

HB 1416 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

12Mar2026... 0916h
05/14/2026 1912s

2026 SESSION

26-3148
07/09

HOUSE BILL **1416**

AN ACT establishing a committee to study what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.

SPONSORS: Rep. Farrington, Straf. 8; Rep. Kofalt, Hills. 32; Rep. Notter, Hills. 12; Rep. Osborne, Rock. 2; Rep. M. Pearson, Rock. 34; Rep. Perez, Rock. 16; Rep. Sellers, Graf. 10; Rep. Thibault, Merr. 25; Rep. Granger, Straf. 2; Rep. Bennett, Rock. 4; Sen. Avard, Dist 12

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT establishing a committee to study what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.

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

1 1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study what legal protections
2 currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First
3 Amendment protections are needed.

4 2 Membership and Compensation.

5 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

6 (a) Two members of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party,
7 appointed by the president of the senate.

8 (b) Three members of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be a member of
9 the minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

10 II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to
11 the duties of the committee.

12 3 Duties. The committee shall:

13 I. Determine what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of
14 pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.

15 II. Solicit testimony from the attorney general's office to determine whether there have been
16 substantiated complaints by pregnancy resource centers alleging violations of the First Amendment.

17 III. Identify current state and federal law related to pregnancy resource centers, including
18 relevant United States Supreme Court cases, and determine what First Amendment protections
19 currently exist for pregnancy resource centers in New Hampshire.

20 IV. Determine if there are gaps in First Amendment protections for pregnancy resource
21 centers in New Hampshire.

22 4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from
23 among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate
24 member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this
25 section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

26 5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
27 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate
28 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2026.

29 6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.