

## Joe Kenney for NH Executive Council District 1

**Joseph Kenney**  
**NH Executive Council**

I am running for re-election to Executive Council District 1 and I ask for your vote on Tuesday, November 8. The New Hampshire Executive Council has gotten more notoriety this time as two of my colleagues are now running for Governor representing their perspective parties. The Executive Council is a two part Executive Branch system in which the Council administrates the Executive Branch along with the Governor.

The five Executive Councilors are elected every two years, concurrently with the Governor. Each Councilor represents approximately 265,000 citizens. We oversee state contracts, approve the spending of the major portion of the billions of dollars that is appropriated annually by the legislature. Additionally, the Council also acts on a wide variety of official actions, such as the nomination and confirmation of some 350 commissioners and directors who administer the 65 departments and agencies in state government. The Council also votes on the judicial appointments to the bench.

Over the past two years, I have traveled over 120,000 miles around District One which consists of 108 towns, four cities and 23 unincorporated territories. I have fielded hundreds upon hundreds of constituent calls, attended dozens and dozens of events and meetings, visited over 70 businesses and produced a newsletter after each Council meeting.

It has been my pleasure to help out so many people with their concerns, whatever they may be. I have stated "if it is a problem for you, then it is a problem for me and let's solve it together." I have approached the job trying to build bridges and relationships with citizens, community leaders and others to make the position of Executive Council more accessible to the people. Too often, citizens do not know how to navigate state government and it has been my pleasure to help them.

My past experience as a local selectman, a Marine veteran and State Legislator (eight years in the New Hampshire

House and six years in the State Senate) and now three years on the Council have given me even more experience to help people in the District. I have a hundred percent attendance at all Executive Council meetings and Judicial and Health and Education Finance Authority hearings. I have committed myself to the Executive Council full time and I have enjoyed it greatly.

If re-elected, the issues I want to work on are: constituent service, work with the economic development corporations to create more New Hampshire jobs and to shape the ten year highway plan to better assist our communities and transportation system in District 1. I want to help fight the drug opioid crisis in New Hampshire (the Council has passed over 24 million dollars in contracts to help with prevention, treatment and recovery programs) and work with higher education and the community college system to develop a future workforce. I want to continue to support our travel and tourism and recreation industry and to look out for our social service needs. We need to see if we can limit our sole source contracts in state government, there needs to be a more competitive bidding process within our contracting system and we need to keep as many contracts here in New Hampshire as millions and millions of dollars are going out of state.

I hope to continue to educate students on the uniqueness of the Governor and Council and its history. As of last year, my office re-instituted the District 1 College Internship Program and it now has the support from Plymouth State University as an accredited internship program.

Finally, the Council is a great check and balance system in state government, the Governor knows she has to count to three before anything passes during a Council meeting.

On November 8, I ask for your vote and it has been a pleasure serving you.

Joseph D. Kenney  
 Executive Councilor District 1  
 Wakefield, New Hampshire  
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## Understanding the Executive Council and Floterial District 25

This month we elect a member of the Executive Council. Members of the Executive Council have much more power over state finances and high level employees and judicial appointments than most people realize. It is important to understand what your Executive Councilor believes and supports.

The following is taken from the New Hampshire Executive Council Web site at [NH.gov/council/about-us](http://NH.gov/council/about-us).

The Executive Council performs many valuable tasks that are of major importance to our fiscally conservative, very open government. Some of their more noteworthy duties and responsibilities are:

- All major executive branch business is conducted in public with the press present.
- All state departments and agencies must seek approval of both receipt and expenditures of state and federal funds, budgetary transfers within the department, all personal service contracts with a value of \$10,000, and all contracts with a value of \$25,000.
- The Executive Council approves the spending of a major portion of the approximately \$5.2 billion that is appropriated annually by the legislature.
- Executive Councilors serve as watchdogs of the state treasury to ensure state departments do not spend more than was authorized by the legislature, nor allocate funds for items or services which the legislature has not sanctioned.
- The Executive Council approves the appointments of judges, commissioners, notary publics, justices of the peace, and commissioners of deeds and hears pardon requests.
- The Executive Council plays a vital role in improving the state's infrastructure, especially roads and bridges, via management and oversight of the state's 10-year highway plan.
- Executive Councilors make certain that those appointed to the executive branch of state government, whether commissioners, department heads,

or citizen members of the myriad of regulatory boards, agencies, and commissions are all responsible to the citizens of New Hampshire and not to special interests.

- More importantly, Executive Councilors are the constituent's eyes and ears in Concord. They ensure the executive branch of state government is fiscally conservative and above reproach.
- Each biennium, the Governor and Executive Council appoint more than 300 citizens to serve on various state agencies, boards, and commissions. The Governor nominates and the Executive Council confirms unclassified state employees including commissioners, deputy commissioners, and assistant commissioners. They also confirm District, Superior, and Supreme Court justices; medical referees; and military officers.
- Councilors are elected every two years to serve as advocates for the people.

### Floterial District

You will notice on the ballot that Andover has two state representatives – one elected in District 1 and one elected in District 25. District 25 is a floterial district that is actually a combination of Merrimack County District 1 and District 7.

The basic purpose of a floterial district is to make sure that all areas of the state are adequately represented. A floterial district is created when a district has more than the number of people to create one district but not enough to create a second district.

The excess numbers of people in each district are added together to form a new district. District 1 includes Andover, Danbury, and Salisbury; District 7 includes Warner and Webster. Floterial District 25 includes Andover, Danbury, Salisbury, Warner, and Webster. This method provides Andover with two State Representatives instead of one.

Voting Districts are formed every 10 years using census data. The New Hampshire Constitution requires no fewer than 375 representatives and no more than 400.



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