

# Senate Transportation Committee

*Vivian Hall 271-3091*

**SB 560**, modernizing the New Hampshire coordinate system.

**Hearing Date:** January 20, 2026

**Time Opened:** 3:48 p.m.

**Time Closed:** 3:58 p.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Ricciardi, McConkey, Ward, Prentiss and Fenton

**Members of the Committee Absent :** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill modernizes and clarifies the framework governing New Hampshire's coordinate systems used in land surveying and mapping by formally adopting the most recent coordinate system released by the National Geodetic Survey (NGS), updating terminology, and establishing usage restrictions.

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**Sponsors:**

Sen. Ricciardi

Sen. Fenton

Rep. B. Boyd

Rep. Veilleux

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**Who supports the bill:** Senator Denise Ricciardi, Senate District 9; Steve Ferguson, New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association; and Daniel Richardson.

**Who opposes the bill:** None.

**Who is neutral on the bill:** Eric Sargent and Joel Runnals, New Hampshire Department of Transportation.

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

**Senator Ricciardi, Senate District 9**

- Senator Ricciardi introduced SB 560.
- This bill would modernize the New Hampshire coordinate system.
- This bill proposed was at the request of the New Hampshire Land Surveyor Association.
- It will bring state agencies with the most current coordinate system and will also be aligned with federal standards so we can continue to get federal funds.

### **Steve Ferguson, New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association**

- **Mr. Ferguson** explained that the purpose of this bill is to update New Hampshire's state plane coordinate system from the 1983 version to align with the National Geodetic Survey's 2022 modernization.
- This would ensure that the state system automatically stays current with national updates, maintaining accuracy and meeting modern surveying requirements.

**Senator McConkey** asked if this would affect the way that university system would use GPS units for mapping and designs and require them to update their equipment.

**Mr. Ferguson** clarified it wouldn't affect what they would need. It would simply align New Hampshire's state plane coordinate system with the National Geodetic Survey's updated model, ensuring the state uses the same precise, standardized definition without needing RSA changes as technology improves.

### **Neutral Information Presented:**

### **Eric Sargent, Bureau Administrator, and Joel Reynolds, New Hampshire Department of Transportation**

**Senator McConkey** asked if this bill was to pass, would this help the Department of Transportation or hinder them?

**Mr. Sargent** said it should not impact on their day-to-day operations or costs.

**Senator McConkey** asked about additional costs for things like equipment.

**Mr. Sargent** said they do not see there being additional costs.

**Senator Ricciardi** said it was her understanding that there weren't additional costs associated with this bill.