

# Senate Judiciary Committee

*Brendan Bunnell 271-4063*

**HB 54-FN**, allowing alternative treatment centers to operate for-profit.

**Hearing Date:** February 17, 2026

**Time Opened:** 2:11 p.m.

**Time Closed:** 2:20 p.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Gannon, Abbas, Altschiller and Reardon

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

**Bill Analysis:** This bill allows alternative treatment centers to operate for-profit.

---

**Sponsors:**

Rep. W. Thomas

Rep. Vail

---

**Who supports the bill:** Representative Wendy Thomas, Cory Stone, Pamela Harders, Curtis Howland, James Gardner, Timothy Finney, Jesse Medeiros, and Katie McLaughlin.

**Who opposes the bill:** Sue Homola (SAM NH) and Angelique Hall.

**Summary of the testimony presented:**

**Representative Wendy Thomas**, a Representative of Merrimack, spoke in support of the bill. The Representative explained that it would open up a new stream of revenue for the state by allowing Alternative Treatment Centers for therapeutic cannabis to operate on a for-profit basis.

- Expressed that simple sources of revenue like this are simply good governance at a time when costs are continuing to rise.
- Explained that many individuals rely on cannabis for medical care and that this bill would significantly reduce the costs involved for such treatment.
- Argued that this legislation promotes fiscal responsibility while advancing compassion and public health. The bill would seek to strengthen the State's financial footing while making therapeutic care more accessible.
- Explained that this would not be a mandate, and that ATCs would be free to remain non-profit if they so choose.

- Explained that for-profit is a business model rather than an ideology based around profit. This altered status would allow ATCs to get lower interest loans and to invest in their facilities to reduce costs for consumers.
- Senator Abbas asked if there were any differences between this bill and a similar bill that had originated in the Senate.
  - Representative Thomas answered that she would compare the two and get back to the Senator on this.
- Senator Altschiller asked what the issues present were for ATCs to want to operate on a for-profit basis.
  - Representative Thomas answered that interest rates on loans are higher as a non-profit, due to the increased chance of risk.

**Sue Homola**, a representative of SAM New Hampshire, spoke in opposition to the bill. She explained that Governor Sununu had vetoed a similar bill during his tenure due to concerns that it would encourage out-of-state special interests to acquire equity in New Hampshire ATCs. This would have represented too great of a step towards the industrial commercialization of marijuana. Ms. Homola explained that nothing had changed since this decision.

- Explained that ATCs in New Hampshire currently benefit from total control over the cannabis market in the state. She argued that any changes to existing laws ought to also include a full audit of the commercial records of ATCs to fully understand those businesses.
- Senator Altschiller asked whether Sue Homola was aware that ATCs were already audited on a yearly basis.
  - Ms. Homola clarified her stance, stating that she was proposing that audits take place so that the legislature can have a more informed conversation about the prices at ATCs and their causes.
  - Argued that ATCs are currently beholden to the State, but if they went for-profit, they would be beholden to investors instead.
- Senator Abbas asked for clarification on whether Ms. Homola was concerned that there would be no reduction of prices if ATCs switched to a for-profit basis.
  - Sue Homola answered that she was concerned that this bill would be eliminating safeguards on ATCs by opening them up to the influence of outside investors. She argued that they were set up this way for a reason, and that to change this would be to alter the basic philosophy that it would be a compassionate program with guardrails.

BMB  
Date Hearing Report completed: February 24, 2026