

FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 1090-FN, relative to meals and rooms taxes.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Keith Murphy for the committee.

This bill would require meals and rooms tax operators to collect tax on every transaction no matter how small, rounding up to the nearest nickel on meals but not on rooms. Thus, a tax due of \$2.31 would require a payment of \$2.35. The committee heard testimony from the NH Restaurant and Lodging Association that their point-of-sale systems do not have this capability, as those systems are currently configured to enable rounding to the nearest nickel, not just upwards to the nearest nickel. Further, operators are concerned about collecting 8.5% on both meals and rooms but rounding the tax due differently for each. For these reasons, the committee unanimously recommended the bill be found inexpedient to legislate.