

State of New Hampshire  
Town of Barnstead  
Warrant for 2016 Annual Meeting

The second session for the purpose of discussing and voting upon the remaining articles of the Town Warrant shall be held on Saturday, March 12, 2016, at 9am, at the Barnstead Elementary School. This was Warrant Article 25, which was passed unanimously:

To see if the Town will vote to pass a Right-Based Ordinance establishing a ‘**Right to be Free From Religious Identification**’ within the Town of Barnstead, New Hampshire, by establishing a community bill of rights which prohibits any discrimination on the basis of religious or other beliefs.

**Whereas**, the people of the Town of Barnstead are opposed to political and civil persecution based on religious beliefs; and

**Whereas**, Candidates for the office of United States President have suggested the creation of a system of official identification which would require the disclosure and identification of people's religious or other beliefs; and

**Whereas**, the people of the Town of Barnstead will not abide by any future laws which would require such disclosure and identification, as those laws harken back to dark periods in this country's history, when people of Jewish and other faiths were required to identify themselves by wearing badges and by carrying special identification.

**Therefore**, we the people of the Town of Barnstead adopt the following Warrant Article, which recognizes the right to be free from such discrimination, and which recognizes the right of Town Meeting to adopt a law recognizing that right.

#### Section 1. Statement of Law – Bill of Rights:

**(a) Right to be Free from Religious Discrimination.**

The people of the Town of Barnstead have an inherent, fundamental and unalienable right to be free from any discrimination on the basis of religious or other beliefs. "Discrimination on the basis of religious or other beliefs" for purposes of this law, includes any local, state or federal legal requirement that individuals identify themselves as members of a particular religious faith or identify themselves as members of any group with a particular set of religious or other beliefs.

**(b) Right of Local Community Self-Government.**

The people of the Town of Barnstead possess both a collective and individual right to self-government in their local community, a right to a system of government that embodies that right, and the right to a system of government that protects and secures their human, civil, and collective rights.

**(c) Rights as Self-Executing.**

All rights secured by this law are self-executing and further implementing legislation shall not be required for the Town of Barnstead or the residents of the Town of Barnstead to enforce the rights or prohibitions recognized by this law.

### Section 2 – Enforcement:

(a) It shall be unlawful for any government to violate the rights recognized and secured by this law.

(b) The Town of Barnstead, or any resident of the Town of Barnstead, may enforce the rights and prohibitions of this law through an action brought in any court possessing jurisdiction over activities occurring within the Town. In such an action, the Town of Barnstead or the resident shall be entitled to recover all costs of litigation, including, without limitation, expert and attorney's fees.

(c) All laws adopted by the legislature of the State of New Hampshire, executive orders issued by the President of the United States, laws adopted by the United States Congress, and all state and federal judicial rulings shall be the law of the Town of Barnstead only to the extent that they do not violate the rights or prohibitions of this law.

### Section 3 – Interpretation:

Any reviewing court must liberally interpret this law's provisions to achieve the goals stated in the preamble.

*(Submitted by Petition).*