



# Candidate Profiles 2016

## STATE REP, HILLSBOROUGH DISTRICT 24

Ivy Vann

**Occupation:**

Schoolteacher

**Time living in town:** 12 years

**Previously elected offices:** N.H. General Court; Peterborough Planning Board

**Other qualifications:** I am interested in how government can best improve the lives of citizens, particularly those without obvious connections to the levers of power.

**What are two issues you feel are important and how do you plan to address them?**

1: I am very interested in making sure that every citizen has access to affordable health care. I believe that the Medicaid expansion meant more to the people of New Hampshire than almost any government action taken in the last 10 years; I want to work to make sure that it is not lost, but becomes a permanent part of the New Hampshire budget. As part of health care I think it is crucial that the government allow women to make decisions about their health and particularly their reproductive choices. Those decisions do not belong to bureaucrats any more than a man's decision to have a vasectomy belongs to a

bureaucrat. I will work to maintain health care choices through my votes in Concord.

2: New Hampshire needs to think long and hard about how it funds, and doesn't fund, the things necessary to a lively and vital place. We need to adequately fund our infrastructure and our schools and we need to understand that slashing taxes does not raise income to do this. We only need to look at Kansas to see what happens when taxes and services are cut. I support an income tax earmarked for education for New Hampshire and I support raising business taxes. A business does not hire new employees based on a minor tax cut; it hires new employees when there is demand for goods and services. A big part of the stagnation in economic growth is caused by the stagnation in wages, particularly at the low end of the scale. Raising the minimum wage is good for the economy because low-income workers spend a much greater proportion of their earnings, driving the economy for all of us. I will support an increase to the minimum wage to \$15/hour in the state house.

**Peter R. Leishman**

**Occupation:** Owner of the Milford-Bennington Railroad Co., Inc.

**Time living in town:** 10 years in Peterborough, 55 years in New Hampshire

**Previously elected offices:** State representative

**Other qualifications:** Presently, I am finishing out my eighth term in the New Hampshire House and have served on the Finance Committee for eight years.

**What are two issues you feel are important and how do you plan to address them?**

There are many very important issues facing our state. To me, the New Hampshire state budget, which provides the funding for the continued operation of our state for the next two years, is the most important issue that legislators will face this ses-

sion. The budget will include funding for the fight against the opioid/heroin addiction crisis, whether we continue to fund expanded Medicaid (presently more than 50,000 of our New Hampshire citizens have insurance through this program), local funding for public education, support for our roads and bridges (infrastructure), mental health funding, protecting our environment, public safety and the funding for all state services and departments until 2019. I hope to again serve on the House Finance Committee in order to participate in the crafting of a state budget that best meets the needs of New Hampshire's residents and businesses and efficiently uses our taxpayer dollars in a way that funds the continued operation of our state without increasing taxes.