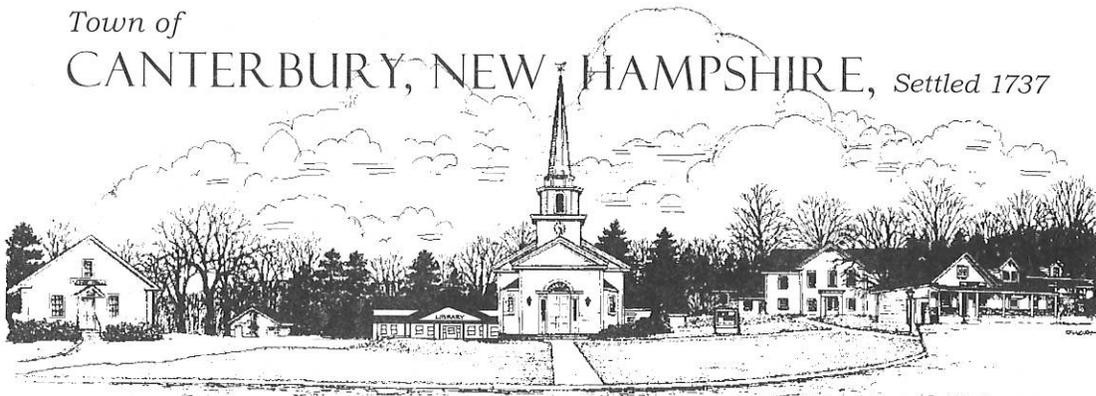


Town of

CANTERBURY, NEW HAMPSHIRE, *Settled 1737*



January 5, 2026

District 4 House Representative Jose Cambrils
District 4 House Representative Michael Moffett
District 26 House Representative Alvin See

We the Selectboard of the Town of Canterbury urge you to vote NO on HB 314.

This bill restricts the free speech of statewide organizations representing our Town and imposes broader restrictions on associations using public funds, potentially leading to an all-out ban on local government lobbying. By stifling the organizations that allow municipalities to band together, this bill is denying us the unified voice that allows us to adequately have our speech heard at the State level.

As a small town, we rely heavily on the experts at NHMA to help us understand the work that you do in Concord and how it affects our municipality. Without the assistance, training, and organizational support of NHMA, we would lack the time and knowledge to process the hundreds of bills going through the legislature each year. This bill would prevent us from being able to weigh in on bills that have not yet passed and would result in chaotic implementation of the ones that are signed into law.

The amendments that were made to HB 314 in Fall 2025 do not sufficiently address these concerns. Although Section V technically describes a way for a municipality to be exempted from this new law, the required process essentially makes this avenue impossible. The language that would be required on the warrant is inflammatory and misleading, and would create an uphill educational battle for each municipality that attempts it. Even if half of the municipalities in New Hampshire are able to educate voters on what this warrant article actually means and get it approved, that will leave organizations like NHMA in shambles as half of their membership is no longer legally permitted to participate. Furthermore, the effective date of January 1, 2027 would not give all municipalities time to present this question at a regular Town Meetings.

Thank you,

Town of Canterbury Board of Selectmen

Scott Doherty, Chair

Beth Blair

Calvin Todd