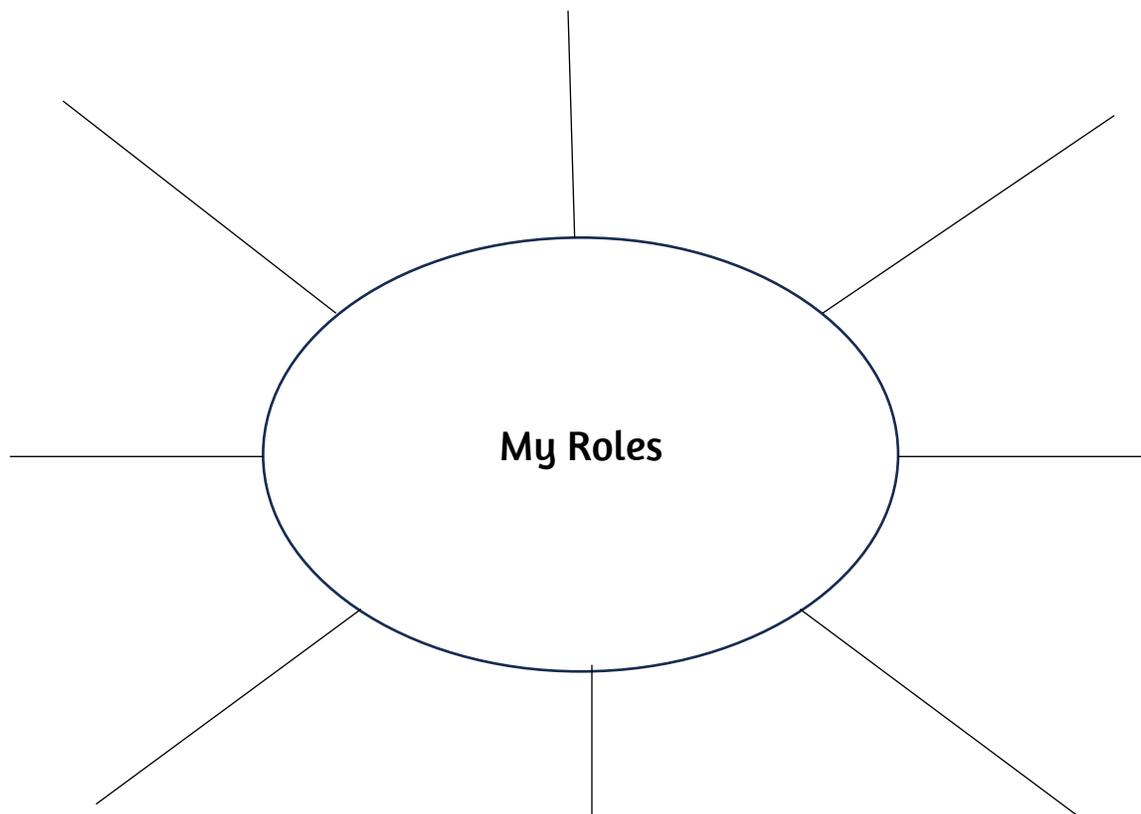




What Role Do You Play?

What roles do you play in school? At home? In your community? Add more lines if you need to!





Citizen Legislature Character Cards

TEACHER

- I teach third grade at a public elementary school.
- I want more time during the week to plan lessons because there are so many topics that I need to cover with my students each week.
- I believe that social-emotional learning skills are important for students and that these skills should be taught in public schools.
- I am also a mom of three children; ages 4,8, and 12.

STAY-AT-HOME PARENT

- I am a stay-at-home parent to five children; ages 2, 5, 7, 12, and 14.
- While they are at school, I take care of daily tasks such as cleaning, laundry, cooking, paying bills and lawn care. I am frustrated when this time is interrupted because of school closures.
- My spouse and I take our children to church every Sunday and provide for their religious education at home.
- I believe that teachers are more equipped to teach children social-emotional skills than parents.



COLLEGE STUDENT

- I am currently a sophomore at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. My major is history and I am 20-years-old.
- I work part-time as a tutor in the Writing Center on campus. I make minimum wage, which is \$7.25 an hour (\$145 per week).
- My dorm room is old and smelly, and I do not like my roommate. I would like to move out, but I cannot afford it because rent is too high.
- I am at UNH on a soccer scholarship and, while I enjoy playing, practices and matches take up a lot of my time and energy. Recently, I was featured in a college sports magazine, but was unable to accept payment from the magazine without losing my scholarship.

VETERAN

- I served in the United States Army for twenty-two years.
- I am concerned about how many homeless veterans there are in New Hampshire.
- I believe parents are more equipped to teach social-emotional skills to their own children in a way that upholds their family values.
- When I retired from the Army, I opened my own auto repair business. It took a lot of time and money to get the license I need to own and operate the shop.



WAITRESS/WAITER

- I work full-time as a waitress/waiter at a restaurant.
- Because I work at a restaurant, I make a tipping wage which is \$3.27 an hour. I do earn tips on top of this, but I am still struggling to pay my bills.
- I cannot afford many things because of how much I make at my job. I am only able to afford necessities, and I can barely afford rent each month.
- I am also a single-parent to one high school-aged child. They frequently need money for field trips and special events.

RETIREE

- I am retired after working as a business owner for 40 years.
- I paid my employees minimum wage, which is \$7.25 an hour.
- My business was a local bookstore located in Downtown Concord. My son now owns and operate the business in my place.
- My son uses the same license I did when I was in charge of the bookstore. It was expensive and time-consuming to obtain and I am glad I was able to prevent him from having to go through the same process.



PREACHER

- I am a preacher at a local church and work in our community every day.
- I believe students need to learn more social-emotional lessons in school so that when they grow up, they can help build a more caring community.
- I believe religious teachings are the best way for children to learn lessons on the difference between right and wrong.
- When I was in college, I played on the basketball team and enjoyed being featured in news and media because it meant I was a good representative of my school.

LANDLORD

- I am a landlord – I lease and rent properties to many different people. They can be residential or business properties.
- I like that I am able to charge the amount that I best see fit a property. This allows me to control how much money I earn.
- I am a parent to two children and I can only work at my properties when they are at school because I do not pay for childcare.
- As a parent, I do my best to teach my children about right and wrong, as well as social-emotional skills, but I appreciate when they also get to practice these skills at school.



House Bill Scenarios

HOUSE BILL: SMALL BUSINESS LICENSURE

- This bill would require new professional licenses to be obtained for small business owners.
- The business owner would have to pay for the license themselves.
- They would only have three months to obtain the new license. After those three months, they will receive a fine for each month thereafter that they do not have the new license. The fines start at \$500 and increase by \$500 for each month they do not obtain the license.

What opinion do you think your character would have on this bill? Why?

What factors might influence their decision?

How do you think your character would vote?



HOUSE BILL: MINIMUM WAGE

- This bill raise the state of New Hampshire's minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour.
- All businesses would have one year until they must start paying their employees the new minimum wage.
- The tipping wage would also increase to \$6.77 and employers would be responsible for making up the difference if an employees total payment (\$6.77 + tips) does not average out to \$15.00/hour.

What opinion do you think your character would have on this bill? Why?

What factors might influence their decision?

How do you think your character would vote?



HOUSE BILL: SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING CURRICULUM

- This bill would implement new social-emotional learning curriculum into public schools.
- Social-emotional learning is the process of developing self-awareness, self-control, and interpersonal skills that are important for success in school, work, and life.
- Teachers would be trained on the curriculum and provided with all necessary materials and tools to teach it in their classrooms.

What opinion do you think your character would have on this bill? Why?

What factors might influence their decision?

How do you think your character would vote?



HOUSE BILL: RENT CONTROL

- This bill would place a limit on the amount that a landlord can demand for leasing a home or renting an apartment or office space, as well as how much that price can increase for rent renewals.
- This would help make places more affordable for people to rent.
- Landlords would no longer be able to charge the amount they wish to charge, even if they need to make expensive repairs or pay more in taxes.

What opinion do you think your character would have on this bill? Why?

What factors might influence their decision?

How do you think your character would vote?



HOUSE BILL: VETERANS PROPERTY TAX

- The current average allotment of veteran's property tax credit is \$400. Tax credits allow for veterans who have been injured or disabled during service to pay lower monthly balances. This helps veterans afford their homes.
- This bill would reduce the tax credit from \$400 to \$300, so veterans' tax bills will increase.
- The money saved from this would be allocated to other departments such as education.

What opinion do you think your character would have on this bill? Why?

What factors might influence their decision?

How do you think your character would vote?



HOUSE BILL: COLLEGE SPORTS

- This bill would prevent colleges/universities, athletic associations, and conferences from preventing a student-athlete from earning compensation for the use of their name, image, or athletic reputation in a publication such as a magazine.
- This compensation would not affect any scholarships the student already receives.
- Student athletes must tell their coach of any contract they enter into and it cannot affect their responsibilities to the team.

What opinion do you think your character would have on this bill? Why?

What factors might influence their decision?

How do you think your character would vote?



HOUSE BILL: IMPLEMENTING PRAYER TIME IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- This bill would implement designated prayer time into the public school schedule.
- This designated prayer time must be observed every day. Teachers who do not respect the designated prayer time slot will be fined and potentially fired.
- The school day will remain the same, teachers will have to reorganize their schedules to incorporate for this prayer time and will have to cut time from other subjects.

What opinion do you think your character would have on this bill? Why?

What factors might influence their decision?

How do you think your character would vote?



House Bill Scenarios – Possible Responses

During this role-playing game, students have the freedom to decide how their character may vote based on the information they are provided with. There are some characters whose point of view on a particular issue is detailed on their character card to help facilitate discussion. For your convenience, these characters and their point of view are detailed below.

House Bill 1: Small Business Licensure

- **Veteran:** strong opinion in favor (had to obtain license to open auto shop)
- **Retiree:** strong opinion against (doesn't want son to have to go through costly process)

House Bill 2: Minimum Wage

- **College Student:** strong opinion in favor (paid minimum wage at job)
- **Waitress/Waiter:** strong opinion in favor (paid tipping wage and barely making ends meet)
- **Retiree:** strong opinion against (pays employees minimum wage, would increase cost)

House Bill 3: Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum

- **Teacher:** strong opinion in favor (works in public school)
- **Stay-at-Home Parent:** strong opinion against (doesn't want school closures and wants to teach own children)
- **Veteran:** strong opinion against (believes in parents teaching family values)
- **Preacher:** strong opinion in favor (believes students should practice these skills in school)
- **Landlord:** possible opinion against or in favor (doesn't want school closures but also values social/emotional learning at school)

House Bill 4: Rent Control

- **College Student:** strong opinion in favor (wants to move out of dorm)
- **Veteran:** possible opinion in favor (concerned about homelessness in veteran population)
- **Waitress/Waiter:** strong opinion in favor (struggling to pay rent)
- **Landlord:** strong opinion against (rent makes up entire income)



House Bill 5: Veterans Property Tax

- **Teacher:** strong opinion in favor (extra money being allotted to education)
- **Stay-at-Home Parent:** possible opinion in favor (has young children and extra money is funding education)
- **Veteran:** strong opinion against (concerned about homelessness in veteran population)

House Bill 6: College Sports

- **College Student:** strong opinion in favor (soccer athlete on scholarship and could use extra money)
- **Preacher:** strong opinion against (thinks news/media coverage is part of the role of being a college athlete)

House Bill 7: Implementing Prayer Time in Public Schools

- **Teacher:** strong opinion against (will take up more time in an already packed day)
- **Stay-at-Home Parent:** possible opinion in favor or against (already provides religious education at home)
- **Preacher:** strong opinion in favor (believes religious teachings are best way for children to learn right from wrong)
- **Landlord:** possible opinion in favor (teaches children at home but also appreciates opportunities to practice at school)