



## Top 18 Issue Selection Methodology

Prepared May 2026

[The New Hampshire Forum](#) is a new way for people across our state to be heard, find common ground, and turn shared priorities into legislative action. We aim to identify issues that New Hampshire residents across age, region, race, and political views want to fix. We will use this consensus to inform policy change in the 2027 state legislative session.

From April 2 to May 4, 2026, all New Hampshire residents were invited to join our free online platform to answer, *"If New Hampshire's leaders and residents could solve one problem, what should it be?"* As of May 4, contributors took 13,097 actions on our digital platforms including submitting 590 issues and generating 5,705 (likes/dislikes/comments). Using a methodology that combines data analytics with artificial intelligence (AI) summarization, we identified the top 18 issues with greatest support. From now until May 25, we will invite all Granite Staters to select their six most important issues, to inform community discussions and legislative action. This is how we implemented our analysis to select the top 18 issues.

### **Step 1: Collect data from the public**

Over a six-week period, we collected public input through two digital platforms: Typeform and Go Vocal. The data that we gathered included issue statements, likes and dislikes, comments, demographic data, and emails. Using participant's zipcodes, we mapped users to counties, regions, and urban/rural classifications based on New Hampshire's census data.

### **Step 2: Analyze data to identify public support**

We measured public support of issues based on the level of engagement on the issue. We identified where contributors most supported an issue informed by their activity on the digital platform. Next, using AI, we grouped over 7,000 individual ideas into distinct thematic categories based on the subject matter. We prioritized the top 18 issue areas based on the number of users' reactions or engagement on the topic and approval of the issue.

### **Step 3: Summarize using AI, review by New Hampshire residents**

We used AI to generate a) headlines for each issue, b) compilation of quotes from New Hampshire residents about how the specific issue affected them and c) analysis of the engagement. Next, we reviewed each AI-generated issue statement, comparing them to the issue groupings that they were drawn from to ensure accuracy. Also, we fact-checked claims made by participants. Finally, we validated the 18 issues with The New Hampshire Forum state team to ensure accuracy and relevance. No personal identifying information was included in this analysis process; all data was anonymized.