Bill as Introduced

SB 461- AS INTRODUCED

2000 SESSION

00-2813
04/09

SENATE BILL ***461***

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.

SPONSORS: Sen. J. King, Dist. 18; Rep. Stritch, Rock 5

COMMITTEE: Public Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

00-2813
04/09

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.

2 Membership and Compensation.

I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

(a) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

(b) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house.

II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the committee.

3 Duties.

I. The committee shall study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state for the purpose of memorial and display, including the creation and design of such a flag, and any other issue relevant to the committee's purpose.

II. The committee may solicit advice and input from any individual or organization with information or expertise which may assist the committee in performing its duties.

4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the senate president, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2000.

6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Committee Minutes

Date: **March 29, 2000**
Time: **1:00 p.m.**
Room: **104 - LOB**

The Senate Committee on **Public Affairs** held a hearing on the following:

SB 461 **establishing a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.**

Members of Committee present:

Senator Trombly
Senator Disnard
Senator Eaton
Senator Krueger
Senator McCarley
Senator Roberge

The **Chair, Senator Rick A. Trombly**, opened the hearing by calling on **prime sponsor Senator John King.**

Senator John A. King, D. 18: Reads written testimony. **(See Attachment #1)**

Hearing was recessed at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Carey, Senate Secretary

Attachment #1

SENATOR JOHN KING

SB 461

SB 461 IS FOR LEGISLATION REQUESTED BY CONSTITUENTS INVOLVED IN POLICE WORK. THEY AND OTHERS STRONGLY BELIEVE IN LEGISLATION THAT WOULD LEAD TO THE CREATION OF A POLICE FLAG.

THE FLAG WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO USE AT LOCATIONS AND EVENTS, ESPECIALLY CEREMONIES AND PLACES WHERE POLICE ARE THOSE HONORED.

UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS TASK IS NOT AN EASY ONE AND THE MANY AREAS OF CONCERN RELATIVE TO WHEN AND HOW USED, WHAT WOULD BE THE DESIGN AND OTHER AREAS OF CONCERNS, IT WAS FELT

THAT A STUDY COMMITTEE BE FORMED.
THAT IS THE PURPOSE FOR SB461.
THIS COMMITTEE WOULD CONSIST OF 2 SENATORS AND 2 REPRESENTATIVES THAT WOULD GATHER PERTINENT INFORMATION FROM POLICE, THE PUBLIC AND OTHERS CONCERNED.

THE COMMITTEE SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO THE SENATE PRESIDENT, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, AND THE GOVERNOR ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2000.

THIS REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION FOR A "POLICE FLAG" IS A GOOD IDEA BUT WE SHOULD GATHER THE FACTS, CONCERNS,

USES, ETC BEFORE A FINAL DECISION IS MADE ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

Permanent Record Copy

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Senator John A. King, D. 18: Reads written testimony. **(See Attachment #1)**

Hearing was recessed at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Carey, Senate Secretary

1 Extra Copy

Date: **April 19, 2000**
Time: **1:00 p.m.**
Room: **104 - LOB**

The Senate Committee on **Public Affairs** held a hearing on the following:

SB 461 **establishing a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.**

Members of Committee present:

Senator Trombly
Senator Disnard
Senator Eaton
Senator Krueger
Senator McCarley
Senator Roberge

The hearing was re-opened by **Vice-Chair, Senator Disnard.**

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: We'll now open the hearing on **Senate Bill 461** *AN ACT establishing a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.*

I'd now like to call on the prime sponsor, Senator John King.

Senator John A. King, D. 18: For the record, my name is Senator John King, and I represent the 5 Southeast wards of Manchester and the town of Auburn. I'm here to request your support of Senate Bill 461, which requests for legislation by constituents involved in police work in the town of Auburn. They

and others strongly believe in legislation that would lead to the creation of a police flag. The flag would be appropriate to use at locations and events. . .especially ceremonies and places where police are the ones being honored.

Understanding that this task is not an easy one and the many areas of concern relative to when and how used, what would be the design, and other areas of concerns, **it was felt that a study committee be formed. That is the purpose for SB 461.** This committee would consist of two (2) senators and two (2) representatives that would gather pertinent information from police, the public and others concerned.

The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the Senate President, Speaker of the House, and the Governor on or before November 1, 2000.

This request for legislation for a "police flag" is a good idea, but we should gather the facts, concerns, uses, and anything else before a final decision is made one way or another.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: Do you mind questions?

Senator John A. King, D. 18: Do I have a choice?

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: The situations we may be facing in terms of the supreme court and with election time, do you think two members of the Senate and two members of the House are enough?. . . .Because it may be difficult getting a quorum. You'd have to have three for a quorum.

Senator John A. King, D. 18: If you think it would be wiser to put this three members, I'd have no objections to that.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: Thank you very much.

Senator John A. King, D. 18: Thank you very much.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: I'd now like to call on the **co-sponsor, Representative Stritch.**

Representative Donald Stritch, D. 5: Thank you, Senator Disnard; and for the record my name is Donald Stritch, Representative of Auburn, New Hampshire.

Senator Disnard, I'm a co-sponsor for this bill in response to some of the constituents of mine in the town of **Auburn**; and the **impetus behind this was discussion in the general area of law enforcement** and, **particularly, with the Auburn Police Commission** of whom one of the interested parties is a Police Commissioner. They were interested in whether or not such a thing as a **ceremonial flag** or a flag of some nature that would be used for memorials and for display; for decoration of graves; and other purposes that would go along with the ceremonial use. . . . . . .Now, probably to delineate a little bit better or explain the thought behind a ceremonial flag would best be the people. . . . the person that came from Auburn, Mr. Christie, who is also listed on the list there with you would probably be able to tell you a little bit more about it; but the **bill essentially says *"to study"*** and come up with answers to any of these questions.

Anything you'd like to quiz me on?

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: No. I really doubt a bill like this is going to have any opposition.

Representative Donald Stritch, D. 5: Well, let's vote right now. I mean, why go on with the rest of the speech?

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: We could do that, but our constituents in the rear are probably wondering what's going on, only one senator here. The chairman is sick, and the others are at hearings.

Representative Donald Stritch, D. 5: Yes, he is. Thank you.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: Thank you very much; appreciate your time.

If there are any other Representatives here that wish to speak. . .

Unidentified Speaker: No.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: If you haven't been here before, the protocol is after the sponsors speak, the Chair has to call and see if there are any Representatives or Senators who wish to speak. They have priority, because they usually have to go to another hearing. Not seeing any other Representatives or Senators who wish to speak, I'll go down the list.

Mr. Skip Christie, please.

Skip Christie – Auburn, NH: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

First of all, I'd like to thank you very much for allowing us to appear before you today in consideration of **SB 461**. In brief, I brought with me **the person who really was responsible for this idea**, and this is **Mrs. Linda Conley** who is sitting up back with Sergeant Flight. She approached me several months ago and inquired there at the police station if there was a **memorial or a police ceremonial flag** available; and, if there was, if she could obtain one. . . .because her father was a police officer in the town of Raymond and he had since passed away; and she would like to display this flag during Memorial Day. My answer to her was that I did not know but I would further investigate; and threw my investigation, it showed that there was none. As a result, I had to ask myself why isn't there one?

Having spoken with numerous police officers and officials, the general consensus is that a police flag representing all law enforcement agencies in the state would be a wonderful idea. A flag of this nature would basically honor the ideals of the law

enforcement profession and its dedicated and courageous officers who protect and serve the people of New Hampshire. Many times we have a tendency to forget and take our police agencies or police officers for granted until there is a tragic event or act of heroism which reminds us of the nature of their profession.

We feel that this flag would be something that police officers and agencies could relate to, could be very proud of, and would demonstrate the fact that, we, as citizens of the state. . . .we care about what they do. It could be flown over police departments, used in parades and at police funerals, and, possibly, could be presented to the families of officers who have died in the line of duty.

One of the nice aspects that I have found. . . .and I've made calls around the nation. . . .is the fact that, **if this flag is adopted and created**, through all indications, **it would be the first time in the United States that a police agency or a state has had their own police flag.**

I thank you very much for listening.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: Thank you for your testimony, because you answered all my questions on the states. I appreciate that.

Skip Christie – Auburn, NH: Okay.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: It would be an honor for that one. . . . . .police in this state to have the first one.

Skip Christie – Auburn, NH: Yes, sir.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: Thank you.

Mr. David Flight is in favor and did not wish to speak. If you want to speak you may.

David Flight, Police Officer – Auburn, NH: Yes, I understand that, sir. Thank you. I think Mr. Christie and our elected officials have eloquently said what needs to be said.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: Does Linda Conley wish to speak?

Linda Conley – Auburn, NH: No I don't.

Senator George F. Disnard, D. 8: Thank you very much. Anyone else here desires to speak? Anyone desire to speak a second time? If not, we'll close the hearing.

Hearing closed at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Carey, Senate Secretary

Permanent Record Copy

Date: **April 19, 2000**
Time: **1:00 p.m.**
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Linda Conley – Auburn, NH: No I don't.

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Hearing closed at 1:10 p.m.

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Attachment #1

File copy 4/19/00 Hearing

SENATOR JOHN KING

SB 461

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USES, ETC BEFORE A FINAL DECISION IS MADE ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

SB 461 - 3/29/bd

Rm 104-LOB
1:00 p.m.

Present Dis nard & Trombly

RT

John King - Written testimony

2 Sen + 2 Reps

Dis nard

RT

Recess @ 1:10 p.m.

Reschedule

SB 461 - [redacted] 1:09 p.m Rm 104 - LOB

Senator Dismukes chaired

Senator John King (Reads statement)

Dismukes

King

Dismukes

Rep Ronald Stutch Co-sponsor

Ms. Christy L Auburn

Sen Dismukes

Dism

Skip Christy

(Linda Connally)

Raymond

tendency

aspects

Dismiss

Cm. Flight
Linda Connelly

1:10 p.m.

Extension 30 ofp

Speakers

SENATE Public Affairs COMMITTEE

Date 3/29/00 Time 1:00 PM Public Hearing on SB 461

Appearing in FAVOR: (Please print) **Please check box at left to speak:**

Speaking?	Name	Address	Representing
☒	Sen John Kitzhaber		
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Appearing in OPPOSITION (Please Print) **Please check box at left to speak:**

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SENATE Public Affairs COMMITTEE

Date 4/19/00 Time 1:00 PM Public Hearing on SB 461

Appearing in FAVOR (Please print) **Please check box at left to speak**

Speaking?	Name	Address	Representing
☒	C. Donald Stitch	Rock #5	Auburn
☒	Mr Skip Chrystie	Auburn, N.H.	
☒	Rep John Knox		
☐	Mr David Flight	Officer,	Auburn
☑	Linda Conley,	housewife	Auburn
☐			
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Appearing in OPPOSITION (Please Print) **Please check box at left to speak**

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Voting Sheets

Senate Public Affairs Committee
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bill# SB 461

Hearing date: 4/19/00 Room: 104-LOB

Motion of: OTP

Made by Senator:			*Seconded by Senator:*		
	Trombly	☐		Trombly	☐
	Disnard	☑		Disnard	☐
	Eaton	☐		Eaton	☐
	Krueger	☐		Krueger	☑
	McCarley	☐		McCarley	☐
	Roberge	☐		Roberge	☐

Committee Member	*Present*	*Vote*	*Reported out by*
		3-0	
Senator Rick Trombly, Chairman	☐	yes	
Senator George Disnard, Vice-Chair	☑	yes	
Senator Thomas Eaton	☐		
Senator Pat Krueger	☑	yes	Sen. Krueger
Senator Caroline McCarley	☑	yes	
Senator Sheila Roberge	☐		

*Amendments:

NOTES:

Committee Report

Date: March 29, 2000 Time: 1:00 pm
April 19, 2000 1:00 pm

The Senate Committee on Public Affairs held its hearing in Room 104 LOB, Concord, New Hampshire.

BILL NO.: SB 461 TITLE: establishing a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.

Members of the Committee present:
Senator Trombly
Senator Disnard
Senator Eaton
Senator Krueger
Senator McCarley
Senator Roberge

Second Hearing
Members of the Committee present:
Senator Trombly
Senator Disnard
Senator Eaton
Senator Krueger
Senator McCarley
Senator Roberge

Those appearing in favor:

Name and Address — Representing

See Attached.

Those appearing in opposition:

Name and Address — Representing

See Attached.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE:

☒ Ought to Pass ☐ Interim Study

- ☐ Ought to Pass w/ Amendment
- ☐ Inexpedient to Legislate
- ☐ Rereferred
- ☐ Continued Hearing
- ☐ Postponed Hearing

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Date:

THE COMMITTEE ON **Public Affairs**

to which was referred **Senate Bill 461**

AN ACT **establishing a committee to study the creation of a flag to honor all police departments in the state.**

VOTE: **3-0**

Having considered the same, report the same without amendment and recommend that the bill: **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Senator Patricia Krueger
For the Committee