2023 SESSION

23-0976
04/08

SENATE BILL ***251***

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system.

SPONSORS: Sen. Whitley, Dist 15; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Fenton, Dist 10; Sen. Chandley, Dist 11; Rep. Rhodes, Ches. 17

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system.

- -

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.
23-0976
04/08

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system.

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 long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system.

2 Membership and Compensation.

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

(a) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

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

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

3 Duties. The committee shall study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system on the state and local levels in New Hampshire, working with the New Hampshire department of corrections, other state and local agencies, interested parties, and advocates to develop specific recommendations concerning the New Hampshire adult parole system.

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 president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2023.

6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

CONSENT CALENDAR

March 30, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety to which was referred SB 251,

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system.

Having considered the same, report the same with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. David Meuse

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Criminal Justice and Public Safety**
Bill Number:	**SB 251**
Title:	**establishing a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system.**
Date:	**March 30, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**CONSENT**
Recommendation:	**OUGHT TO PASS**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill would establish a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system. Probation and parole are designed to lower prison populations and help people succeed in the community; however, new data suggests that they may have the opposite effect. In New Hampshire, 60% of state prison admissions are due to supervision violations, which is much higher than the 45% national average. The committee unanimously felt this discrepancy warrants further study, including taking a deeper look at our state prison admissions rate, how technical violations are handled, the impact of supervision violations on local jails, whether supervisory fees collected from parolees are placing an undue burden on them, and examining best practices used in other states to minimize supervision violations.

Vote 20-0.

Rep. David Meuse
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

SB 251, establishing a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. David Meuse for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill would establish a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system. Probation and parole are designed to lower prison populations and help people succeed in the community; however, new data suggests that they may have the opposite effect. In New Hampshire, 60% of state prison admissions are due to supervision violations, which is much higher than the 45% national average. The committee unanimously felt this discrepancy warrants further study, including taking a deeper look at our state prison admissions rate, how technical violations are handled, the impact of supervision violations on local jails, whether supervisory fees collected from parolees are placing an undue burden on them, and examining best practices used in other states to minimize supervision violations. **Vote 20-0.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill #: SB 251 Date: 3/29/23

Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**** Please Print All Information ****

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	Pro	Con
Joseph Lascare			ACLU	✓	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC HEARING ON SB 251

BILL TITLE: **establishing a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system.**

DATE: **March 29, 2023**

LOB ROOM: **202-204** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **3:31 p.m.**

Time Adjourned: **<<End Time>>**

Committee Members: Reps. Roy, Rhodes, A. Murray, Pratt, Proulx, Janvrin, D. Mannion, Reid, Stone, Tenczar, Meuse, Bouldin, Bradley, N. Murphy, R. Newman, Newell, Selig and Wheeler

Bill Sponsors:

Sen. Whitley	**Sen. Avard**	**Sen. Perkins Kwoka**
Sen. Watters	**Sen. Soucy**	**Sen. D'Allesandro**
Sen. Fenton	**Sen. Chandley**	**Rep. Rhodes**

TESTIMONY

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

Senator Becky Whitley introduces her bill

- 45% of the prison admissions nationally is due to parole violations, but in NH that is 60%
- Chairman Roy asks if a commission would be better suited for this issue regarding the deadline, Senator Whitley says commissions take longer and we have all the data we just need to collate it so a study should be sufficient
- Rep Meuse mentions the legislative assistant did a deep divide in to the NH parole system and has Senator Whitley seen that report, Senator Whitley says yes and she assumes it would be a great assistance to the study committee

Joseph Lascaze, ACLU

- Supports the bill
- NH is in the bottom 10 in prison admissions
- There are other possible remedies to parole violations that are more effective than sending someone back to prison, which is both costly to voters and harmful to the individual. We have halfway homes in NH which are being left completely unused.
- Lascaze shares that when he was released from prison his parole officer chose not to charge him for supervision because of the volunteer and diversion work he was doing, however Lascaze just got a letter in the mail from the NH Parole Board that backdated his charges to the date of his release and was told that if he did not immediately pay that amount in full he would be sent back to prison
- Chairman Roy asks how much supervisory fees are, Lascaze says they are prorated depending on your income

- Rep Harriott-Gathright asks how often these fees are due, Lascaze says typically they are monthly

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Alissandra Murray, Clerk

House Remote Testify

Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee Testify List for Bill SB251 on 2023-03-29

Support: 34 Oppose: 0 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	Signed Up
Dickler, Jeffrey	Rindge, NH gsgstriker@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/26/2023 8:37 PM
Liebowitz, susan	Plainfield, NH supawali@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/26/2023 9:55 PM
Spencer, Louise	Concord, NH lpskentstreet@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/26/2023 10:38 PM
Reed, Barbara	N. Swanzey, NH BDReed74@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 7:16 AM
Dewey, Karen	Newport, NH pkdewey@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 7:37 AM
Casino, Joanne	Concord, NH joannecasino@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 8:09 AM
Jernstedt, Margaret	Hanover, NH Margaret.Jernstedt@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 9:53 AM
Spielman, Kathy Sue	Durham, NH jspielman@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 9:53 AM
Jones, Andrew	Pembroke, NH arj11718@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 10:30 AM
Devore, Gary	Pembroke, NH torin_asheron@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 10:35 AM
Damon, Claudia	Concord, NH cordsdamon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 12:04 PM
Bissex, Hannah	Rindge, NH berardi.h@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 3:03 PM
Merlone, Lynn	Rindge, NH prulone@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 3:03 PM

Thomas, Anne	Rindge, NH annethomasjazz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 3:03 PM
Hershey, Jane	Rindge, NH janelhershey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 3:04 PM
Martin, Patricia	Rindge, NH pmartin2894@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 3:47 PM
Schuman, Diana	Dover, NH deeschu@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 4:58 PM
Straiton, Marie	Pembroke, NH m.straiton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 5:13 PM
Satterfield, Peter	Pembroke, NH psatterfield@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 5:14 PM
Walker, Deborah	Meredith, NH deb.publichealth@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 9:23 PM
Holt, David	Somersworth, NH davholt@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 9:54 PM
ellermann, maureen	concord, NH ellermannf@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 5:43 AM
soucy, donna	manchester, NH donna.soucy@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	SD 18	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 10:22 AM
Watters, David	Dover, NH david.watters@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 11:10 AM
Perkins Kwoka, Rebecca	Portsmouth, NH rebecca.perkinskwoka@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 11:19 AM
Brennan, Nancy	Weare, NH burningnan14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 11:37 AM
Wilke, Mary	CONCORD, NH wilke.mary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 1:41 PM
hatch, sally	concord, NH sallyhatch@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 1:43 PM
Cote, Lois	Manchester, NH lcote06@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 6:21 PM
Willing, Maura	Concord, NH Maura.Willing@Comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 7:06 PM
Perencevich, Ruth	Concord, NH rperence@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 10:07 PM

Richman, Susan	Durham, NH susan7richman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 10:43 PM
Lamphier, Regan	Nashua, NH reganburkelamphier@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 8:36 AM
Fenton (SD 10), Senator Donovan	Keene, NH donovan.fenton@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 9:23 AM

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 251

BILL TITLE: establishing a committee to study the long-term impact of the New Hampshire adult parole system.

DATE: March 30, 2023

LOB ROOM: 202-204

MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS

Moved by Rep. Meuse Seconded by Rep. A. Murray Vote: 20-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Alissandra Murray, Clerk

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/10/2023 9:55:43 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Bill #: SB251 **Motion:** OTP **AM #:** _____ **Exec Session Date:** 3/30/23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Roy, Terry Chairman	20		
Rhodes, Jennifer M. Vice Chairman	1		
Pratt, Kevin M.	2		
Sytek, John Potucek	3		
Proulx, Mark L. Hill	4		
Janvrin, Jason A.	5		
Mannion, Dennis	6		
Reid, Karen A	7		
Stone, Jonathan F.	8		
Tenczar, Jeffrey	9		
Harriott-Gathright, Linda C.	10		
Meuse, David	11		
Bouldin, Amanda C.	12		
Bradley, Amy Clerk	13		
Murphy, Nancy A.	14		
Newman, Ray E.	15		
Murray, Alissandra	16		
Newell, Jodi K	17		
Selig, Loren	18		
Wheeler, Jonah O	19		
TOTAL VOTE:	20	0	