



New Hampshire Primary Election Voter Guide 2020

Statewide polls conducted in 2017 and 2019 have found that [68% of Granite Staters support ending cannabis prohibition](#). With public support now overwhelmingly in favor of reform, there has never been a more important opportunity to move New Hampshire forward on cannabis policy than this year's elections for governor, state senator, and state representative.

The 2020 general election is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 3**. Please note that if you have any concerns about voting in light of COVID-19, [the state has made it clear that you may choose to register and vote by absentee ballot](#).

Color key:

Green = supports legalizing cannabis for adults' use

Orange = unknown, uncertain, or less supportive

Red = opposed or much less supportive

Voter Guide Highlights:

- Republican **Gov. Chris Sununu** signed the decriminalization bill into law in 2017, and he also signed bills adding chronic pain and PTSD as qualifying conditions for medical cannabis. However, he vetoed a medical cannabis home cultivation bill in 2019, and [on October 5 he reiterated his opposition to adult-use legalization](#).
- The Democratic nominee for governor, **state Sen. Dan Feltes**, supports legalizing, regulating, and taxing cannabis for adults' use. According to [an article in The Concord Monitor](#), Feltes says he supports legalization and regulation under certain "eminently achievable conditions" such as "no gummies."
- The Libertarian candidate for governor, **Darryl Perry**, is a longtime supporter of cannabis legalization. According to his website, he would "work with the Legislature to allow for the retail sale of cannabis," and he would champion broader drug policy reforms. ([website](#))
- Two state senators who support legalization are facing rematches from the prohibitionists they narrowly defeated in 2018: **Sen. Melanie Levesque** (D-Brookline) is being challenged by **former Sen. Kevin Avard** (R-Nashua), and **Sen. Jon Morgan** (D-Brentwood) is being challenged by **former Sen. Bill Gannon** (R-Sandown).
- Several other incumbents who have opposed cannabis policy reforms are also being challenged

in the general election by Democrats who support legalization: **Christopher Rice** (D-Rochester) will face **Sen. Jim Gray** (R-Rochester), **Jenn Alford-Teaster** (D-Bradford) will take on **Sen. Ruth Ward** (R-Stoddard), and **Bill Bolton** (D-Plymouth) will attempt to win the seat currently held by **Sen. Bob Giuda** (R-Warren).

- Although the New Hampshire Democratic Party's platform calls for legalization and regulation of cannabis, the three Democratic senators who represent Manchester and neighboring towns have not supported legalization bills, and they even voted in 2019 to maintain criminal penalties against home cultivation by registered patients and caregivers. Notably, two of these senators face rematches with challengers who are longtime supporters of legalization: **Senate President Donna Soucy** (D-Manchester) is being challenged by former **Rep. George Lambert** (R-Litchfield), and **Sen. Lou D'Allesandro** (D-Manchester) faces **Carla Gericke** (R-Manchester).

Voters: The information in this voter guide is based on responses to survey questions, public statements, and votes cast by incumbent legislators. Please take time to become informed about the candidates who will appear on your ballot and do what you can to become an active participant in the election.

If you speak to a candidate and learn their positions on cannabis policy issues, or if you see a news link or audio/video clip with a relevant quote we haven't included, please share the information with us by emailing msimon@mpp.org.

Candidates: If you would like to add or change a response, or add a comment, please email msimon@mpp.org, and we will be happy to update the voter guide.

[Click here](#) to view all candidates for state Senate and their positions on cannabis policy.

[Click here](#) for a list of key roll call votes in the state House of Representatives so you can see how incumbents and former representatives voted.
