

Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

Ben Mickens 271-1403

HB 1019, relative to the composition of the state water well board.

Hearing Date: March 18, 2026

Time Opened: 9:00 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:05 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators McGough and Pearl

Members of the Committee Absent : Senators Gannon, Altschiller and Reardon

Bill Analysis: This bill removes the state geologist from the state water well board.

Sponsors:

Rep. Petrigno

Rep. Knab

Rep. B. Boyd

Rep. M. Murray

Rep. Dargie

Rep. Veilleux

Rep. N. Murphy

Rep. W. Thomas

Sen. Watters

Sen. McGough

Who supports the bill: Representative Allison Knab and Stephen Roy (NHDES).

Who opposes the bill: No one.

Who is neutral on the bill: No one.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Representative Allison Knab

- Representative Knab stated that HB 1019 was originally going to add a water treatment specialist to the state water well board.
- Representative Knab explained that in talking with the Department of Environmental Services it was recommended that the addition was not needed and that the state geologist ought be removed from the board

Senator Pearl asked if this board has any adjudicative authority because this legislation would take the board down to an even number of members.

Representative Knab asked that this question be differed to DES.

Stephen Roy of the Department of Environmental Services

- Mr. Roy reiterated that the bill would remove the state geologist which the department is in favor of. The state geologist could consult the board as needed.
- He added that the board rarely has disagreements as the parameters for the board to follow are clearly set in statute.

Senator Pearl asked if there is any procedure when a tie vote arises.

Mr. Roy responded that a tie vote is treated as a “no” vote.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None.

Neutral Information Presented: None.

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Date Hearing Report completed: March 20, 2026