



REPUBLICAN REVIEW

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

In Memoriam: Rep. Ron Belanger

It is with great sadness today that we inform you of the passing of Rep. Ron Belanger of Salem. We learned of his passing this afternoon. Ron was serving his 13th term representing the people of Salem and had served in various leadership roles during his tenure. Ron was also very involved in his community, having served as a selectman as well as a member of the planning board and the zoning board of adjustment. Once we receive any details of the services for Ron, we will pass them along to you. In the meantime our thoughts and prayers go out to his family at this time.



ELECTION INTEGRITY COMMISSION DELAYS REQUEST FOR DATA HEARING ON SUIT TO BLOCK NH DATA RELEASE POSTPONED

Late Monday, WMUR reported, "President Donald Trump's election fraud commission Monday asked election officials throughout the country to put on hold the transfer of voter data to the panel pending the outcome of a federal judge's ruling, according to several reports."

As a result of the postponement of the Commission's request, the litigants involved in the suit against Sec. of State Bill Gardner have asked to postpone a hearing, originally scheduled for Tuesday at 1pm, until the federal court has ruled. The Court therefore agreed to postpone Tuesday's hearing at Hillsborough County Superior Court South in Nashua.

GOVERNOR SIGNS SEVERAL BILLS OF INTEREST

In case you missed it, this past week Governor Sununu signed a few of the major bills of the past session year, including election reform, infrastructure aide to cities and towns, and cross border drug interdiction. Take a look at some of the major initiatives signed this week:

SB3- voter domicile reform and clarification of voter residency parameters for NH.

SB38- \$36 million in road and bridge aid, in addition to what is included in the budget, to boost municipalities' ability to address infrastructure needs

HB25- makes appropriations for capital projects, including IT projects, repairs to Reps' Hall, state park improvements, and state prison upgrades.

SB191- Allows towns that have full-day kindergarten to receive an additional \$1100 per pupil, and allows towns to implement Keno. All Keno revenue will go to the Education Trust Fund to cover the additional adequacy costs.

SB131- establishes the cross border drug interdiction program and provides for 5 additional state troopers



to work across state lines in an effort to further curb the opioid crisis

Photo:

Several House and Senate members were in attendance Tuesday for the SB38 signing ceremony in Derry.

NOTE: The House Calendar will be published on a biweekly basis during the summer months.
There is no House Calendar this week.

KENOGARTEN: Frequently Asked Questions

Senate Bill 191 was signed into law in Wednesday. We thought it might be helpful to provide answers to some frequently asked questions about the bill. We hope you find this helpful talking with constituents and voters this summer.

Does my town have to implement full day kindergarten?

No. it is not mandated. Each town will make their own decision on whether or not to have full day kindergarten. Some towns, like Concord, have already voted this year to not implement full day kindergarten.

Does my town have to implement Keno?

No. Like full day kindergarten, Keno has to be approved by the town.

In a town, the question shall be placed on a warrant of an annual town meeting and shall be voted on a ballot. In a city, the legislative body may vote to place the question on the official ballot for any regular municipal election, or, in the alternative, shall place the question on the official ballot for any regular municipal election upon submission to the legislative body of a petition signed by 5 percent of the registered voters. The selectmen, alderman, or city council are also required to hold a public meeting before the question is voted on.

If my town has full day kindergarten, do we have to implement Keno?

No. Having Keno in your town does not require you to have full day kindergarten, nor does having full day kindergarten require you to have Keno. Like other lottery money, the money from Keno will be sent to the Education Trust Fund, then will be dispersed to the towns that have full day kindergarten starting in FY20.

How much money does my town get?

Towns that implement full day kindergarten will receive \$1100 per student in FY19 in addition to their current adequacy funds. This grant will be for both public schools and public charter schools. In the first year that a school district starts full-day kindergarten, the superintendent will certify at the beginning of the school year the enrollment in full-day kindergarten, and will be provided the grant. In subsequent years average daily membership (ADM), which is the current way we fund K-12 for public schools, will be used to determine the grant amount.

What happens if Keno revenues are lower than expected?

In FY20, full day kindergarten will be funded at full adequacy. If Keno revenue falls short of providing for full adequacy payments then the grant to the school districts shall be prorated proportionally. The prorated portion shall not be less than \$1100.

What if a parent doesn't want to send their child to full day kindergarten?

A provision of SB191 gives parents the choice of sending their child to full day kindergarten or half day. A school district or chartered public school that operates an approved full-day kindergarten program for which it receives funding under this section shall permit a pupil to attend kindergarten for a half-day.

CONCORD SPECIAL ON TUESDAY!

Michael Feeley is a U.S. Army veteran running for State Representative in Concord's Ward 9. He is working tremendously hard to turn this district Republican, and needs our help in the final days before the special election on July 18th.

Join the New Hampshire Republican State Committee on Saturday July 15th at 10:00am to help canvas for Mike Feeley for State Representative. For more details or other opportunities to get involved please call the NHGOP at (603) 225-9341.

Visit: <http://nh.gop/special-election-volunteering/>



Photo:

Governor Chris Sununu and NHGOP Chair Jeanie Forrester joined Republican candidate Michael Feeley, Concord Ward 9, for a meet and greet with voters on Tuesday night.

2016 Drug Deaths Reach New Record

With all pending cases now having been resolved, the Office of Chief Medical Examiner issued a report showing that 486 individuals lost their lives to a drug overdose in **2016**. This is up from 439 in 2015, and a dramatic rise from the 163 deaths in 2012.

Fentanyl, a powerful synthetic opioid that is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine, continues to be the most prevalent cause of overdose deaths.

Carfentanil, an analogue of fentanyl, is 100 times more potent than fentanyl and is responsible for 10 deaths so far in **2017**.

OPIATES/OPIOIDS	# OF DEATHS
Fentanyl (no other drugs)	204
Fentanyl and Other Drugs (excluding heroin)	127
Heroin (no other drugs)	3
Heroin and Other Drugs (excluding fentanyl)	5
Heroin and Fentanyl	21
Unknown Opioids	2
Other Opiates/Opioids	64
Total Deaths Caused By Opiates/Opioids	426
Other drugs	60
Total Drug Deaths	486

Special Election Round-Up

Up Next:

Merrimack Dist 18 (Concord W 9)
 Election Day: July 18, 2017
 Republican Nominee: Michael Feeley

Grafton Dist 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

Belknap Dist 9 (Laconia, Belmont)
 Election Day: September 12, 2017.
 Republican Nominee: Steven R. Whalley

Rockingham Dist 4 (Auburn, Chester, Sandown)
 Primary: August 8, 2017
 Election Day: September 26, 2017
 Republicans Filing: James E. Devine, James F. Headd, Anthony S. Rossignol

Hillsborough Dist 15 (Manchester W-8)
 Primary: September 19, 2017
 Election Day: November 7, 2017
 Republicans Filing: Andy Parent & Albert E. MacArthur Jr.

House Counsel: Constitution Requires 2/3 Vote for Special Session

On Tuesday, Speaker Jasper sent the following message to members of the House:

As you know there is an effort by some members to fulfil the requirements of RSA 16:2, for the General Court to call a special session.

16:2 Petition. – There shall be filed with the secretary of state a petition for the calling of a special session of the general court which petition shall be signed by not less than 50 members of the house of representatives, not more than 10 of whom shall reside in the same county, and signed by not less than 8 members of the senate. Said petition shall state the reason or reasons why the public welfare requires a special session of the general court.

If those requirements are met, the Secretary of State is required to send ballots to members.

16:3 Notice. – Upon receiving such petition, the secretary of state shall forthwith mail a copy thereof to each member of the general court together with a ballot upon which shall be stated the following question: "Are you of the opinion that the general court should meet in special session?"

There appeared to be a conflict between RSA 16:4 and Part II, Article 15 of the State Constitution. The statute states that a majority vote of members was needed for a special session to be called, while the Constitution states that a 2/3 majority is required.

16:4 Vote Required. – If within 10 days after the date of the mailing of said ballot by the secretary of state a majority of the members of the house and a majority of the members of the senate shall return said ballot marked in the affirmative, the general court shall be called in special session.

[Art.] 15. [Compensation of the Legislature.] The presiding officers of both houses of the legislature, shall severally receive out of the state treasury as compensation in full for their services for the term elected the sum of \$250, and all other members thereof, seasonably attending and not departing without license, the sum of \$200 and each member shall receive mileage for actual daily attendance on legislative days, but not after the legislature shall have been in session for 45 legislative days or after the first day of July following the annual assembly of the legislature, whichever occurs first; provided, however, that, when a special session shall be called by the governor or by a 2/3 vote of the then qualified members of each branch of the general court, such officers and members shall receive for attendance an additional compensation of \$3 per day for a period not exceeding 15 days and the usual mileage. Nothing herein shall prevent the payment of additional mileage to members attending committee meetings or on other legislative business on nonlegislative days.

House Counsel Charles G. Douglas, III was asked to provide an opinion on the matter. The full opinion is [attached](#). He states the following:

"... the constitutional requirement of two-thirds of the qualified members of each branch may not be contradicted by statute. The Court has made repeatedly clear that a statute that conflicts with the Constitution is unconstitutional.

Obviously, the procedures of RSA16 may be followed, but the constitutional requirement of two-thirds must also be met."

This opinion makes it clear that if the required signatures are obtained for the petition, a majority vote of 2/3 of qualified members would be required to call a special session. With 392 members of the House currently qualified, 262 votes would be required.

I hope this answers any question you had about the petition and balloting procedure.



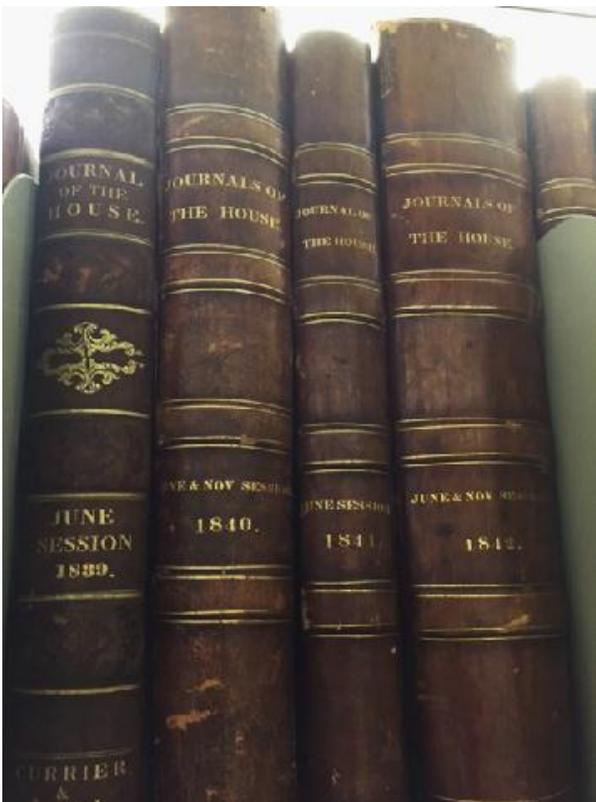
Photo: Several House and Senate members were in attendance Tuesday for the SB191 signing ceremony in Penacook.

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

Did you know that the State Archives in Concord maintains a collection of House Journals dating back centuries?

They are stored in a climate controlled, fire safe, and secure area of the Archives building, with other documents of historic significance, to preserve them.

Pictured below are original bound copies of the Journals of the House from 1839-1842.



Union Leader Editorials Commend Republican Policy Initiatives

[Business is booming: Cutting tax rates worked](#)

“Cutting the BET not only makes New Hampshire a more attractive place to start a business. It makes it easier for existing businesses to hire more workers. Business tax rates are an important piece of New Hampshire’s economic development puzzle.”

[Voting in NH: You actually have to live here](#)

“Democrats are oddly passionate about protecting access to the polls for people who don’t really live here. Our elections should be reserved for New Hampshire voters.”

Beer is Big Biz in NH

In a [report on NH’s craft beer industry](#), NHPR reported that, “60 out of New Hampshire’s 65 brewers qualify as craft, enough to account for a sizeable boost to the state’s economy. Watson says that boost amounted to \$359 million when the organization last measured it in 2014.”

Note: Back in February, the NH House killed a bill (by a voice vote) that would have raised the beer tax by 67%.

Mobile Lottery on its Way

The [Union Leader](#) and [NHPR](#) both ran detailed stories about the implementation of mobile lottery games in NH, which was authorized in the state budget. Mobile lottery is expected to raise \$13 million in revenue.