Section 1 Header

2026 SESSION

26-2764.0
08/07

HOUSE BILL ***[bill number]***

AN ACT requiring employers to provide legislators with time off for committee work of the general court.

SPONSORS: [sponsors]

COMMITTEE: [committee]

ANALYSIS

This bill requires employers to provide legislators with time off for committee work of the general court.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

26-2764.0
08/07

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT requiring employers to provide legislators with time off for committee work of the general court.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 New Chapter; Leave for Legislative Service. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 275-I the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 275-J

LEAVE FOR LEGISLATIVE SERVICE

275-J:1 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. "Employer" means any person, firm, business, or governmental entity employing one or more individuals in the state.

II. "Employee" means any individual employed by an employer, whether full-time, part-time, or temporary.

III. "Legislative service" means attendance at committee meetings of the general court.

275-J:2 Leave for Legislative Service.

I. An employer shall grant an employee who is a duly elected member of the general court a leave of absence for the purpose of attending legislative committee meetings.

II. The leave may be:

(a) Paid, if the employer has a policy or practice of providing paid civic leave; or

(b) Unpaid, if no such policy exists.

III. An employee shall not be required to use vacation, personal, or sick leave for legislative service.

275-J:3 Employment Protection.

I. No employer shall discharge, discipline, threaten, or otherwise penalize an employee for taking leave under this chapter.

II. An employee who is discharged or otherwise penalized in violation of this section may bring a civil action for:

(a) Reinstatement to their former position;

(b) Recovery of lost wages and benefits; and

(c) Reasonable attorney's fees and court costs.

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