

HB 313 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0493

11/02

HOUSE BILL           **313**

AN ACT               relative to non-public sessions at public meetings where discussion in public would likely affect a person's reputation.

SPONSORS:         Rep. Alexander Jr., Hills. 29; Rep. Berry, Hills. 44; Rep. Love, Rock. 13

COMMITTEE:        Judiciary

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ANALYSIS

This bill allows a person who has the right to attend a public meeting to choose that the meeting remain open, even when discussion about the person in public would likely adversely affect the reputation of the person.

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                      Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT                   relative to non-public sessions at public meetings where discussion in public  
would likely affect a person's reputation.

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

1           1 Access to Governmental Records and Meetings; Nonpublic Sessions. Amend RSA 91-A:3, II(c)  
2 to read as follows:

3                   (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of  
4 any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person [~~requests an open~~  
5 ~~meeting~~] ***has a right to attend the meeting, at which point that person shall be given the***  
6 ***opportunity to request an open meeting. If the person requests an open meeting, the***  
7 ***request shall be granted.*** This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax  
8 abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the  
9 applicant.

10           2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.