

Senate Transportation Committee

Vivian Hall 271-3091

HB 1549, establishing that titles, bills of sale, and identification documents are required only at initial registration or transfer of ownership.

Hearing Date: April 14, 2026

Time Opened: 1:24 p.m.

Time Closed: 1:28 p.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators McConkey, Ward, Prentiss and Fenton

Members of the Committee Absent : Senator Ricciardi

Bill Analysis: This bill limits the requirement to present ownership and identification documents to the initial registration or transfer of a vehicle and affirms that prior registration is sufficient for renewal.

Sponsors:

Rep. McFarlane

Rep. Giasson

Rep. Granger

Who supports the bill: Rep. Daniel Popovici-Muller, Rockingham District 17; Curtis Howland; Timothy Finney; Pamela Harders; and Daniel Richardson.

Who opposes the bill: None.

Who is neutral on the bill: Jennifer Gorner, Title Bureau Administrator, New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Rep. Daniel Popovici-Muller, Rockingham District 17

- Rep. Popovici introduced HB 1549 on behalf of Rep. McFarlane.
- HB 1549 clarifies that ownership documents are only needed for the first registration, making renewals easier and more consistent without adding risk of misuse.
- The current law is unclear about whether proof of ownership is required only at initial registration or every year, leading to inconsistent practices across towns.
- He noted this bill would create consistency in the law for towns across New Hampshire.

Neutral Information Presented:

Jennifer Gorner, Title Bureau Administrator, New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles

- Ms. Gorner explained that this bill clarifies what was unspoken in the current statute.
- She said they worked with the New Hampshire City Town Clerk's Association, and they are fine with the change as well.

V.H

Date Hearing Report completed: April 17, 2026