

Senate Commerce Committee

Aaron Jones 271-2609

HB 1073, clarifying when the secretary of state shall complete the registry of New Hampshire decentralized autonomous organizations.

Hearing Date: April 14, 2026

Time Opened: 9:50 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:55 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Birdsell, Murphy, Fenton and Reardon

Members of the Committee Absent : Senators Innis and Ricciardi

Bill Analysis: This bill extends the time by which the secretary of state must establish a registry of decentralized autonomous organizations.

Sponsors:
Rep. Ammon

Who supports the bill: Carter Snay (UNH-IOL), Thomas Connolly (NH SOS)

Who opposes the bill: No one

Who is neutral on the bill: No one

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Keith Murphy, on behalf of Representative Keith Ammon

- RSA 301-B was enacted in 2024, and it directed the Secretary of State's Office to establish a decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs) registry.
- At the request of the Department, this bill would extend the deadline for completion of the registry to January 1, 2027. Importantly, it would have no cost to the state.

Carter Snay, Datacenter Group Leader, University of New Hampshire's InterOperability Laboratory

- Mr. Snay said UNH's InterOperability Lab (IOL) has spent over three decades building interoperable infrastructure based on the principle that open standards and systems benefit everyone.

- IOL, students, and community partners are working to bring students, developers, and industry practitioners together to help invest in the next generation of builders in this ecosystem.
- New Hampshire was one of the first states to create a legal framework for DAOs. To bring it to fruition, Mr. Snay said the framework needed a functioning registry.
- Economic competitiveness, student and workforce opportunity, and institutional credibility were additional reasons completing the registry mattered.
- Currently, DAOs and Web3 organizations are choosing where to build or form. Mr. Snay said a completed registry would signal that New Hampshire was a real option, not any other state.
- Mr. Snay said UNH graduates who want to build in Web3 benefitted when the legal and regulatory infrastructure was in place.
- As the registry took shape, Mr. Snay said there was an opportunity for collaboration between UNH IOL, the Blockchain Council, and the Secretary of State's Office.

Thomas Connolly, Assistant Secretary of State and Director of the Corporations Division, New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office

- After the initial bill passed, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued to build the registry. They received two responses, but Mr. Connolly said neither met their needs.
- Individuals at UNH's IOL are working to bring stakeholders together to help revise the RFP and move this project forward.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

Neutral Information Presented: None