

NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATE CANDIDATES ON MENDING THE GAPS





Mending the Wealth and Income Gap

TAX JUSTICE



No tax policy change should exacerbate the income gap, especially the racial/ethnic and gender wealth gaps.

About 58,000 childless workers in New Hampshire would benefit from expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit to include childless workers.¹

Kelly Ayotte supports "common sense tax reform and simplification." She voted in favor of an appropriations bill that made permanent the 2009 expansions to the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit. Senator Ayotte has spearheaded efforts to revoke the Child Tax Credit for immigrant families.

Maggie Hassan wants to bring "fiscal responsibility" to the Senate, believing that "Washington has given in to powerful special interests who rig the system for themselves and against the middle class." She promises to cut waste, protect economic priorities and end tax breaks for corporate special interests.⁴

¹http://apps.cbpp.org/3-5-14tax/?state=NH ²http://www.ayotte.senate.gov/?p=issue&id=1 ³http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.c fm?congress=114&session=1&vote=00339 ⁴http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/immigration/198086-ayotte-

once-again-targets-immigrant-children-with-tax-hikes

http://maggiehassan.com/priority/economy/

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LIVING WAGES



National legislation should move from adjusting a minimum wage to creating a living wage.

The minimum wage in New Hampshire is \$7.25 and has not been increased since national increase in 2009.

Kelly Ayotte voted against raising the federal minimum wage to \$10.10.²

Maggie Hassan supports raising the minimum wage. When the New Hampshire Senate failed to raise the minimum wage, she said: "Individuals working full-time in New Hampshire should be able to earn enough to pull themselves above the federal-poverty threshold and support their families, but for too long, wages have failed to grow with the cost of our families' needs."

1http://www.epi.org/minimum-wage-tracker/
2http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.c
fm?congress=113&session=2&vote=00117
3http://governor.ph.gov/media/news/2015/pc-2015-03-12-minimum-

³http://governor.nh.gov/media/news/2015/pr-2015-03-12-minimum wage.htm **Mending the Wealth and Income Gap**

FAMILY-FRIENDLY WORKPLACES



The needs of women and families should be integrated into federal workplace policies.

48% of working parents in New Hampshire are not eligible to take unpaid, job protected leave.¹

Kelly Ayotte introduced the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, which would protect pregnant workers from unfair workplace discrimination. She believes "ensuring that pregnant workers are treated equally in the workplace is essential to working families and our economy."²

Maggie Hassan signed New Hampshire's Paycheck Fairness Act into law to ensure that women receive equal pay for an equal day's work. She also strongly supports efforts to expand paid family leave to ensure that workers are able to support their families during "times of need" at home.³

¹http://www.diversitydatakids.org/data/map ²http://www.ayotte.senate.gov/?p=press_release&id=1988 ³http://maggiehassan.com/priority/womens-health-economic-security,

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DEMOCRACY



No individual or community of color should be disenfranchised by federal policy.

New Hampshire citizens in prison are prohibited from voting.¹

Kelly Ayotte voted to support a federal voter ID law that would have required a government-issued photo ID to vote in federal elections.² She has not cosponsored the bipartisan Voting Rights Advancement Act, which would restore the Voting Rights Act and require states with a history of discrimination to get federal approval before changing their voting laws.³

Maggie Hassan vetoed a bill when she was governor that would restrict the right to vote. She said, "The constitutional right of all citizens to vote is the most fundamental right of our democracy, and we must always be working to ensure that people who are legally domiciled in New Hampshire are not blocked from voting."⁴

¹http://sentencingproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Felony-Disenfranchisement-Primer.pdf

Phttp://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.c fm?congress=113&session=1&vote=00083

³https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senatebill/1659/cosponsors

*http://nhlabornews.com/2015/07/governor-hassans-veto-message-regarding-sb-179-voting-rights-and-eligibility/

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HEALTHCARE



Racial and economic disparities in healthcare should be eliminated.

Since New Hampshire enacted the Medicaid expansion provision of the Affordable Care Act, 35,000 more low-income residents have health insurance¹

Kelly Ayotte wants to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act with "true healthcare reform that harnesses the power of competition to bring down costs and expand access to quality care."²

Maggie Hassan promises to help make coverage more affordable and accessible for all people and businesses. She aims to protect New Hampshire's bipartisan Medicaid expansion and critical safeguards for families, and she supports commonsense improvements to the Affordable Care Act to strengthen healthcare coverage and reduce costs.³

¹http://familiesusa.org/product/50-state-look-medicaid-expansion ²https://www.ayotte.senate.gov/?p=issue&id=7 ³http://maggiehassan.com/priority/health-care/

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Immigrants should be welcomed into the country.

Undocumented immigrants in New Hampshire already pay \$8 million in state and local taxes and, if comprehensive immigration reform is passed, they will pay \$900,000 more.¹

Kelly Ayotte voted in favor of comprehensive immigration reform in 2013.² She said that President Obama's executive actions "will only make it more difficult to achieve long-term reforms to secure our border, stop future waves of illegal immigration, and reform our legal immigration system."³

Maggie Hassan was the first Democratic governor to call for a halt of Syrian refugees, saying, "the federal government should halt acceptance of refugees from Syria until intelligence and defense officials can assure that the process for vetting all refugees, including those from Syria, is as strong as possible to ensure the safety of the American people."⁵

http://www.itep.org/immigration/#map http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.c fm?congress=113&session=1&vote=00168 http://www.ayotte.senate.gov/?p=newsletters&id=1655

https://www.boston.com/news/national-news/2015/11/16/maggie-hassan-is-first-democratic-governor-to-call-for-complete-halt-of-syrian-refugees-coming-to-u-s

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HOUSING



Everyone should have access to safe, affordable housing.

New Hampshire has a shortage of 26,438 housing units that are affordable and available for extremely low-income renters.¹

Kelly Ayotte cosponsored the Small Public Housing Agency Opportunity Act of 2015, which would allow small public housing agencies to efficiently and cost effectively provide affordable housing in smaller rural and suburban communities.²

Maggie Hassan said: "We must always be working to increase safe, affordable housing options so that all people can live independently and engage in their communities, empowering them to contribute to our economic and civic life."³

1http://nlihc.org/library/SHP