

SB2 Adoption and Rescission Votes: 1996-2003

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January 30, 2004**

The Center compiled the following tables to inform the public debate about HB 1175, a proposal to change the adoption and rescission process for “SB2,” the official ballot town meeting. The Center takes no position on the issue.

The tables show how often towns and school districts have conducted referenda on SB2. All of the data were provided to the Center in January 2004 by the NH Department of Revenue Administration, which maintains records of municipal and school-district ballot questions, including those relating to SB2. The Center has found and corrected errors in the data DRA reported for one jurisdiction and cautions readers that we have not verified the accuracy of the department’s tally of SB2 referenda.

The Center has published several reports on SB2. All of these are available on the Center’s web site: www.nhpolicy.org.

Table 1: Summary of municipal and school referenda on SB2

	Municipalities	School Districts
No. of jurisdictions that have adopted SB2	53	66
No. of jurisdictions that have rescinded SB2	3	0
No. of jurisdictions w/ SB2 in 2003	50	66
Number with 1 attempt to adopt	14	9
Number with 1 attempt to rescind	11	9
Number with 2 attempts to adopt	4	7
Number with 2 attempts to rescind	4	11
Number with 3 attempts to adopt	3	1
Number with 3 attempts to rescind	2	3
Number with 4 attempts to adopt	0	0
Number with 4 attempts to rescind	0	0
Number with 5 attempts to adopt	1	1
Number with 5 attempts to rescind	0	0

**Table 2: Municipal votes to adopt or rescind SB2
(sorted by number of actions)**

↑ = Year SB2 voted in
 ↓ = Year SB2 voted out
 R = Year in which attempt to rescind SB2 did not pass
 A = Year in which attempt to adopt SB2 did not pass

	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03
FIVE ACTIONS								
Bow		A			A	A	A	A
FOUR ACTIONS								
Epsom		↑		R		R		R
Grafton	↑				R	R		R
THREE ACTIONS								
Alstead	↑			R			R	
Canaan	↑					R	R	
Carroll			↑		R	R		
Charlestown	↑			R			R	
Dublin					A	A	A	
Epping				A	A	↑		
Sanbornton				A	A		A	
TWO ACTIONS								
Allenstown		↑				R		
Bethlehem						↑	R	
Dorchester	↑			↓				
Enfield	↑					↓		
Henniker				A	A			
Madison				A	A			
Marlborough				A	A			
Merrimack	↑						R	
Milton		↑		R				
New Boston				↑			R	
New Hampton				↑		R		
New Ipswich			↑			R		
Newmarket	↑							R
Orange	↑			↓				
Plymouth						A	A	
Sunapee		↑						R
Wakefield		↑		R				
Wolfeboro	↑				R			
ONE ACTION								
Amherst			↑					
Ashland				↑				
Atkinson	↑							
Barrington		↑						
Bennington	↑							
Chester								A

	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03
Conway	↑							
Danville	↑							
Exeter	↑							
Farmington								A
Freedom					A			
Gilmanton								A
Goffstown	↑							
Hampstead	↑							
Hampton	↑							
Hampton Falls								↑
Haverhill							A	
Hinsdale								A
Hollis				A				
Hooksett	↑							
Hudson	↑							
Kensington		↑						
Kingston	↑							
Lincoln								A
Litchfield			↑					
Littleton	↑							
Londonderry	↑							
Milford	↑							
Mont Vernon				A				
Newton	↑							
North Hampton		↑						
Pelham			↑					
Pittsfield					A			
Plaistow	↑							
Raymond							↑	
Rindge								A
Rye			↑					
Salem	↑							
Sandown	↑							
Seabrook	↑							
Swanzey				A				
Weare	↑							
Whitefield								A
Winchester	↑							
Windham				↑				

Table 3: Municipal votes to adopt or rescind SB2
(sorted alphabetically)

↑ = Year SB2 voted in
 ↓ = Year SB2 voted out
 R = Year in which attempt to rescind SB2 did not pass
 A = Year in which attempt to adopt SB2 did not pass

	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03
Allenstown		↑				R		
Alstead	↑			R			R	
Amherst			↑					
Ashland				↑				
Atkinson	↑							
Barrington		↑						
Bennington	↑							
Bethlehem						↑	R	
Bow		A			A	A	A	A
Canaan	↑					R	R	
Carroll			↑		R	R		
Charlestown	↑			R			R	
Chester								A
Conway	↑							
Danville	↑							
Dorchester	↑			↓				
Dublin					A	A	A	
Enfield	↑					↓		
Epping				A	A	↑		
Epsom		↑		R		R		R
Exeter	↑							
Farmington								A
Freedom					A			
Gilmanton								A
Goffstown	↑							
Grafton	↑				R	R		R
Hampstead	↑							
Hampton	↑							
Hampton Falls								↑
Haverhill							A	
Henniker				A	A			
Hinsdale								A
Hollis				A				
Hooksett	↑							
Hudson	↑							
Kensington		↑						
Kingston	↑							

	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03
Lincoln								A
Litchfield			↑					
Littleton	↑							
Londonderry	↑							
Madison				A	A			
Marlborough				A	A			
Merrimack	↑						R	
Milford	↑							
Milton		↑		R				
Mont Vernon				A				
New Boston				↑			R	
New Hampton				↑		R		
New Ipswich			↑			R		
Newmarket	↑							R
Newton	↑							
North Hampton		↑						
Orange	↑			↓				
Pelham			↑					
Pittsfield					A			
Plaistow	↑							
Plymouth						A	A	
Raymond							↑	
Rindge								A
Rye			↑					
Salem	↑							
Sanbornton				A	A		A	
Sandown	↑							
Seabrook	↑							
Sunapee		↑						R
Swansey				A				
Wakefield		↑		R				
Weare	↑							
Whitefield								A
Winchester	↑							
Windham				↑				
Wolfeboro	↑				R			

**Table 4: School district votes to adopt or rescind SB2
(sorted by number of actions)**

↑ = Year SB2 voted in
 ↓ = Year SB2 voted out (none as of 2003)
 R = Year in which attempt to rescind SB2 did not pass
 A = Year in which attempt to adopt SB2 did not pass

	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03		96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	
FIVE ACTIONS									Farmington									↑
Bow		A			A	A	A	A	Fall Mountain Reg.		↑							
FOUR ACTIONS									Fremont									A
John Stark Reg.	↑			R	R	R			Goffstown	↑								
Newport		↑			R	R	R		Gov. W'worth Reg.	↑								
Nottingham				↑	R		R	R	Hampstead	↑								
THREE ACTIONS									Hampton	↑								
Alton		↑			R	R			Hanover								A	
Epsom		↑		R				R	Haverhill						A			
Hillsb.-Deering Cp.		↑				R	R		Henniker					A				
Madison				A	A		↑		Hinsdale								A	
Newfields					↑		R	R	Hollis-Brookline				A					
Newfound Area		↑		R		R			Hooksett	↑								
Raymond		↑		R	R				Hudson	↑								
Rollinsford				A	A	A			Jaffrey-Rindge Cp.				↑					
TWO ACTIONS									Keene	↑								
Barrington		↑			R				Kensington			↑						
Bethlehem						A		A	Lebanon	↑								
Epping				A	↑				Litchfield			↑						
Exeter	↑						R		Littleton	↑								
Gilford					A	A			Londonderry	↑								
Hampton Falls		↑						R	Mascenic Reg.	↑								
Kearsarge Reg.		↑			R				Mascoma Reg.	↑								
Lyndeborough		↑						R	Merrimack	↑								
Marlborough				A	A				Milford	↑								
Middleton						↑	R		Milton		↑							
Monadnock Reg.	↑						R		Newmarket		↑							
New Boston		↑					R		North Hampton		↑							
Plymouth						A	A		Oyster River Cp.	↑								
Profile						A		A	Pelham		↑							
Sanborn Reg.	↑							R	Pemi-Baker Cp.					↑				
Wakefield		↑		R					Pittsfield					↑				
White Mts. Reg.			↑					R	Rumney	↑								
ONE ACTION									Rye			↑						
Allenstown		↑							Salem		↑							
Amherst		↑							Seabrook	↑								
Bedford	↑								Souhegan Cp.			↑						
Claremont	↑								Stratham						A			
Contoocook Valley	↑								Sunapee		↑							
Conway	↑								Timberlane Reg.	↑								
Derry Cp.	↑								Weare		↑							
East Kingston				A					Winchester	↑								
Exeter Reg. Cp.		↑							Windham	↑								
									Winnacunnett Cp.	↑								

**Table 5: School district votes to adopt or rescind SB2
(sorted alphabetically)**

<p> ↑ = Year SB2 voted in ↓ = Year SB2 voted out (none as of 2003) R = Year in which attempt to rescind SB2 did not pass A = Year in which attempt to adopt SB2 did not pass </p>
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	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03		96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03
Allenstown		↑							Londonderry	↑							
Alton		↑			R	R			Lyndeborough		↑						R
Amherst		↑							Madison				A	A		↑	
Barrington		↑			R				Marlborough				A	A			
Bedford	↑								Mascenic Reg.	↑							
Bethlehem						A		A	Mascoma Reg.	↑							
Bow		A			A	A	A	A	Merrimack	↑							
Claremont	↑								Middleton						↑	R	
Contoocook Valley	↑								Milford	↑							
Conway	↑								Milton		↑						
Derry Cp.	↑								Monadnock Reg.	↑						R	
East Kingston				A					New Boston		↑					R	
Epping				A	↑				Newfields					↑		R	R
Epsom		↑		R				R	Newfound Area		↑		R		R		
Exeter	↑						R		Newmarket		↑						
Exeter Reg. Cp.		↑							Newport		↑			R	R	R	
Fall Mountain Reg.		↑							North Hampton		↑						
Farmington								↑	Nottingham				↑	R		R	R
Fremont								A	Oyster River Cp.	↑							
Gilford					A	A			Pelham		↑						
Goffstown	↑								Pemi-Baker Cp.					↑			
Gov. W'worth Reg.	↑								Pittsfield					A			
Hampstead	↑								Plymouth						A	A	
Hampton	↑								Profile						A		A
Hampton Falls		↑						R	Raymond		↑		R	R			
Hanover								A	Rollinsford				A	A	A		
Haverhill							A		Rumney	↑							
Henniker					A				Rye			↑					
Hillsb.-Deering Cp.		↑				R	R		Salem		↑						
Hinsdale								A	Sanborn Reg.	↑							R
Hollis-Brookline				A					Seabrook	↑							
Hooksett	↑								Souhegan Cp.			↑					
Hudson	↑								Stratham						A		
Jaffrey-Rindge Cp.				↑					Sunapee		↑						
John Stark Reg.	↑			R	R	R			Timberlane Reg.	↑							
Kearsarge Reg.		↑			R				Wakefield		↑		R				
Keene	↑								Weare		↑						
Kensington			↑						White Mts. Reg.			↑					R
Lebanon	↑								Winchester	↑							
Litchfield			↑						Windham	↑							
Littleton	↑								Winnacunnett Cp.	↑							