

# Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee

*Jessica Bourque 271-2104*

HB 1274-FN-LOCAL, relative to dog licenses.

**Hearing Date:** March 24, 2026

**Time Opened:** 10:52 a.m.

**Time Closed:** 10:56 a.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Gray, Lang, Perkins Kwoka and Long

**Members of the Committee Absent:** Senator Rochefort

**Bill Analysis:** This bill increases the annual dog licensing fee.

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**Sponsors:**

Rep. Dargie

Rep. Petrigno

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**Who supports the bill:** Rep. Dargie, Rep. Bixby, Brodie Deshaies, Dan Healey,

**Who opposes the bill:** Cory Stone

**Summary of testimony presented:**

**Rep. Paul Dargie, Hillsborough-District 33, Prime Sponsor**

- Corrects the dog license bill fees error in HB 1626 that mistakenly lowered the overall dog license fee statewide by \$0.25 instead of reallocating \$0.25 of the fee to the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.
- If passed, this bill would restore the dog license fee to its previous level before HB 1626 was enacted.

**Rep. Peter Bixby, Strafford-District 13**

- Last year, there was an error in HB 1626 where the overall dog license fee was reduced by \$0.25 instead of being allocated to a different fund. This bill corrects that mistake.

**Dan Healey, NH City and Town Clerks Association**

- Supports this bill.
- This is a clean-up bill requested by the City and Town Clerk's Association.
- Towns are now charging \$0.25 less because of the mistake in HB 1626.

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Date Hearing Report completed: March 25, 2026