

Amendment to HB 1632-FN-A-LOCAL

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after section 3 with the following:

2
3 4 New Subdivision; Office of Strategic Initiatives; New Hampshire Housing Champion
4 Certification. Amend RSA 4-C by inserting after section 37 the following new subdivision:

5 New Hampshire Housing Champion Certification

6 4-C:38 New Hampshire Housing Champion Certification.

7 I. The office of strategic initiatives shall develop a New Hampshire housing champion
8 certification program for all qualifying municipalities. The office of strategic initiatives shall adopt
9 rules to establish qualifications and procedures for a municipality to earn the New Hampshire
10 housing champion certification. The procedure for a municipality to earn the New Hampshire
11 housing champion certification shall be based on a scoring system.

12 II. The New Hampshire housing champion certification program shall be voluntary. Each
13 municipality shall have the option, in its sole discretion, to apply to the office of strategic initiatives
14 to receive the New Hampshire housing champion certification. In exchange for housing champion
15 certification, a municipality shall receive preferential access to state resources including, but not
16 limited to, discretionary state infrastructure funds, as available.

17 III. Qualifications to receive the New Hampshire housing champion certification shall
18 include, but are not limited to:

19 (a) Adoption of such land use regulations and ordinances which the office of strategic
20 initiatives determines to be necessary to promote the development of workforce housing, as that
21 term is defined in RSA 674:58, and other types of housing necessary for the economic development of
22 the state. In this paragraph, "land use regulations and ordinances" shall include, but are not limited
23 to, innovative land use controls described in RSA 674:21.

24 (b) Adoption of financial tools that incentivize the development of workforce housing,
25 including adoption of the community revitalization tax relief incentive program under RSA 79-E and
26 establishment of municipal economic development and revitalization districts under RSA 162-K.

27 (c) Training of planning board and zoning board of adjustment members using training
28 materials and programs, including online materials and programs, provided by the office of strategic
29 initiatives pursuant to RSA 673:3-a; or training materials and programs, including online materials
30 and programs, provided by the New Hampshire Municipal Association, that cover the processes,
31 procedures, regulations, and statutes related to the board on which the member serves; or any other
32 training materials and programs, including online materials and programs, approved by the office of

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1 strategic initiatives, that cover the processes, procedures, regulations, and statutes related to the
2 board on which the member serves.

3 (d) Adoption of energy efficiency residential building standards, pursuant to RSA 674:51,
4 or adoption of an energy efficiency and clean energy district, pursuant to RSA 53-F.

5 IV. A New Hampshire housing champion certification shall be valid for 3 years from the
6 date such certification is awarded. A municipality may renew its housing champion certification for
7 subsequent 3-year periods. The office of strategic initiatives shall include in the criteria for renewal
8 performance metrics including, but not limited to, the qualifications listed in paragraph III, total
9 housing production, and production of workforce housing in a municipality during the period since a
10 municipality last received New Hampshire housing champion certification.

11 V. There is hereby established the New Hampshire housing champion certification program
12 advisory board. The advisory board shall review and approve proposed rules, and any amendments
13 thereto, used by the office of strategic initiatives to administer the housing champion certification
14 program and shall advise the office regarding ongoing program administration. The advisory board
15 shall consist of:

16 (a) One member of the senate, appointed by the senate president.

17 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, at least one of whom shall be a
18 member of the municipal and county government committee, appointed by the speaker of the house
19 of representatives.

20 (c) The commissioner of the department of business and economic affairs, or designee.

21 (d) The executive director of the business finance authority, or designee.

22 (e) The executive director of the New Hampshire housing finance authority, or designee.

23 (f) The executive director of the community development finance authority, or designee.

24 (g) The executive director of the state commission for human rights, or designee.

25 (h) One member appointed by each of the following entities:

26 (1) The New Hampshire Municipal Association.

27 (2) The New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions.

28 (3) Housing Action New Hampshire.

29 (4) Clean Energy New Hampshire.

30 (5) The Home Builders and Remodelers Association of New Hampshire.

31 (6) The New Hampshire Association of Realtors.

32 (7) The New Hampshire Planners Association.

33 (8) Plan New Hampshire.

34 VI. Members of the advisory board shall serve without compensation, except that legislative
35 members of the board shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the
36 board.

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1 VII. The office of strategic initiatives shall adopt rules pursuant to RSA 541-A to implement
2 the provisions of this section no later than July 1, 2021. During the rulemaking process, the office of
3 strategic initiatives shall consult with relevant state agencies and entities that administer the
4 programs and funds identified under paragraph II to ensure the rules for the New Hampshire
5 housing champion certification program are not in conflict with the rules of these state agencies and
6 entities.

7 VIII. Each year the office of strategic initiatives shall develop a report which describes all
8 actions taken related to the operation of the housing champion certification program and assesses
9 the overall impact of the housing champion certification program, including an assessment of the
10 additional housing units produced in the state as a result of the program's operation and incentives.
11 The report required by this paragraph shall be submitted to the governor, the speaker of the house of
12 representatives, and the president of the senate on or before November 1 of each year, beginning in
13 2021, and upon such submission, the report shall be posted online on the website of the office of
14 strategic initiatives.

15 5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

- I. Permits municipal economic development and revitalization districts to be used to increase workforce housing and other residential development within the municipality.
- II. Increases the community revitalization tax relief incentive period for eligible housing projects.
- III. Establishes the New Hampshire housing champion certification program in the office of strategic initiatives.