CONSENT CALENDAR

February 15, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Municipal and County Government to which was referred HB 265-LOCAL,

AN ACT relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems. Having considered the same, report the same with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Jim Maggiore

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Municipal and County Government**
Bill Number:	**HB 265-LOCAL**
Title:	**relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems.**
Date:	**February 15, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**CONSENT**
Recommendation:	**INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill would amend RSA 79-E:2, II of the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive to provide additional tax relief to owners who install automatic fire suppression or sprinkler systems when renovating or rehabilitating a qualifying structure under the act that might not require such systems. Fire suppression systems are proven to save lives and preserve property in the event of a structure fire. However, the language of the bill extends the tax relief to any structures and the committee was concerned about providing tax relief for up to five years to owners who otherwise would be required to install fire suppression under state fire and building codes. Tax relief for one owner causes a shift in tax obligation to all other taxpayers in the community.

Vote 19-0.

Rep. Jim Maggiore
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Municipal and County Government

HB 265-LOCAL, relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jim Maggiore for Municipal and County Government. This bill would amend RSA 79-E:2, II of the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive to provide additional tax relief to owners who install automatic fire suppression or sprinkler systems when renovating or rehabilitating a qualifying structure under the act that might not require such systems. Fire suppression systems are proven to save lives and preserve property in the event of a structure fire. However, the language of the bill extends the tax relief to any structures and the committee was concerned about providing tax relief for up to five years to owners who otherwise would be required to install fire suppression under state fire and building codes. Tax relief for one owner causes a shift in tax obligation to all other taxpayers in the community. **Vote 19-0.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 265-LOCAL

BILL TITLE: relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems.

DATE: February 15, 2023

LOB ROOM: 301-303

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Maggiore Seconded by Rep. T. Cahill Vote: 19-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep John MacDonald, Clerk

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/9/2023 12:06:25 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Municipal and County Government

Bill #: 265 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2/15/23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Turcotte, Len P. Chairman	19		
Pauer, Diane Vice Chairman	1		
Guthrie, Joseph A.	2		
MacDonald, John T. Clerk	3		
Lascelles, Richard W.	4		
Yokela, Josh S.	5		
Kelley, Diane E.	6		
Aylward, Deborah	7		
Brown, Richard R	8		
Cahill, Tim P	9		
Stavis, Laurel	10		
Tatro, Bruce L.	11		
Treleaven, Susan GS			
Gilman, Julie D.	12		
Maggiore, Jim V.	13		
Mangipudi, Latha D.	14		
Gallager, Eric B.	15		
Hicks, Matthew S	16		
~~Howland, Allan~~ RNV	17		
Preece, David John	18		
TOTAL VOTE:	19	0	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 265-LOCAL

BILL TITLE: **relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems.**

DATE: **February 1, 2023**

LOB ROOM: **301-303** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **2:20 p.m.**

Time Adjourned: **2:45 p.m.**

Committee Members: Reps. L. Turcotte, Pauer, J. MacDonald, Guthrie, Lascelles, Aylward, R. Brown, T. Cahill, Stavis, Tatro, Treleaven, Gilman, Maggiore, Mangipudi, Gallager, Hicks, Howland and Preece

Bill Sponsors:
Rep. Burroughs **Rep. Maggiore** **Rep. J. MacDonald**

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Burroughs - major fine - red jacket

- Hunter shop on save reduced to rubble
- Preventing fines in the future
- Mandate would put them out of business
- Substantial benefit.
- Amendment - quality structure. Definition.

Stavis - line 5 or 15 amend to and

Burroughs - his structure was the original intent. Super markets are of value.

Rep. Treleaven - how much is the system worth?

Burroughs - the cost of the system. The municipalities would decide that.

Rep. Yokela - limit them in the cost. Public interest only business.

Burroughs - you put in an application.

Brown - line 14 - what type of review? What process

Burroughs - It would be up to the municipality.

Turcotte - subjective of tax relief.

Burroughs - up to 5 years

Rep. Gilman - making the choice - re adoption - the municipality has to adopt it. Substantial change. Your opinion readopts 79E.

Burroughs - its enabling, not a mandate

Tom Zotti - fire chief of Wolfeboro

- Sprinkler - US experience with sprinklers 2021
- 89 and 27% lower with a sprinkler
- Not argument that they are effective (sprinkler system)
- Sprinklers cost too much - return on investment. One more tool in the toolbox.
- Enabling legislative at the local level
- Incentive business owners cost to a manageable level.

Rep. Treleaven - Insurance cost sprinkled not sprinkled

Zotti - 6 to 8 years return on sprinkler system

Cahill - engineers unit - testing

Zotti - we wouldn't be doing it - if the businesses would hire the person.

Brown - types of fire - how much does that vost

Zotti - recent fire - 100 responders. Electric, water department etc... combination of departments.

Respectfully submitted,
John Macdonald, Clerk

House Remote Testify

Municipal and County Government Committee Testify List for Bill HB265 on 2023-02-01

Support: 0 Oppose: 3 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	Signed Up
Smith, Julie	Nashua, NH cantdog@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/27/2023 10:48 AM
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2023 3:25 PM
Johnston, Janet	Franklin, NH oocsweety22@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2023 9:37 PM

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # HB 265-LOCAL Date 2/1/23

Committee Municipal + County Gov.

** Please Print All Information **

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one) Pro	Con
Adam Schmidt	Concord, NH	603 785-4973	NH Association of Realtors	X	
Thomas Zotti	Wolfeboro, NH	603 581-8190	Wolfeboro Fire-Rescue	X	
Anita Durrant	Glen NH	603-986-2116	Rep Carroll 2	X	

Daniel Richardson

When will corporate welfare cease? In no way should fire suppression be subsidized by government, particularly if it is deemed manditory for operation or occupancy.

2023 SESSION

23-0236
02/10

HOUSE BILL ***265-LOCAL***

AN ACT relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems.

SPONSORS: Rep. Burroughs, Carr. 2; Rep. Maggiore, Rock. 23; Rep. J. MacDonald, Carr. 6

COMMITTEE: Municipal and County Government

ANALYSIS

This bill would allow municipalities to provide local tax relief for the installation of automatic fire suppression or sprinkler systems in qualifying structures under the community revitalization tax relief incentive.

- -

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.

23-0236
02/10

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems.

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

1 New Subparagraph; Definitions; Qualifying Structure. Amend RSA 79-E:2, II by inserting after subparagraph (f) the following new subparagraph:

(g) A qualifying structure for the purpose of determining eligibility for tax relief for installation of automatic fire suppression or sprinkler systems under RSA 79-E:4, I, shall not include detached one or 2-family dwelling units in a structure used only for residential purposes.

2 Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive. Amend RSA 79-E:4, I to read as follows:

I. An owner of a qualifying structure who intends to ***install automatic fire suppression or sprinkler systems in such structure, or*** substantially rehabilitate or replace such structure may apply to the governing body of the municipality in which the property is located for tax relief. The applicant shall include the address of the property, a description of the intended rehabilitation or replacement, any changes in use of the property resulting from the rehabilitation or replacement, and an application fee.

3 Duration of Tax Relief Period. Amend RSA 79-E:5, I to read as follows:

I. The governing body may grant such tax assessment relief for a period of up to 5 years, beginning with the completion of the substantial rehabilitation ***or the completion of the installation of the automatic fire suppression or sprinkler system***.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect April 1, 2024.