



NONPARTISAN CANDIDATE GUIDE: 2016 NEW HAMPSHIRE GOVERNOR'S RACE

	Chris Sununu (R)	Colin Van Ostern (D)
<p>For mobile-friendly version and other guides, see campuselect.org/guides.html</p> <p>For more detailed information on candidate positions visit their respective pages at votesmart.org</p> <p>To volunteer, visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • chrissununu.com or • vanostern.com 		
Abortion: Should abortion be highly restricted?	Pro-choice but supports parental notification and opposes partial birth and taxpayer-funded abortions.	No. Strong advocate for women making their own health care decisions without political interference.
Campaign Finance: Do you support increasing restrictions on campaign donations?	Supports “broader campaign finance disclosure laws” but specifics unknown.	Advocates for disclosure of all contributions.
Climate Change: Believe that human activity is the major factor driving climate change?	No. Insists that there is no scientific consensus.	Yes. “One of the most critical challenges.”
Climate Change: Should government limit the levels of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere?	No. Focus on pro-growth business environment free from repressive regulations.	Yes
Education: Increase funding for K-12 education?	Unclear, but wants to “gut the Board of Education” as needless bureaucracy and reject federal mandates.	Yes. Raise tobacco tax to put more money into K-12 and support all-day kindergarten.
Education: Provide vouchers to parents to send their children to private schools with public money?	Yes. Supports as issue of parental choice.	No. Tax dollars supporting voucher programs are badly needed in the public schools.
Education: Increase funding for higher education?	No new revenue proposed, but would prioritize reducing college debt and strengthening partnerships between community colleges and New Hampshire businesses.	Supports increased funding, but also low-cost alternatives like Southern New Hampshire University’s College for America that he helped create.
Gay Rights: Support gay marriage? Should private employers have the right to discriminate toward customers based on sexual preference?	Unclear. Has been hands-off regarding NH gay marriage law and generally silent on the issue. Has said “private businesses have the right to refuse service to anyone they want.”	Supports gay marriage. Strong supporter of anti-discrimination laws.
Gun Control: Enact more restrictive gun control legislation?	No. If elected, will sign legislation to carry concealed guns without requiring permits.	Yes. More comprehensive background checks.
Healthcare: Repeal the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare?	Yes. Repeal & replace.	No
Healthcare: Accept federal funds so Medicaid will cover people earning up to 138% of the federal poverty line?	No ¹	Yes. Wants to make it permanent.

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Marijuana: Decriminalize and/or legalize marijuana?	Yes. Support appropriate decriminalization.	Yes. Decriminalize small amounts for recreational use.
Minimum Wage: Raise the minimum wage?	Could potentially support “responsible increase” in federal minimum wage, but opposes a NH minimum wage and any \$10 or higher federal minimum wage	Supports raising federal minimum wage and also restoring NH’s state minimum wage law.
Prisons: Support privatized prisons?	Yes	No
Renewable Energy: Support government mandates and/or subsidies for renewable energy?	Says supports in general, but has repeatedly opposed specific renewable energy projects and commuter rail. ²	Yes. Support for renewable energy is a top priority.
Taxes: Increase taxes on corporations and/or high-income individuals to pay for public services?	No Sales or Income Tax and no expansion of current taxes. Pledged to oppose “any or all” tax increases to raise revenue.	Would veto sales or income tax if passed by legislature. Supports tobacco tax increase to fund education.
Unions: Support “right to work” laws that make union dues optional even with signed labor agreements?	Yes, Says will attract business to NH. ³	Opposes “right to work” legislation.
Voting Rights: Support stricter voting rules such as voter ID requirements or reduced registration times, even if they prevent some people from voting?	Unknown	Unknown

Other gubernatorial candidates include [Max Abramson \(L\)](#) and [Jillette Jarvis \(I\)](#). Due to limited space, we can’t include their positions, but invite you to check out their websites.

Created by the [Campus Election Engagement Project](#), a non-partisan effort to help college and university administrators, faculty, and student leaders engage their schools in the election. Key sites consulted included [Votmart.org](#), [Ballotpedia.org](#), [Countable.us](#), [OntheIssues.org](#), [FactCheck.org](#) (University of Pennsylvania Annenberg School--lets you search the truth of candidate stands), [Politifact.com](#), and public candidate statements. For a comprehensive guide to all races including local races and state initiatives, see [Vote411.org](#), created by the League of Women Voters and [Ballotready.org](#).

¹ Is [unsure if he will support reauthorization](#) in 2018, but might consider [Medicaid expansion with a work requirement](#).

² See [WMUR summary](#) of major NH candidate stands on energy.

³ Right-to-work laws prohibit workers from collective bargaining for better wages, benefits, and working conditions.