

NHCTCA Legislative Committee Report 2026

The 2026 New Hampshire legislative session concluded on June 4, with the House and Senate taking final votes on all remaining committees of conference reports—including the state budget. The final days saw intense negotiations.

Just over 1,100 bills were considered this year. Over 300 were signed into law by Governor Ayotte.

Below is a summary of the top issues:

HB323, Title: requiring the presentation of government issued identification in order to vote.

Just like it sounds, this bill makes it so that student IDs are no longer acceptable to vote in New Hampshire. **Signed by the Governor**

HB1300, (Third New Title) establishing a school district local tax cap question for the state general elections of 2026 and 2028 and related limitations on central office administrative expenses in school districts

This bill began in the house as a congressional redistricting bill. It has become a bill about a local school district tax cap on the November ballot for the next 2 cycles. Advocacy by the NHCTCA had this added to the November ballot rather than on a separate ballot as originally proposed that would have required towns to provide the local ballot bringing an added cost to the election. **Signed by the Governor**

HB1260, Title: relative to marriage registration forms and delayed certificates of marriage.

This bill has updated the marriage intentions and allowed them to be completed prior to arriving in the clerk's office and allows clerks to collect a fee for the processing of a delayed marriage. This was a clerk submitted bill. **Signed by the Governor.**

HB1274, Relative to dog licensing.

This bill corrects a previous bill that incorrectly adjusted the dog licensing fees. They are now returned to the original redistribution of fees for the Department of Agriculture as originally intended. This was a clerk submitted bill. **Signed by the Governor.**

HB488, a bill aimed at restricting clerks from holding any other appointed or elected office in the municipality, was voted Inexpedient to legislate on March 20, 2026, by the Senate after it had passed the house. This happened though direct advocacy by many clerks in the state.

Also of note, HB1569 that passed in 2024 had the documentary proof of citizenship provision in the bill overturned in court on May 28, 2026. Clerk testimony in 2024 warned of this possibility. It is our hope that more clerks become involved in legislation and testifying in Concord. Our Representatives and Senators need to hear from us as we continually get additional requirements to follow in all aspects of our duties.