

# Senate Transportation Committee

*Vivian Hall 271-3091*

**SB 499**, relative to the duties and reporting requirements of the traffic safety commission.

**Hearing Date:** January 13, 2026

**Time Opened:** 1:01 p.m.

**Time Closed:** 1:05 p.m.

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

**Members of the Committee Absent :** Senator Ward

**Bill Analysis:** This bill adds an additional duty and reporting requirement for the traffic safety commission related to the causes of traffic collisions in the state.

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**Sponsors:**  
Sen. Birdsell

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**Who supports the bill:** Dan Bennett, New Hampshire Automobile Dealers Association; and Eddie Edwards, New Hampshire Department of Safety.

**Who opposes the bill:** None

**Who is neutral on the bill:** None

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

**Senator Birdsell, Senate District 19**

- **Senator Birdsell** introduced Senate Bill 499, which adds duties and reporting requirements for the Traffic Safety Commission to track causes of traffic collisions in New Hampshire.
- The bill aims to collect data on issues like speeding, wrong-way driving, and vehicle-related factors to better understand and prevent accidents.
- **Senator Prentiss** asked about putting forth an amendment to add a member from the Trauma Medical Review Committee to the commission.
- **Senator Birdsell** said she was open to an amendment addressing this.

**Eddie Edwards, Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Safety**

- The New Hampshire Department of Safety is in support of this bill.

- Commissioner Edwards requested amending the bill by removing the phrase “for that year” because crash data is typically compiled from the previous year, making the original timing unfeasible.

V.H

Date Hearing Report completed: January 17, 2026