

## Letter: An open letter about teen voting

Published: 5/17/2020 12:01:15 AM

Dear Education Commissioner Frank Edelblut: To protect their own health and the health of everyone with whom they come in contact, New Hampshire high school seniors are attending school remotely. Sadly, this means that many will be missing out on several once-in-a-lifetime events, including traditional senior proms and graduation ceremonies. However, there is something vitally important to every U.S. citizen that they need not lose: their right to vote.

The Secretary of State's Select Committee on 2020 Emergency Election Support is currently working to develop appropriate rules and regulations to ensure that every New Hampshire citizen can register and vote safely in the upcoming election season. New Hampshire high school students who will be 18 in time to vote in this election cycle need to be informed of what they must do to exercise this precious civic right. Therefore, I am asking that you take the steps necessary to instruct every high school in the state to communicate the revised rules and protocols to their students as soon as these have been finalized by the secretary of state.

The League of Women Voters of New Hampshire is ready and willing to assist you in this vital task. It seems particularly fitting for the league to support you in this work as 2020 marks the league's centennial year.

I look forward to hearing from you soon concerning the steps that you will take to ensure that New Hampshire's high school seniors are provided with the information they need to exercise their right to vote even in this unprecedented pandemic year.

JANET WARD

Contoocook

(The writer is a member of the League of Women Voters of New Hampshire.)