CONSENT CALENDAR

November 6, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Science, Technology and Energy to which was referred HB 622-FN,

AN ACT repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board. Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Michael Vose

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Science, Technology and Energy**
Bill Number:	**HB 622-FN**
Title:	**repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.**
Date:	**November 6, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**CONSENT**
Recommendation:	**OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2023-2292h**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

With the repeal of the EESE Board by HB 281, effective October 7, 2023, HB 622 was no longer viable. The committee decided instead to create a germane amendment to add energy efficiency responsibilities to those already specified for the Department of Energy's grid modernization advisory group, which was created by legislation in 2022.

Vote 20-0.

Rep. Michael Vose
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Science, Technology and Energy

HB 622-FN, repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Vose for Science, Technology and Energy. With the repeal of the EESE Board by HB 281, effective October 7, 2023, HB 622 was no longer viable. The committee decided instead to create a germane amendment to add energy efficiency responsibilities to those already specified for the Department of Energy's grid modernization advisory group, which was created by legislation in 2022. **Vote 20-0.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

Rep. Vose, Rock. 5
Rep. McGhee, Hills. 35
September 29, 2023
2023-2292h
02/10

Amendment to HB 622-FN

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to the grid modernization advisory group.

Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

1 New Subparagraph; Grid Modernization Advisory Group. Amend RSA 12-P:16, II(a) by inserting after subparagraph (4) the following new subparagraph:

(5) Explore methods of modernizing, streamlining, and finding efficiencies in the delivery of energy efficiency programs and incentives, with a goal of maximizing the consumer benefit of existing state, federal, and utility funding streams.

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

2023-2292h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill tasks the grid modernization advisory group with providing recommendations to the department of energy relative to methods to improve the delivery of energy efficiency programs and incentives.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 622-FN

BILL TITLE: repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.

DATE: November 6, 2023

LOB ROOM: 302-304

MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Moved by Rep. Vose | Seconded by Rep. McGhee | AM Vote: 20-0

Amendment # 2023-2292h

Moved by Rep. Vose | Seconded by Rep. McGhee | Vote: 20-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep JD Bernardy, Clerk

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/31/2023 2:59:26 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Science, Technology and Energy

Bill #: HB 622 Motion: OTP/A AM #: 2023-2292H Exec Session Date: 6 Nov 2023

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Vose, Michael Chairman	X		
Thomas, Douglas W. Vice Chairman	X		
Notter, Jeanine M.	X		
Harrington, Michael D.	X		
~~Merner, Troy E.~~ Kennedy, Steven	X		
Lewicke, John	X		
Berezhny, Lex	X		
Bernardy, JD Clerk	X		
Ploszaj, Tom	X		
Summers, James	X		
McGhee, Kat	X		
McWilliams, Rebecca J.	X		
Chretien, Jacqueline H.	X		
Parshall, Lucius	X		
Caplan, Tony	X		
Muns, Chris	X		
Noël, Henry W.	X		
Thomas, Wendy E.N.	X		
Cormen, Thomas H	X		
~~Raynolds, Ned~~ Brennan, Angela	X		
TOTAL VOTE:	20	0	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 622-FN

BILL TITLE: repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.

DATE: September 26, 2023

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Vose, D. Thomas, Bernardy, Notter, Harrington, Lewicke, Ploszaj, Summers, McGhee, McWilliams, Parshall, Caplan, Muns, Noel, W. Thomas and Cormen

Comments and Recommendations: Rep Vose proposes adding EE to the bill as an amendment - No subcommittee.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. JD Bernardy
Subcommittee Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON Science, Technology and Energy

BILL NUMBER: **HB 622-FN**

BILL TITLE: **repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.**

DATE: **February 21, 2023**

THE COMMITEE HAS VOTED TO RETAIN THIS BILL.

_____

Rep. Vose, Chair

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 622-FN

BILL TITLE: repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.

DATE: February 21, 2023

LOB ROOM: 302-304

MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Moved by Rep. Bernardy | Seconded by Rep. D. Thomas | AM Vote: 10-10

Amendment # 2023-0607h

Moved by Rep. Bernardy | Seconded by Rep. D. Thomas | Vote: 10-10

MOTIONS: RETAINED

Moved by Rep. D. Thomas | Seconded by Rep. Bernardy | Vote: 15-5

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep JD Bernardy, Clerk

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/31/2023 2:59:26 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Science, Technology and Energy

Bill #: HB622 Motion: Retain AM #: — Exec Session Date: 23 Feb 2023

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Vose, Michael Chairman	1		
Thomas, Douglas W. Vice Chairman	1		
Notter, Jeanine M.	1		
~~Harrington, Michael D.~~ Gagne, Larry	1		
Merner, Troy E.	1		
~~Lewicke, John~~ Melvin, Charles	1		
Berezhny, Lex	1		
Bernardy, JD Clerk	1		
Ploszaj, Tom	1		
Summers, James	1		
~~McGhee, Kat~~ Rung, Rosemary	1		
McWilliams, Rebecca J.	1		
Chretien, Jacqueline H.	1		
Parshall, Lucius		1	
~~Caplan, Tony~~ Ryan, Linda	1		
Muns, Chris		1	
Noël, Henry W.		1	
Thomas, Wendy E.N.		1	
Cormen, Thomas H		1	
Raynolds, Ned	1		
TOTAL VOTE:	15	5	

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/31/2023 2:59:26 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Science, Technology and Energy

Bill #: HB 622 Motion: OTP AM #: 0607h Exec Session Date: 23 Feb 2023

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Vose, Michael Chairman	1		
Thomas, Douglas W. Vice Chairman	1		
Notter, Jeanine M.	1		
~~Harrington, Michael D.~~ Gagne, Larry	1		
Merner, Troy E.	1		
~~Lewicke, John~~ Melvin, Charles	1		
Berezhny, Lex	1		
Bernardy, JD Clerk	1		
Ploszaj, Tom	1		
Summers, James	1		
~~McGhee, Kat~~ Rung, Rosemary		1	
McWilliams, Rebecca J.		1	
Chretien, Jacqueline H.		1	
Parshall, Lucius		1	
~~Caplan, Tony~~ Ryan, Linda		1	
Muns, Chris		1	
Noël, Henry W.		1	
Thomas, Wendy E.N.		1	
Cormen, Thomas H		1	
Raynolds, Ned		1	
TOTAL VOTE:	10	10	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 622-FN

BILL TITLE: **repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.**

DATE: **February 7, 2023**

LOB ROOM: **302-304** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **3:14 p.m.**

Time Adjourned: **3:31 p.m.**

Committee Members: Reps. Vose, D. Thomas, Bernardy, Notter, Harrington, Merner, Lewicke, Berezhny, Ploszaj, Summers, McGhee, McWilliams, Chretien, Parshall, Caplan, Muns, Noel, W. Thomas, Cormen and Raynolds

Bill Sponsors:

Rep. Bernardy	**Rep. Lewicke**	**Rep. Summers**
Rep. Porcelli	**Rep. Plett**	**Rep. Janvrin**

TESTIMONY

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

Rep Bernardy introduced
- Redundant Board
- DOE can address the same functions

Meredith Hatfield
- Can be useful to get external folks involved
- Monthly meetings not necessary
- Public input required/helpful
- Potential advisory board??
- Check with DOE and DES
- Open for an amendment

Respectfully Submitted,

Rep JD Bernardy, Clerk

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill #: HB622 Date: 2.7.23

Committee: SCIENCE

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

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	Pro	Con
Jennifer Smith, MD, MPH	Pembroke		Self		X
Meredith Hatfield	22 Bridge St Concord	496-9451	The Nature Conservancy		X

NH Rev Stat § 125-O:5-a

125-O:5-a Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board. –

I. An energy efficiency and sustainable energy board is hereby created to promote and coordinate energy efficiency, demand response, and sustainable energy programs in the state. The board's duties shall include but not be limited to:

(a) Review available energy efficiency, conservation, demand response, and sustainable energy programs and incentives and compile a report of such resources in New Hampshire.

(b) Develop a plan to achieve the state's energy efficiency potential for all fuels, including setting goals and targets for energy efficiency that are meaningful and achievable.

(c) Develop a plan for economic and environmental sustainability of the state's energy system including the development of high efficiency clean energy resources that are either renewable or have low net greenhouse gas emissions.

(d) [Repealed.]

(e) Explore opportunities to coordinate programs targeted at saving more than one fuel resource, including conversion to renewable resources and coordination between natural gas and other programs which seek to reduce the overall use of nonrenewable fuels.

(f) Develop tools to enhance outreach and education programs to increase knowledge about energy efficiency and sustainable energy among New Hampshire residents and businesses.

(g) Expand upon the state government's efficiency programs to ensure that the state is providing leadership on energy efficiency and sustainable energy including reduction of its energy use and fuel costs.

(h) Encourage municipalities and counties to increase investments in energy efficiency and sustainable energy through financing tools, and to create local energy committees.

(i) Work with community action agencies and the office of energy and planning to explore ways to ensure that all customers participating in programs for low-income customers and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) have access to energy efficiency improvements, and where appropriate, renewable energy resources, in order to reduce their energy bills.

(j) Investigate potential sources of funding for energy efficiency and sustainable energy development and delivery mechanisms for such programs, coordinate efforts between funding sources to reduce duplication and enhance collaboration, and review investment strategies to increase access to energy efficiency and renewable energy resources.

Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board
Statement of Governing Principles
As Adopted by the Board, February 21, 2014 and Amended November 18, 2022

A. Legal Authority and Responsibility

The Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board (the Board) was created in 2008, by RSA 125-O:5-a. The Board's central charge is "to promote and coordinate energy efficiency, demand response, and sustainable energy programs in the state." .....

B, C, D

....

E. Meetings

(a), (b) ....

(c) Policy Recommendations: The Board may make recommendations from time to time to the Governor, the Legislature or legislative committees, to the Public Utilities Commission, to the Department of Energy, or to other public bodies. All policy recommendations must be subject to a vote and be passed by a 2/3 majority of the voting members present. ....

F,

.....

G,

The Board is administratively attached to the Department of Energy under RSA 125-O:5-a, V and RSA 21-G:10, and the Department of Energy provides the Board with administrative support to facilitate the work of the Board. .....

H

....

HB 549 (2022) -- Removed power to recommend SBC rates and returned it to NH General Court
Taxation is a General Court responsibility: Part First Art 12 & 28

NH Department of Energy

NH Rev. Stat. § 12-P:2

I. There shall be a department of energy under the executive direction of a commissioner of energy and consisting of the divisions of administration, policy and programs, enforcement, and regulatory support.

II. The purpose of this chapter is to improve the administration of state government by providing unified direction of policies, programs, and personnel in the field of energy and utilities, making possible increased efficiency and economies from integrated administration.

New Hampshire Department of Energy Mission Statement

The prosperity and security of New Hampshire and its citizens require an affordable, innovative, reliable, and sustainable energy economy. The Department of Energy is committed to achieving that goal and will provide a unified direction of energy policies, responsible and practical programs, principled regulation, and skilled representation, in energy-related proceedings, of New Hampshire's public interest. The Department of Energy will serve the people of New Hampshire in an honest, transparent, and effective manner.

DIVISION OF POLICY AND PROGRAMS

The Division of Policy and Programs develops and implements policies and programs to achieve an affordable, innovative, reliable, and sustainable energy economy for the state and its citizens. This includes the State energy Strategy

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMMISSIONER
Jared S. Chicoine

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
Christopher J. Ellms, Jr.

TDD Access: Relay NH
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-3670

FAX No. 271-1526

Website:
www.energy.nh.gov

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

February 7, 2023

Chairman Vose
and members of the House Science, Technology and Energy Committee
Room 302-304
Legislative Office Building
33 N. State Street
Concord, NH 03301

RE: Testimony on HB 622

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee,

Due to calendar conflicts, the Department of Energy was unable to appear in person before your committee during your hearing on HB 622, *repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.*

The Department has a **neutral** position on this bill but would like to share some information with the committee.

Through House Bill 549 in 2022, the legislature statutorily decided many issues related to ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs. These now settled issues overlap with much of the discussion and work that the Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board (EESE Board) has undertaken in recent years. If the legislature decides to move forward with repealing the EESE Board, the Department of Energy will be willing and able to take on the responsibilities transferred in House Bill 622 with no need for additional staff.

As always, if there is additional information needed or questions, feel free to contact Josh Elliott (joshua.w.elliott@energy.nh.gov) or Griffin Roberge (griffin.j.roberge@energy.nh.gov) and we would be more than happy to assist the committee.

Respectfully,

Jared Chicoine,
Commissioner

Patricia Anastasia

Christine Fales

This bill would make it more difficult for us to meet the energy efficiency and renewable energy goals we need to reduce our fossil fuel use.

Robert FEDER

The Energy and Sustainable Energy Board is essential to ensuring that New Hampshire is able to provide safe and reliable energy to its citizens. The effort to eliminate it is driven by fossil fuel companies who are only interested in their profits and not the public's welfare.

Erin Dodge

Shifting to renewable, efficient energy use is CRUCIAL, and we must prioritize a just transition, based on expertise and well-resourced. This is why I am writing to oppose the elimination of Energy Boards. We need to be giving our all to increasing energy efficiency and a swift, just transition to renewables.

Sara Smith

,,,,,,

Margery Phillips

I oppose this bill

HB 622-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0750
02/08

HOUSE BILL ***622-FN***

AN ACT repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.

SPONSORS: Rep. Bernardy, Rock. 36; Rep. Lewicke, Hills. 36; Rep. Summers, Rock. 20; Rep. Porcelli, Rock. 19; Rep. Plett, Hills. 29; Rep. Janvrin, Rock. 40

COMMITTEE: Science, Technology and Energy

ANALYSIS

This bill would repeal the establishment of the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board and transfer some of the board's responsibilities to the department of energy.

- -

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.

23-0750
02/08

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.

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

1 New Paragraphs; Department of Energy; Establishment; Purpose. Amend RSA 12-P:2 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraphs:

V. The department shall develop strategies, concepts, and tools to enhance outreach and education programs to increase knowledge and awareness about energy efficiency and sustainable energy among New Hampshire residents and businesses.

VI. The department shall expand upon the state government's efficiency programs to ensure that the state is providing leadership on energy efficiency and sustainable energy including reduction of its energy use and fuel costs.

2 Restructuring Policy Principles. Amend RSA 374-F:3, VI-a(b) to read as follows:

(b) Up to $400,000 of system benefits charge funds collected annually shall be used to promulgate the benefits of energy efficiency according to guidelines developed as specified in RSA [~~125-O:5-a, I(c)~~] ***12-P:2, V*** as determined by the department of energy.

3 Repeal. RSA 125-O:5-a, relative to energy efficiency and sustainable energy board, is repealed.

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

LBA
23-0750
1/10/23

HB 622-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Budget Assistant is unable to complete a fiscal note for this bill, as introduced, as it is awaiting information from the Department of Energy. When completed, the fiscal note will be forwarded to the House Clerk's Office.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Energy

LBA
23-0750
Revised 2/10/23

HB 622-FN FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT repealing the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.

FISCAL IMPACT: [ ] State [ ] County [ ] Local [X] None

METHODOLOGY:

This bill would repeal the establishment of the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board and transfer some of the board's responsibilities to the department of energy. The Department of Energy indicates this bill would not result in a change in the level or source of expenditures incurred to increase knowledge and awareness about energy efficiency and sustainable energy. The Department states it can perform the work to develop awareness with current staffing.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Energy