**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**February 9, 2026**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Committee on Ways and Means to which was referred HB 1435-FN,**

**AN ACT relative to changes to the Winnipesaukee river basin control replacement fund. Having considered the same, report the same with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

**Rep. Bill Ohm**

**FOR THE COMMITTEE**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

# COMMITTEE REPORT

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|---|---|
| Committee: | **Ways and Means** |
| Bill Number: | **HB 1435-FN** |
| Title: | **relative to changes to the Winnipesaukee river basin control replacement fund.** |
| Date: | **February 9, 2026** |
| Consent Calendar: | **CONSENT** |
| Recommendation: | **OUGHT TO PASS** |

## STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Winnipesaukee basin sewer system currently has a replacement fund balance exceeding $5 million. Current law requires ratepayers to pay 5% annually of the current replacement cost, currently estimated at $350 million, resulting in an average residential sewer payment of $160 per quarter. Bonding is currently being used to fund all major repairs, and the replacement fund is only utilized for liquidity between bonding intervals, not as a sinking fund to replace the entire system over a 20-year period. About $1 million a year is typically needed from the replacement fund for emergency repairs, and emergency repairs are unlikely to exceed $5 million. A reduction in the funding rate to 2%, as proposed in the bill, is expected to maintain appropriate funding for emergency repairs and reduce the sewer charge to ratepayers.

Vote 19-0.

Rep. Bill Ohm
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Ways and Means

**HB 1435-FN,** relative to changes to the Winnipesaukee river basin control replacement fund. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Bill Ohm for Ways and Means. The Winnipesaukee basin sewer system currently has a replacement fund balance exceeding $5 million. Current law requires ratepayers to pay 5% annually of the current replacement cost, currently estimated at $350 million, resulting in an average residential sewer payment of $160 per quarter. Bonding is currently being used to fund all major repairs, and the replacement fund is only utilized for liquidity between bonding intervals, not as a sinking fund to replace the entire system over a 20-year period. About $1 million a year is typically needed from the replacement fund for emergency repairs, and emergency repairs are unlikely to exceed $5 million. A reduction in the funding rate to 2%, as proposed in the bill, is expected to maintain appropriate funding for emergency repairs and reduce the sewer charge to ratepayers. **Vote 19-0.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File