

Senate Transportation Committee

Vivian Hall 271-3091

HB 1350-FN, relative to antique motor vehicles.

Hearing Date: February 17, 2026

Time Opened: 1:10 p.m.

Time Closed: 1:20 p.m.

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

Members of the Committee Absent : Senators Ward and Ricciardi

Bill Analysis: This bill revises the definition of antique motor vehicle to provide that the vehicle is not maintained for primary transportation use.

Sponsors:

Rep. Farrington

Rep. Giasson

Rep. Granger

Rep. Litchfield

Rep. Sabourin dit

Sen. Innis

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Who supports the bill: Senator Daniel Innis, SD 7; Pamela Harders; Jesse Medeiros; and Timothy Finney.

Who opposes the bill: Sarah Burke Cohen, New Hampshire Municipal Association; and Cara Cabral.

Who is neutral on the bill: Kathleen Dymen, Division of Motor Vehicles.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Sue Prentiss, Senate District 5

- Senator Prentiss introduced HB 1350-FN on behalf of Representative Farrington.
- HB 1350-FN would amend RSA 459:4 to read “not maintained for primary transportation use” rather than “in its original condition or restored to original or better condition and not intended for daily use.”

Neutral Information Presented:

Kathy Dymen and John Marasco, New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles

- Ms. Dymment said that this bill tightens the definition of an antique vehicle.

Senator Fenton asked if this bill would cost the state a lot of money.

Kathy Dymment answered that it would not.

Senator Prentiss asked if registered antique vehicles are allowed to drive on the roads.

Kathy Dymment clarified that they can.

Senator Prentiss asked for further clarification if that means that antique vehicles do not need to be properly maintained.

Kathy Dymment stated the vehicles would still need to be maintained and would require the vehicle is not for primary use.

Senator Prentiss asked why these vehicles are not required to be maintained for daily use if other vehicles are maintained to that level. She voiced concern over safety.

Kathy Dymment said that the vehicle would still have to comply with RSA 266.

Senator Prentiss asked to hear more about RSA 266.

Kathy Dymment stated that RSA 266 outlines the basic safety requirements for a vehicle to operate on the road.

Senator Prentiss asked if the Division of Motor Vehicles oversees “daily drivers”

Kathy Dymment stated that there is no way to know if a car is for daily use.

Senator McConkey asked if they were putting law enforcement in a position where they must decide if a vehicle is a primary vehicle.

John Marasco clarified that the Division of Motor Vehicles does not support the bill and explained that this bill would reduce the safety standard required to operate an antique vehicle. He clarified that the fiscal note is no longer relevant. He was also unclear about the safety of this bill.

Senator Prentiss said she is worried about how they will decide if a vehicle is for primary use and asked who will determine this.

John Marasco said that he shared that concern and does not know how this will be enforced.

Senator McConkey asked if this is the first time a bill like this has come through.

John Marasco and Kathy Dymment both stated this was the first time.

V.H
Date Hearing Report completed: February 24, 2026