

# Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

*Ben Mickens 271-1403*

**HB 1097**, requiring legislative approval of the amendment or permanent removal of historical markers.

**Hearing Date:** March 25, 2026

**Time Opened:** 10:35 a.m.

**Time Closed:** 10:43 a.m.

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

**Members of the Committee Absent :** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill requires legislative approval of the amendment or permanent removal of historical markers.

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**Sponsors:**

Rep. Hill

Sen. Avard

Sen. Lang

Sen. Pearl

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**Who supports the bill:** Representative Greg Hill, Kelly Butler, Hope Scelza, and Daniel Richardson.

**Who opposes the bill:** Cory Stone, Patricia Anastasia, and Nathaniel Blair.

**Who is neutral on the bill:** Ben Wilson (DNCR).

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

**Representative Greg Hill**

- Representative Hill explained that this bill passed both chambers in the past but was vetoed by then-Governor Sununu.
- Representative Hill explained that this bill came after a Right-to-Know request was made regarding the historical marker referencing President Andrew Jackson's visit to Concord New Hampshire.
- Representative Hill explained that this request showed the alteration or removal of some historical markers.

- Representative Hill stated that the House amendment reflects concerns of who makes the final decision on these markers. The amendment gives the authority to the Joint Historic Committee.
- He explained that there are some markers that are considered high priority and some that are considered medium priority and Representative Hill provided a handout with that delineation.

**Senator McGough** asked who wrote the comments that are on these handouts.

**Representative Hill** responded that those comments were written by the state agency that works with historical markers.

**Summary of testimony presented in opposition:** None.

**Neutral Information Presented:**

**Ben Wilson, Director of the Division of Historical Resources:**

- Mr. Wilson stated that this program came from the executive order of former Governor Sununu involving the review state historical markers.
- Mr. Wilson explained that the division along side the Department of Transportation heard testimony regarding possible changes to historical markers around the state.

**Senator Reardon** asked who makes the final decision on a change.

**Mr. Wilson** responded that committee in cooperation with DOT has the final say.

**Senator McGough** asked who wrote the notes in the handout provided by Representative Hill.

**Mr. Wilson** responded that he is uncertain but can find out for the committee.