

Retake Our Democracy's 2019 MUST PASS Bills

We include the bill number and the year of the bill to make it easier to identify. Each year, bills that are resubmitted are re-filed and receive a different number, so in 2019 the bills will receive a new bill number as bills are pre-filed.

1. **HB 338 (2017) Community Solar Gardens Act**, would allow for individuals to buy their energy from locally developed solar gardens, enabling renters and homeowners to purchase solar power without the cost of installation. HB 338 was killed in the House in 2017 because three Democrats missed the vote.
2. **HB 82/HB 193 (2017) Solar Market Tax Credit Permanent /Make Permanent Solar Market Tax Credit** . Here are two very similar bills from 2017, one extending the Solar Tax Credit and the other making it permanent. It is entirely likely that we will add to this list Community Solar and Energy Choice bills as well.
3. **HB 77 (2017) Energy Storage Tax Credit**. This bill would provide a tax credit to residents and business for installation of renewable energy storage systems.
4. **HB (2018) Abortion Decriminalization**, would rescind a 1969 statute making abortion illegal in NM in most instances.
5. **HB 101/SB 72 (2017) Health Security Act**. Passing this would have huge state and national implications, with New Mexico the first state to be on the path for Medicare for All.
6. **SB 259 (2017) No Firearms for Persons Under Protective Order**. The bill prohibits firearms to those involved in a domestic violence dispute.
7. **HB 67 (2017) Minimum Wage**. Raises the minimum wage to \$10 immediately and to \$12 in 2020 with a COLA.
8. **HB 26/SB 15 (2017) Small Lending Interest Caps**, AKA predatory lending limit. This is an economic and racial justice issue. In 2017, the best we could do was reduce the limit to 175% and call it a win, which was legislative malpractice. This bill would set the rate at 36% and not one percent more. This is a line in the sand.
9. **HJR 1 (2017) Permanent Funds for Early Childhood**; 1% from Permanent Fund for early childhood education.
10. **HB 28 (2017) Driver's License Automatic Voter Registration**. This was a priority in 2017, but in 2019 we may adjust our election reform bill priorities based on input from Common Cause.
11. **HB 312 (2018). Cannabis Taxation and Regulation**. This bill would create the legal and regulatory framework for legalizing and taxing the sale of recreational marijuana with projections of hundreds of jobs and up to \$200M in revenues to the State.
12. **SJR 7 (2017). Elect President by Popular Vote**. Once enough states pass this bill so that the collective number of state electoral votes reaches 270, enough to elect a President, then the bill would require each of those states to cast all of their electoral votes for the candidate with the most popular votes, effectively eliminating the electoral college.
13. **Comprehensive Tax Reform (not previously introduced)**. NM Voices for Children is putting together an updated set of priorities, and we will follow their lead, so this is a placeholder.

As noted above, there may well be a few other bills we identify, after discussion with allies. But the final MUST PASS list will be no more than 20 bills so that we can effectively track the bills and coordinate advocacy.