

# MEDIA ADVISORY

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## **Broad Coalition to Call on the New Hampshire Senate to End its Two-Thirds Rule and Permit Votes on Resolutions**

### *New Rule in New Hampshire Senate Is Blocking Votes on Three Popular Resolutions*

**WHAT:** A broad coalition including veterans, women's rights leaders, good government organizations, senators, representatives and concerned citizens will hold a rally, press conference and lobby day to call on the New Hampshire Senate to do away with a controversial new rule it adopted this year and permit votes on three resolutions that have passed the New Hampshire House of Representatives with bipartisan support.

The Senate established a rule on Feb. 14 requiring a two-thirds vote to hear any resolutions. This is the first time in the history of the New Hampshire Senate that a supermajority has been required simply to begin consideration of resolutions that have been approved by the House. This is profoundly at odds with basic principles of republican democracy and amounts to closing the doors of representative government to the people.

The following are resolutions that passed through the House and which the Senate is now refusing to hear:

**HCR 1** - Urging the U.S. Congress to fund the development and implementation of a comprehensive health care delivery system to enhance the level of specialty care for New Hampshire's veterans.

**HCR 2** - Requesting the U.S. Congress to begin the process for a constitutional amendment to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court's *Citizens United* ruling, enable limits to campaign contributions and spending and define constitutional rights as for people – not for corporations.

**HJR 1** - Directing the joint legislative historical committee to acquire and display a portrait of New Hampshire women's suffrage leader Marilla Marks Ricker.

**WHEN:** **Rally and Press Conference:** 12:30 p.m.–1 p.m., Wednesday, May 15

**Lobby Day:** 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Lobby of the Legislative Office Building, 33 N. State St., Concord

**WHO:** Veterans, women's rights leaders, good government organizations, senators and representatives