

New Hampshire – the “Live Free or Die” state

There are too many New Hampshire advantages to communicate on two pages.
Please visit our website or contact us to ask questions or to have additional information sent to you.
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Leveraging and amplifying existing New Hampshire advantages...
historical...constitutional...political...cultural...economic...geographic...quality of life
...to achieve liberty in our lifetime for 20,000+ Free Staters

New Hampshire offers a 200+ year history proving unmatched ability to hold fast to the values of self-reliance, independence, small government, and local control.

“Live Free or Die” state motto – for its symbolic significance there is no state better suited to the FSP. ▪ The first state to declare itself independent from England in 1774. ▪ NH patriots were the first to seize powder and guns from the fort of William and Mary in 1774. ▪ The first state to adopt a revolutionary constitution, 1776. ▪ The first state to hold a constitutional convention, 1778. ▪ The first state to require that its constitution be referred to the people for approval, 1783.

New Hampshire offers many constitutional advantages; a constitution that limits the power of the legislature provides a more stable basis for determining the state's liberty orientation and ensuring the success of the FSP. Although constitutions can be changed, this would be a major hurdle that we can avoid by choosing NH.

- NH's constitution is the ONLY constitution in the WORLD that protects its citizens right to revolution.
 - NH's governorship is the weakest of all the states due to the unique, constitutionally mandated system of checks and balances against the power of the governor in the form of an elected Executive Council.
 - NH offers the best representation of any state nationwide with our 400-member House of Representatives; one rep for every 3,089 people.
 - NH offers the best true citizen legislature - a government "of the people" - based on our \$100/year pay to legislators - much lower than the other nine states, many offering tens-of-thousands per year.
 - NH's constitution is one of only two that does not mandate the provision of a public school system.
 - Some state constitutions, other than NH's specifically mandate allegiance of the state as an inseparable part of the federal union. This is constitutionally specified in WY, ND, SD, and ID.
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- In NH we have the critical ability to run fusion candidates – a guaranteed technique to put dozens of FSPers in office almost immediately – yet banned in WY, MT, ND, and AK.
 - NH's single-member districts are the smallest in the nation. Those districts are easier to canvass and more winnable than any other state under consideration. Some NH districts have been won with only 720 votes and less than a few hundred dollars. Using fusion, NH's multi-member districts are even easier to win. We can elect FSP members easily in NH!
 - NH is the perfect geographical size to facilitate and optimize inexpensive, winning campaigns and activism; in NH you can reach any area of the state in a matter of just hours.
 - NH has the first-in-the-nation primaries that will provide FSP with unmatched leverage in the national debate.
 - Bi-ennial cycle elections in NH afford the opportunity to overhaul the entire state government every other year.

New Hampshire offers the FSP the most current political advantages to facilitate our ability to work within the political system to reduce the size and scope of government. Besides NH-FSP members already in elected and appointed roles, NH has established the framework so that the FSP can hit the ground running and elect candidates to office immediately. Unlike any other state, in NH the FSP can win and win quickly!

- Two NH FSP members already elected to the NH House of Representatives; a second NH FSP member already a gubernatorial appointee.
- The chair of the NH GOP has publicly stated that NH will welcome FSP and the political activity they bring.
- NH's Governor Benson has welcomed the FSP to NH, meeting with FSPers in June of this year and agreeing to speak at the 2003 LPNH convention.



NH Governor Benson, pictured here (2nd from right) at his meeting with FSP members, welcomed the FSP to NH. When asked how he felt about 20,000 FSPers moving to NH, he stated **“Come on up. We'd love to have you! I probably have more in common with Libertarians than with my own Republican colleagues.”** Contrast this with the less-than-enthusiastic response we have received from other states who have told us to go elsewhere (MT, ID, VT) or ignored us. Even the WY LP candidate for governor said he would love to see the plan succeed but doesn't think WY is the place. “The state is not as independently minded as everyone thinks,” he said.

- The NH voter population hints at a spirit of independence and dissatisfaction with major parties – 37% R, 27% D, 36% I.
- NH offers a long-held tradition of local control through town meetings. NH towns vote on their town and school budgets line-by-line, in the form of warrants. The result is incredible control by citizens over their budgets.
- NH has the lowest percentage of government employees among the ten states and NH and ID have the lowest percentage of NEA/AFT members among the ten states.
- NH is actively seeking to reduce the size and scope of government, cut costs, and improve efficiency. NH Governor Benson established the Efficiency in Government Commission - appointing LPNH chair and FSP member, John Babiarz.
- NH offers the best chance to achieve clean elections. 100% of NH's votes are recorded on paper ballots and 60% of NH municipalities count them by hand. Counting takes place at the precinct and in full view of the public.
- In NH, education is funded mostly at the local level, reflecting NH's long tradition of local control in education decision-making. FSP members will find many allies among NH citizens who deeply believe that a small, closer government is better.
- NH local elections are mostly nonpartisan. This offers an excellent opportunity for FSP members to focus on the message rather than the political label, win local offices, and demonstrate, first hand, the benefits of liberty.
- NH voters will not be as influenced by government farm subsidies as they will be in other states. The influence in NH will be negligible (\$1.08 per capita) while the influence in other states could be disastrous (e.g., DE \$30.02, WY \$36.59, ID \$118.07, MT \$228.25, SD \$762.72, ND \$891.44 per capita).

NH is likely the most libertarian state in the nation, already oriented toward liberty and consistently voting for smaller, less intrusive government. NH has the leanest, most efficient government combined with strong, inherent values of self-reliance and personal responsibility. Thus, it will be much easier for the FSP to introduce reforms and to live as neighbors with the native citizens of the state.

- NH has no general income tax and no sales tax. NH citizens enjoy the lowest taxes as a percentage of gross income nationwide. NH citizens HATE TAXES.
- NH offers the lowest dependence on federal dollars among the ten states and is the 4th lowest in the nation! For every \$1 paid in federal taxes, NH only receives 71 cents back.
- NH has the highest number of elected Libertarians (28) among the ten candidate states. Unlike any other state, NH has a proven history of electing and re-electing Libertarians.
- NH offers the lowest federal, state, and local government spending as a percentage of GSP plus the smallest state budget per capita of the ten states.
- With the passage of HB 415 (6/03), many believe that NH has surpassed even VT for the least restrictive gun laws.
- NH is the only state among the ten and one of only four nationwide that has no motorcycle helmet restrictions.
- NH is the only state of the ten - the only state in the nation - that does not have a mandatory seatbelt law.
- NH is the only state among the ten and one of only five nationwide that does not mandate auto liability insurance.
- NH has a large contingency of liberty-minded officials in the NH legislative and executive branches.
- NH has a large, politically active, and exponentially growing homeschooling population.

NH is a state in which the highest possible percentage of FSP members will be able to find jobs in their chosen professions, start or grow businesses in an already thriving economy, bring home a higher income than any other state, and keep more of that income because of NH's lowest-in-the-nation taxes as a percentage of that income. By choosing NH we ensure the success of FSP by minimizing dropouts and enabling immediate ability to concentrate on political activism rather than economic concerns.

- NH offers the highest per capita income of the ten candidate states. That income has also had the highest percentage of growth over the past 22 years.
- NH is ranked 3rd in the nation and #1 among the ten for having the highest percentage of high-tech jobs.
- NH is the highest ranked state among the ten, offering the most dynamic economy.
- NH forecasts 109,400 new jobs, 2000-2010.
- NH holds the 10th spot in the Milken Institute's New Economy Index ranking states on how well they are positioned to grow in technology-driven industries.
- NH is 4th in the nation and #1 among the ten for the highest amount of venture capital invested in the state.
- NH is frequently ranked in top 10 nationally for friendliness to small businesses and entrepreneurs.
- NH offers the highest percentage of knowledge jobs among the ten states.
- NH is second only to AK for lowest poverty rates.
- NH's core industries and growth industries are ones that will ensure that a majority of FSP members will find employment in areas familiar to them.

Nestled as it is, in the political and economic hub of America, yet a holdout among more statist neighbors, NH is famous for her independence, small government values, and freedom-oriented culture. NH has become a haven for freedom-lovers nationwide and will welcome the political activism and ideals of the Free State Project. With both a coastal and international border, diverse terrain, a geographic size optimal for FSP purposes, abundant water resources, and ability to draw small government activists from the more populous states, NH is the perfect choice for the FSP state.

Consistently ranked among the top of all states nationwide for "Quality of Life and Livability," for having the "Least Overall Violent and Property Crimes in the Nation," for cities that are the "Best Places to Live in America," and among the top of the "Healthiest States in the Nation," NH is the unsurpassed first choice for those who understand that quality of life will play a primary role in ensuring the ongoing commitment of FSP activists. Add to this, NH's diverse communities – rural to small towns to thriving metropolitan areas, breathtaking scenic beauty, cultural offerings, and hundreds of four-season recreational options and you have a clear winner.