

Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

Kevin Condict 271-7875

SB 197, relative to the medical supervision of the licensed registered nurse employed by the legislative facilities committee.

Hearing Date: February 12, 2025

Time Opened: 9:30 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:33 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Pearl, Gannon and Altschiller

Members of the Committee Absent : Senators McGough and Reardon

Bill Analysis: This bill removes supervision of the nurse employed by the legislative facilities committee from the department of health and human services and provides that the nurse shall act within the scope of practice provided by the board of nursing and RSA 326-B, the Nurse Practices Act. The bill is a request of the department of health and human services.

Sponsors:

Sen. Pearl

Sen. Birdsell

Sen. Rosenwald

Rep. Grote

Rep. M. Pearson

Who supports the bill: Sen. Howard Pearl (SD 17), Jonathan Ballard, MD (DHHS), Janet Lucas, and Sen. Cindy Rosenwald (SD 13).

Who opposes the bill: None.

Who is neutral on the bill: None.

Summary of testimony presented:

Senator Howard Pearl, Senate District 17

- Sen. Pearl introduced Senate Bill 197.
- Sen. Pearl explained that the bill removes the supervision of the nurse employed by the Legislative Facilities Committee. The bill also provides that they will practice within the scope of the Nurse's Practice Act.
- Sen. Pearl referred all technical questions to the representative of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Dr. Jonathan Ballard, Chief Medical Officer
Department of Health and Human Services

- Dr. Ballard explained that this bill came about when Commissioner Weaver noticed language in law that she shall provide supervision to the nurse. He said the language has not changed since 1995, and that this bill aligns the language with current law.
- Dr. Ballard said that the bill removes the supervision of the nurse and provides that they will practice within the authority of the Nurse's Practice Act.
- Dr. Ballard stated that they checked in with Terry Pfaff, the Chief Operating Officer of the General Court of New Hampshire, and the nurse, and they are aligned with this change.
- Dr. Ballard said that the DHHS shall continue to provide support as needed.

KC
Date Hearing Report completed: February 14, 2025