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POLICY + ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

SPEAKING UP FOR WHAT MATTERS

advocating for change

In New Hampshire



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today's presenters



Martha McLeod

VP of Community Engagement

mmcleod@new-futures.org



Peter Ntourntourekas

Training Manager

peter@new-futures.org

today's presenters



Lauren Martin

Community Engagement Coordinator

lmartin@new-futures.org



Sarah Cain

Community Engagement Coordinator

scain@new-futures.org

digital resource **folder**

newfutures.stockpress.co/s/adv101

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who we are

Solving problems through policy change.

New Futures works to improve the health and well-being of all Granite Staters through public policy change and civic empowerment.



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our impact

2025-2026 legislative session



500+
bills tracked

115+
policy wins

3,400+
unique advocates

6,800+
actions taken

More than $199 Million

secured in the 2026-2027 NH state budget for programs supporting NH's most vulnerable children, families, and individuals

Every one dollar invested in **New Futures** returned **$111** in funding for critical community programs!

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What our team looks like

Issue Area Work Groups

Community Engagement

- Connect with advocates all over NH
- Educate communities and organizations
- Join coalitions and sit in on meetings to exchange information
- Provide advocacy support for groups and individuals



Policy Coordinator

- Track and analyze legislative proposals
- Develop and implement strategy around legislative priorities
- Convene, coordinate, and collaborate with key stakeholders
- Conducts in depth research on an issue and can provide insight on how policy will affect communities

Communication

- Develop materials for internal and external use including fact sheets and toolkits
- Translate complex policy objectives for the public
- Create engaging graphics for action alerts and newsletters
- In charge of social media
- Facilitates media relations



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pop quiz



Each year New Hampshire legislators are paid...

a) $100 plus mileage

b) $100 each day in session

c) $1,000 plus mileage

d) $10,000

How many legislators are in the NH House of Representatives?

a) 24

b) 100

c) 400

d) 435

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pop quiz



Every single bill in New Hampshire gets a public hearing.

a) True **b)** False

The minimum age to become a NH state representative is...

a) 16 **b)** 18 **c)** 25 **d)** 30

You must be a registered voter to testify at a public hearing.

a) True **b)** False

There was a total of about _____ bills proposed last year.

a) 200 **b)** 500 **c)** 800 **d)** 1200

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what is **advocacy**



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action in support of a cause

- individual
- systemic

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why **policy?**





because it **works!**

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the new hampshire **legislature**



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new hampshire **state government**

Legislative

- House of Representatives
- Senate

Executive

- Governor
- Executive Council
- State Agencies

Judicial

- State Court System

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executive council



5 Executive Councilors

We elect them every 2 years.

Check & Balance on Governor

This is unique to NH.

Approve appointments

of Judges and Commissioners to State Departments, among others

Approve state contracts

over $10,000

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state legislators

- Volunteers
- No research staff
- 424 members

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citizen legislature



- Very **low barrier** to become a legislator
- Low compensation, **not career politicians**
- Care about their **community**
- Lots of **public access** to the process
- **Look to constituents** for expertise
- **Expense and time make it difficult** for young working adults
- **Lack of knowledge**/experience outside of their professional life
- **It's hard** for the public (and even legislators) **to follow bills**

legislative session



6 month process

Legislature meets from **January - June** every year.

2 year cycle

This is called a **biennium**.
First year is a **budget year.**

2 year terms

We elect **legislators** and the **governor** every 2 years.

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general court website

gc.nh.gov

- Look up Representatives/Senators
- Remote Sign-in for public hearings
- Find a Bill
- Committee pages
- Calendars
- and more!



look up your legislators

QUICK LINKS

Who's My Legislator?

House Clerk

House Meeting Schedule

Standing Committe

ROSTER

Select a Member -->

Roster Downloads

Text Delimited
Excel Microsoft 2003
Excel Microsoft 365

Districts

Districts Map (pdf)
Districts List (pdf)

SEARCH BY SEAT

Choose the section/seat number from the dropdown below.

Select a Seat -->

DISCOVER A TOWN OR CITY'S REPRESENTATIVE

Select a town: Select a Town -->

Or use map below to find which Member's represent a town



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look up your legislators

DISCOVER A TOWN OR CITY'S REPRESENTATIVE

NH Map

Select a town: Concord

Representatives for Concord

District 15

Ward 1

Tracy Anne Bricchi: 146 Village Street Penacook, NH 03303-1960

District 16

Ward 2

Connie Boyles Lane: State House-House Member Mail 107 North Main Street Concord, NH 03301

District 17

Ward 3

Beth S. Richards: 3 Willard Street Concord, NH 03303-3509

District 18

Ward 4

James R MacKay: 139 North State Street Concord, NH 03301-6431

District 19

Ward 5

Mary Jane Wallner: 24 Samuel Drive Concord, NH 03301-3051

District 20

Ward 6

Eric B Gallager: State House-House Member Mail 107 North Main Street Concord, NH 03301

Representative Mary Jane Wallner (D)

Merrimack - District 19



Contact Information

24 Samuel Drive
Concord, NH 03301-3051
mjwallner@gc.nh.gov
603.225.5249
Seat #: 4014

Bills Sponsored this Session

Voting Record

Additional Information

House Committee Information

Committee Name: Finance
Position: Member
Committee Function:
It shall be the duty of the Committee on Finance to examine and consider the state of the treasury and the budget; subjects concerning the financial interest of the state; all measures carrying appropriations of state money except claims against the state and such other matters as may be referred to it. Prior to the report of the Finance Committee to the House, the Speaker may refer the budget of certain self-sustaining state agencies to appropriate committees for study and recommendation.

Finance - Division III
Position: Member

Personal Biography

Born in St Louis Mo.
Graduated from Celina High School, Celina Ohio
Served as a Vista volunteer in Chicago, Illinois and M
Graduated from University of New Hampshire, class

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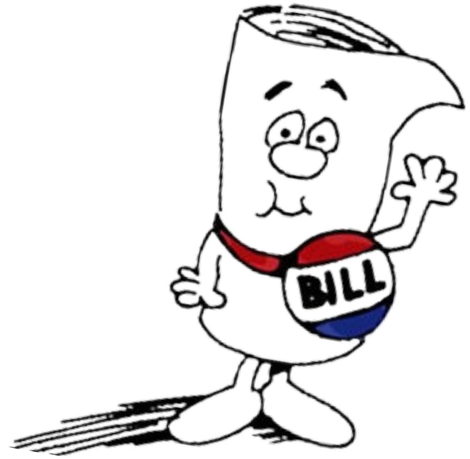
how a bill **becomes a law**



LSR

YOU ARE HERE

Bill Released

Committee

Public Hearing

Executive Session

Second Committee

Full Body Vote

Crossover

Committee

Public Hearing

Second Committee

Executive Session

Full Body Vote

Committee of Conference

Governor's Desk

2/3 Veto Override

Bill Becomes Law

"Bill" from School House Rock is property of Disney

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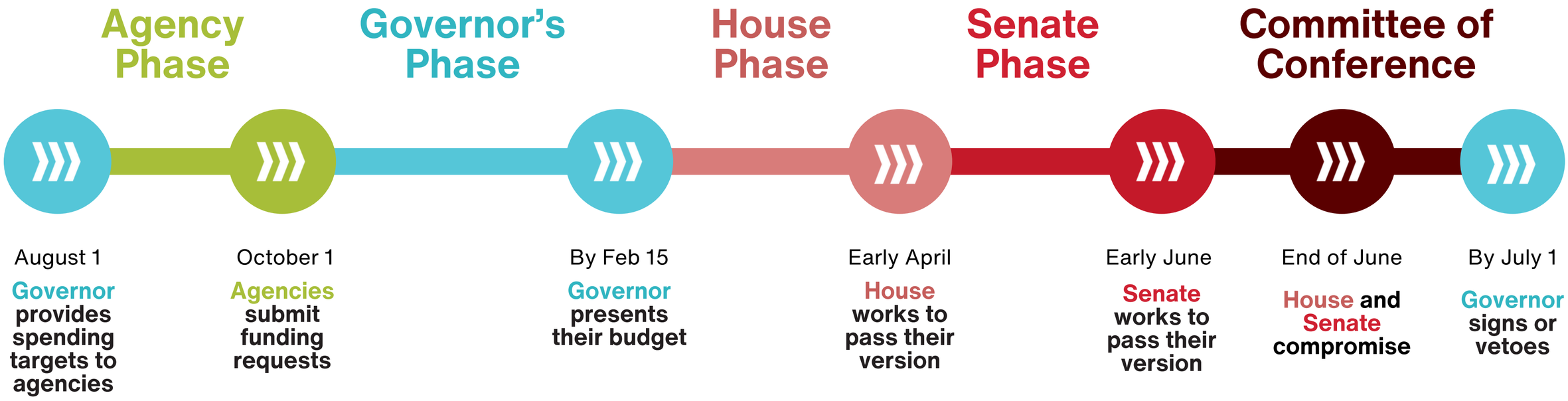
state budget process



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effective **advocacy messaging**



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what's in an effective **advocacy message?**



Story

Data

Ask

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stories humanize **policy**



Stories are proven to be more:

- **memorable**
- **relatable**
- **repeatable**
- **effective at changing minds**

than data alone

ways to **advocate**



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examples of **advocacy**

- Calling Elected Officials
- Participating in a Public Hearing
- Writing a Letter to the Editor
- Social Media
- Emailing Elected Officials
- Coffee with an Elected Official
- Legislative Events or Breakfasts
- Participating in a Rally

and more!

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advocacy and **social media**



Build awareness

Spread information, resources, and educate others about your issue

Call to Action

Encourage others to join you in taking action

Power in numbers

Increase the number of people advocating for your cause

calling **elected officials**



Keep your message concise

Prepare bullet points or a script.

Representatives vs Senators

Reps list their personal numbers.
Senators list their office numbers.

Leave a message

Keep it brief and ask for a call back if you want to talk further.

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emailing elected officials



- **They get a lot of emails!**
- **Personalize your message**
- **Make subject line “searchable”**
  Consitutent of Town, Bill #, Issue
- **Option to send resources**

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submit an opinion piece

- If your piece isn't published, you can resubmit
- Submit to *your* local paper

	Letter to the Editor (LTE)	Opinion Editorial (Op-ed)
Word Count	250	800
Submission	on website	email Opinion or Editor
Audience	legislators & public	

participating in a **public hearing**



Every bill in NH gets at least one public hearing

- **Remote Sign-In**
- **Written Testimony**
- **In-Person Testimony**

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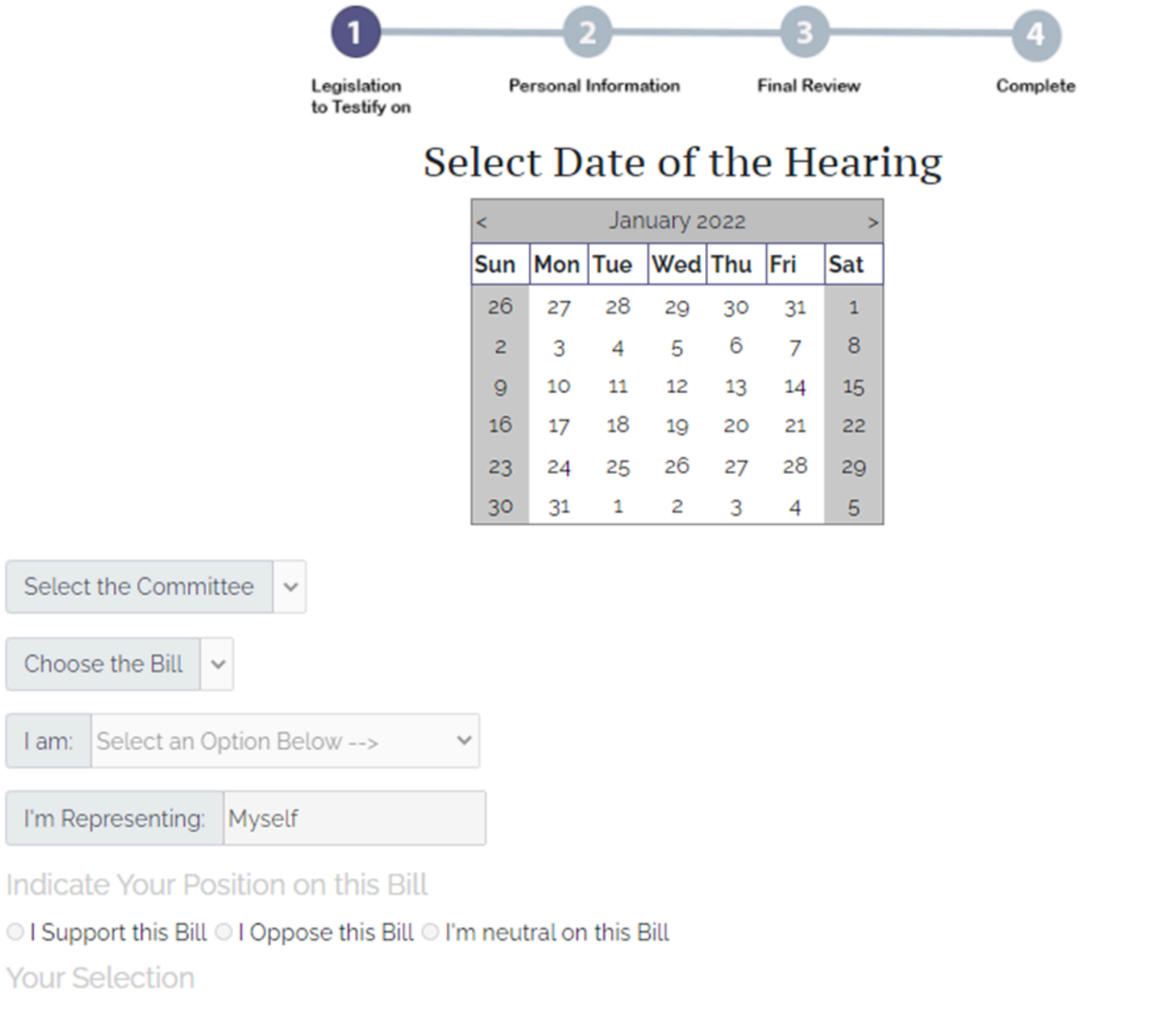
remote sign-in



Under “Meeting Resources” on GenCourt homepage

Senate and House have separate links.

Takes 1 minute

Sign in quickly on your phone!

Know hearing info

Date, Time, Committee, Bill #

Generally, select these options:

I am: *A member of the Public*

I’m Representing: *Myself*

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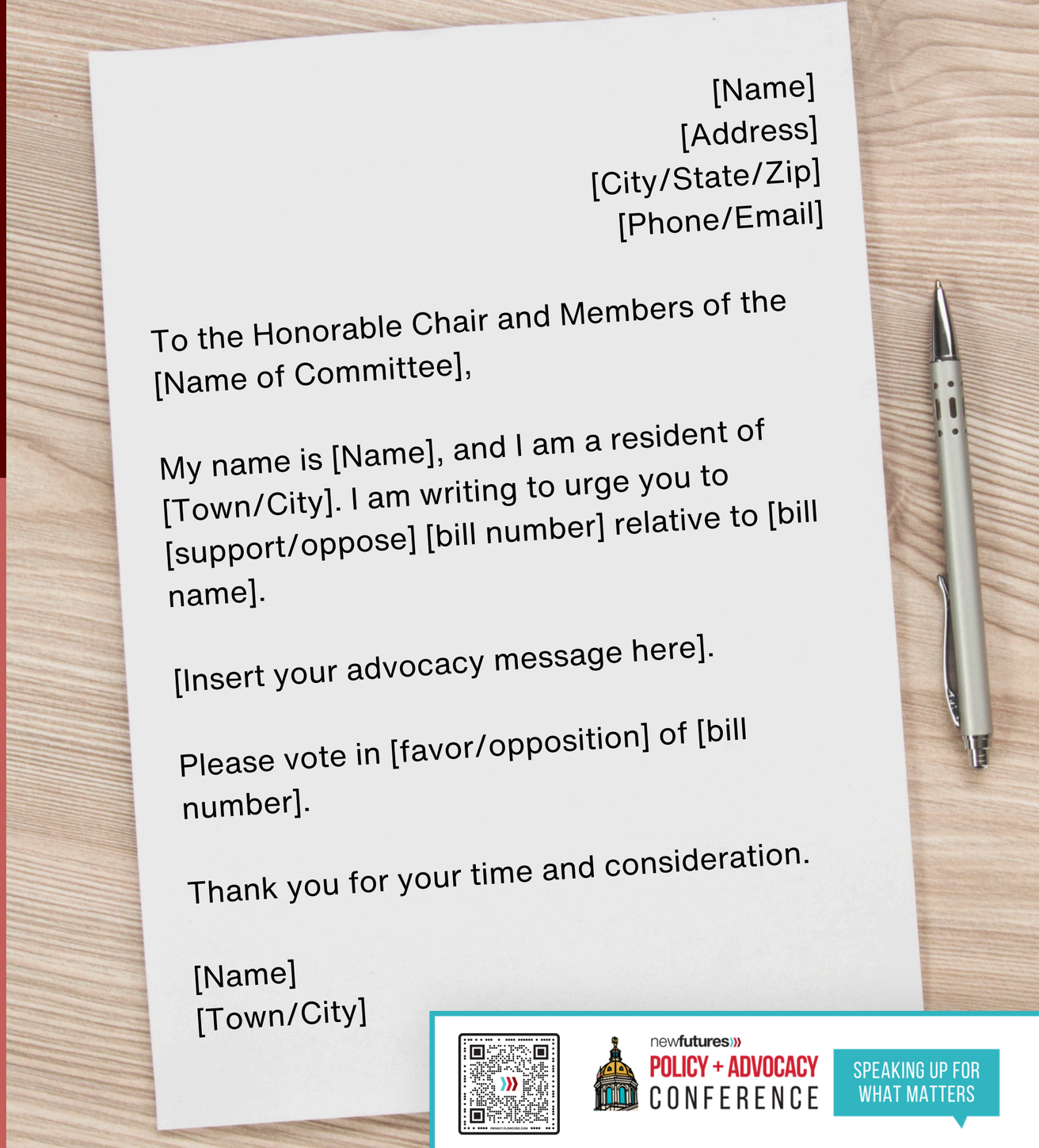
written testimony

In-Person

Print copies for committee members

Online

House: during Remote Sign-In (public)
Senate: “Email Entire Committee” link on committee’s page on GenCourt website



submitting written testimony

The New Hampshire
State Senate

About | Legislation | Senators | Committees | Calendars | Newsroom | Multimedia | Portal

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

Capital Budget



Chairman Daniel Innis
V Chairman James Gray
Jeb Bradley
Lou D'Allesandro
David Watters

Email Entire Committee

Committee Aide: Ryan Meleedy
Phone: (603) 271-4151
Location: NA

Commerce



Chairman Bill Gannon
V Chairman Denise Ricciardi
Daniel Innis
Donna Soucy
Shannon Chandley

Email Entire Committee

Committee Aide: Aaron Jones
Phone: (603) 271-2609
Location: SH Rm 100

Education



Chairman Ruth Ward
Timothy Lang

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testifying



2-3 minutes

Prepare bullet points for yourself

Print copies of your letter to hand in

One for each committee member

Verify room & time

(LOB or SH) Arrive early to find parking!

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legislative events



- **Educate many legislators on a topic at once**
- **Highlight an organization and it's work**
- **Connect constituents with legislators**

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examples of **legislative events**















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get creative





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policy change



- A marathon, not a sprint
- Requires ongoing vigilance
- Celebrate ALL victories
- Your voice matters!

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is here to support you in your advocacy!

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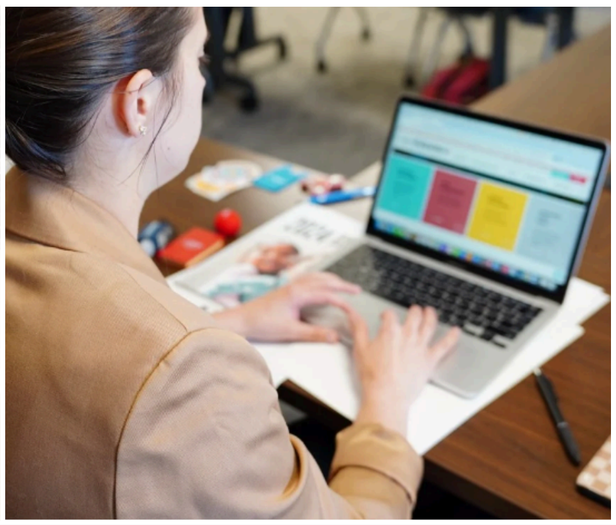
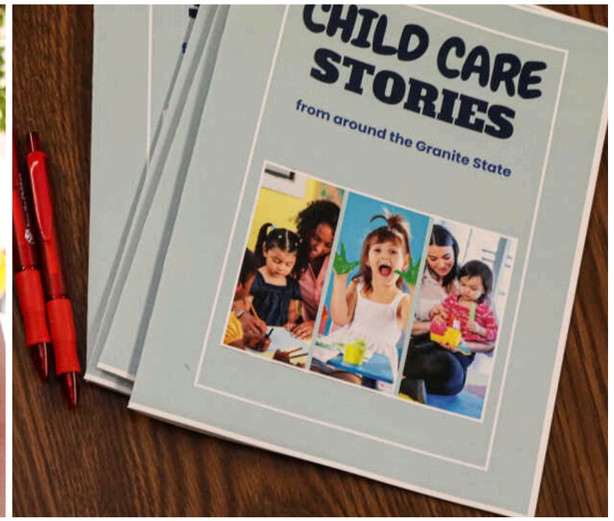




support our work

new-futures.org/donate







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sign up for **action alerts**

PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM

www.new-futures.org/training/sign-up

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