



Ballot Initiative STRATEGY CENTER

Ballot Initiative Overview

2008 Election

New Hampshire

New Hampshire is a non-initiative state.

There were no legislative referenda for the 2008 ballot.

New Hampshire has no statewide initiative process and a very limited history of local ballot measures. But in 2008 the New Hampshire Advantage Coalition (NHAC), a non-profit organization led by many prominent New Hampshire Republicans, have placed two local initiatives on the ballot that would cap property tax rate increases to population growth plus inflation (they initially attempted to put eight local initiatives on the ballot but failed to do so.) Due to the lack of a statewide income or sales tax, NHAC's proposals could require significant cuts to services.

NHAC is spending significant resources in favor of the initiatives and already has reserved \$140,000 worth of television time in the weeks leading up to the election. As of late August, NHAC had refused to disclose its donors. It is also unclear how NHAC is connected, if at all, to the New Hampshire affiliate of Americans for Job Security, an anti-investment 527 that is running attack ads against some of New Hampshire's federal candidates, or to the brand new state affiliate of Americans for Prosperity, which was founded by Kansas oil baron David Koch.

*For additional information please check with the New Hampshire Secretary of State:
<http://www.sos.nh.gov/electionsnew.html>*