

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SENATE
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Thursday, February 12, 2026

THE COMMITTEE ON Judiciary

to which was referred **SB 625-FN**

AN ACT	permitting family members of homicide victims to seek an evidentiary hearing in cases where the department of justice does not file charges in the case.
--------	--

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

BE REFERRED TO INTERIM STUDY

BY A VOTE OF: 5-0

Senator Bill Gannon
For the Committee

Senate Bill 625-FN permits family members of homicide victims to request written explanations from the Department of Justice when charges are not filed or a retrial is declined, and allows them to petition a court for review, including the possibility of an evidentiary hearing. The committee has concerns that the bill could introduce public involvement into the investigative and prosecutorial process, potentially interfering with the Attorney General's independent authority and creating risks that such involvement could be used as a defense in criminal cases.

Brendan Bunnell 271-4063

FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

JUDICIARY

SB 625-FN, permitting family members of homicide victims to seek an evidentiary hearing in cases where the department of justice does not file charges in the case.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Bill Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 625-FN permits family members of homicide victims to request written explanations from the Department of Justice when charges are not filed or a retrial is declined, and allows them to petition a court for review, including the possibility of an evidentiary hearing. The committee has concerns that the bill could introduce public involvement into the investigative and prosecutorial process, potentially interfering with the Attorney General's independent authority and creating risks that such involvement could be used as a defense in criminal cases.