

HB 1114 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2565

06/08

HOUSE BILL **1114**

AN ACT relative to the documentation and preservation of public comment reports by standing legislative committees.

SPONSORS: Rep. Lucas, Graf. 7; Rep. Damon, Sull. 8; Rep. Oppel, Graf. 9; Rep. Hakken-Phillips, Graf. 12; Rep. Harriott-Gathright, Hills. 10; Rep. Beauchemin, Hills. 3; Rep. O'Rorke, Ches. 7; Rep. Wade, Straf. 15; Rep. Balboni, Rock. 38; Rep. Raymond, Hills. 5; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21

COMMITTEE: Legislative Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the preservation of written public comments submitted on legislation, including those received via hearings and the state's remote sign-in system, and mandates that standing committees prepare reports explaining how such comments influenced their recommendations. These reports must be submitted to the clerk and retained in the permanent record of the bill.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to the documentation and preservation of public comment reports by standing legislative committees.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Preservation of Committee Papers. Amend RSA 14:10 to read as follows:

2 14:10 Preservation of Committee Papers.

3 ***I.*** The clerk of each senate, house, and joint committee shall properly classify, arrange, and
4 file all papers laid before his committee, and preserve those which are not returned to the senate or
5 house, and at the close of the session shall deposit them with the clerk of that branch of the
6 legislature from which the business to which they relate was sent to the committee.

7 ***II.*** *Public comments received in writing, in hearings, and via the state's remote*
8 *sign-in system for each bill shall be preserved in the permanent record of the bill.*

9 ***III.*** *Each standing committee of the house of representatives and the senate shall*
10 *prepare a report of written public comments received in hearings and via the general*
11 *court's remote sign-in system for each bill referred to the committee. The report shall state*
12 *clearly why the arguments presented in the public comments did or did not influence the*
13 *committee's recommendation on the bill. The preparation of the reports of public*
14 *comments shall be overseen by the committee chairperson and the ranking member or their*
15 *designees. Comments that are duplicates, are from out of state, are submitted by registered*
16 *lobbyists, or comments submitted in error, may be excluded from the reports.*

17 ***IV.*** *The reports of public comments shall be submitted to the clerk along with all*
18 *other committee work products and shall be retained in the permanent record of the bill.*

19 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.