How to Contact Your Legislator

Contacting your elected officials who represent you in Concord is a great way to make your voice heard on an issue you care about. Representatives and Senators are attentive to constituent concerns, and letting them know what issues you'd like them to prioritize can have a direct impact on your community.

Facts to Include When Contacting Your Legislator:

- The State of NH pays, on average, $4,700 per pupil for an "adequate" education, but communities spend, on average, $19,300 per pupil.
- This downshifting of costs to municipalities places an unfair burden on property poor towns who must often set higher local property tax rates than their property wealthy neighbors, and still cannot raise sufficient funds.
- An over-reliance on local property taxes creates an unequal system. Right now, communities invest anywhere from $13,800 to $38,460 per pupil on education, resulting in differences in test scores and graduation rates. A statewide solution to the school funding problem will level the playing field for all New Hampshire children.
- New Hampshire has the second most regressive school funding system in the country, and the biggest difference in spending between high-poverty and low-poverty districts.

Tips for Contacting Your Legislators:

- Visit tinyurl.com/findNHrep and tinyurl.com/findNHsen to find names and contact information for your Representatives and Senator.
- Introduce yourself as a constituent (share your address).
- Express your concern for one issue per email/call – WHAT are you concerned about? WHAT are you asking for from your legislators?
- Keep the issue local – how are the broken school funding and property tax systems impacting your community?
- Keep the issue personal – how have the broken school funding and property tax systems personally impacted your life?
- Ask for a follow up response to your concern – hold the citizen legislature accountable to the citizens!