

Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

Ben Mickens 271-1403

HB 1544, prohibiting the use of scented products in public areas of state buildings.

Hearing Date: April 1, 2026

Time Opened: 11:29 a.m.

Time Closed: 11:34 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Pearl, Altschiller and Reardon

Members of the Committee Absent : Senator Gannon

Bill Analysis: This bill prohibits the use of scented products in public areas of state buildings.

Sponsors:

Rep. Prout

Rep. Wheeler

Rep. Seaworth

Rep. Flanagan

Rep. A. Murray

Who supports the bill: Representative Brian Seaworth, Krysten Evans (ABLE NH), Fragrance Free Coalition, Cory Stone, Nisa Marks, Janis Hall, Lori DeMoss, Lisa Carrier, Isabel Williams, Alexander Schiffgens, Beth Sehlmeier, Janet Taft, Linda Papademas, Angelique Hall, Caitlin Burlett, Margaret Phillips, Alison Schymik, Maureen Bonetti, Charlie Murphy, Anthony Bonetti, Tracey Kawecki, Deidra Kragnes, Mary Patrick, Carolyn Bonetti, and Bonnie Berger-Durnbaugh.

Who opposes the bill: No one.

Who is neutral on the bill: No one.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Representative Brian Seaworth

- Rep. Seaworth explained that this legislation would require the state to use fragrance free products in state buildings regularly visited by the public. This would be items such as soap.
- Rep. Seaworth explained the origin of this as because, for some members of the public, fragrance products can cause serious medical emergencies.
- Rep. Seaworth stated that this legislation fills in gaps in federal law.
- Rep. Seaworth noted that the American Medical Association recommends fragrance free products in hospitals.

- Rep. Seaworth further clarified that this legislation does not impact municipalities or private entities.

Senator Reardon asked if this was happening in other states.

Representative Seaworth stated that he would bring the question back to the prime sponsor.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None.

Neutral Information Presented: None.

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Date Hearing Report completed: April 7, 2026