education, whether it’s a public school or a non-sectarian private school. We applaud the committee’s hard work on this important piece of legislation, and we look forward to it getting to the Governor’s desk.”

## 6-Term House Dem Arrested

Rep. Thomas Katsiantonis (D- Manchester) was arrested and charged with 4 counts of tax evasion, 2 counts of theft, 1 count of falsifying physical evidence and 1 count of unsworn falsification.

[To read the Department of Justice’s press release click here.](#)

Rep. Katsiantonis has only showed up for 1 House session day this term, and missed 83% of votes during the 2015-2016 term.

**Submit photos, story ideas, questions or comments to [info@nhhousegop.com](mailto:info@nhhousegop.com)**

## House Honors Vietnam Veterans Heroic Actions

During Thursday's House session Rep. Frank McCarthy delivered unanimous consent remarks in honor of Memorial Day and in remembrance of the men of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment who carried out meritorious actions in the Thanh Tan Valley of Vietnam. Two members of the Marine battalion were seated in the gallery during the session and received a standing ovation from the floor of the House. Rep. McCarthy after describing the historic actions of the men finished by stating, "I stand before you today, to finally put the courage and heroic actions of these men on record, 50 years after the fact, and hopefully in doing so I'll somewhat illuminate the true meaning of Memorial Day."



Photo: Members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment with Governor Sununu and Rep. Frank McCarthy.

## New Hampshire's Memorial Day Evolution

On Monday New Hampshire along with the rest of the nation celebrated Memorial Day honoring all those that made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. But what are the origins of this hallowed holiday, and more importantly how has New Hampshire celebrated this Holiday over the years?

Memorial Day has origins dating back to the period just after the Civil War when "Decoration Day", as it was originally called, was proclaimed by General John Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic on May 30<sup>th</sup> of 1868. The holiday was marked by decorating the graves of those who perished during the Civil War. During the first Memorial Day observance at Arlington National Cemetery, General James Garfield (future 20<sup>th</sup> President), in a speech honoring those entombed just outside the city they fought to protect said, "If silence is ever golden, it must be here beside the graves of fifteen thousand men, whose lives were more significant than speech, and whose death was a poem, the music of which can never be sung." Since 1868 almost every U.S. President has visited Arlington to pay respects on Memorial Day.

Almost 100 years later in 1967 Memorial Day would become the official name of the Holiday and a year later in 1968 as part of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act the date of celebrating was changed from May 30<sup>th</sup> to the last Monday in May. Memorial Day wouldn't become an official federal holiday however until 1971.

Despite the Uniform Monday Holidays Act, New Hampshire with its "Live Free or Die" spirit continued to celebrate Memorial Day on the traditional May 30<sup>th</sup> date until 1993 when RSA 288:1 was amended to move the holiday to the "last Monday in May" in order to coincide with the federal act.

## Special Election Round-Up

### Up Next:

Merrimack District 18 (Concord Ward 9)  
 Election Day: July 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Republican Nominee: Michael Feeley  
 How You Can Help:

### On the Radar:

Grafton District 9 (Alexandria, Ashland, Bridgewater, Bristol, Grafton)  
 Primary: July 18, 2017  
 Election Day: September 5  
 Republicans Filing: Paul H. Simard, Vincent Paul Migliore, Timothy F. Sweetsir, Burton W. Williams

### Requested, but not yet scheduled:

Belknap 9 (Laconia, Belmont)  
 Hillsborough 15 (Manchester Ward 8)  
 Rockingham 4 (Auburn, Chester, Sandown)

## PAC Filing Dates

New this year, if you have registered a political action committee for the 2018 election cycle and have spent over \$500, you are required to file 2 reports in 2017; June 7<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the change in the law, political committees needed only to file their first report in June of the election year.

[For more information on campaign finance filing dates, please click here.](#)

## Candidate Filing Period 1 Year Away

Per RSA 655:14, candidates must file, "first Wednesday in June and the Friday of the following week." This means that the filing period for candidates in 2018 will begin Jun 6th, 2018 and end on June 15th, 2018.

If you plan on running for reelection, or running as a first-time candidate, mark your calendars now, and begin your campaign timeline and planning!

Those who plan to file to run for state representative are encouraged to let us know by emailing our political organization at [info@electhouseRepublicans.com](mailto:info@electhouseRepublicans.com).

## Thank you and congratulations to Rep. John Burt for another successful Hot Dog Day.

(Photos courtesy of NHGOP and Elliot Gault)

