

SB 625-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

03/26/2026 1216s
14May2026... 1955h
14May2026... 1956h

2026 SESSION

26-2181
07/09

SENATE BILL

625-FN

AN ACT

establishing a committee to study options for family members of intentional homicide victims where the department of justice does not file charges in a case, repealing the refugee resettlement program in the department of health and human services, and prohibiting expenditure of state funds on refugee resettlement.

SPONSORS: Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Rep. Foote, Rock. 13; Rep. Tripp, Rock. 13

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Establishes a committee to study options for information for family members of intentional homicide victims where the department of justice does not file charges in a case.

II. Repeals the refugee resettlement program in the department of health and human services.

III. Prohibits expenditure of state funds on refugee resettlement.

IV. Removes Hepatitis B from the list of diseases for which childhood immunization is required

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT establishing a committee to study options for family members of intentional homicide victims where the department of justice does not file charges in a case, repealing the refugee resettlement program in the department of health and human services, and prohibiting expenditure of state funds on refugee resettlement.

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

1 1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study options for information for
2 family members of intentional homicide victims where the department of justice does not file charges
3 in a case.

4 2 Membership and Compensation.

5 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

6 (a) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

7 (b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
8 house of representatives.

9 II. Legislative members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when
10 attending to the duties of the committee.

11 3 Duties. The committee shall study options for information for family members of intentional
12 homicide victims where the department of justice does not file charges in a case. The committee
13 shall:

14 I. Review the relevant laws of other states;

15 II. Determine whether the New Hampshire constitution would allow for relevant laws in
16 other states to be implemented in New Hampshire;

17 III. Review the current process for keeping family members of intentional homicide victims
18 updated on the case and determining how to address any gaps found in that communication;

19 IV. Investigate whether there are any systemic problems with the investigatory process and
20 if any are found, determining how those problems could be addressed; and

21 V. Investigate the feasibility of extending the statute of limitations for crimes relevant to
22 this study.

23 4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from
24 among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate
25 member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this
26 section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

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1 5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
2 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate
3 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2026.

4 6 Immunization Requirements; Hepatitis B Removed. Amend RSA 141-C:20-a, I to read as
5 follows:

6 I. All parents or legal guardians shall have their children, who are residing in this state,
7 immunized against diphtheria, mumps, pertussis, poliomyelitis, rubella, rubeola, tetanus, varicella,
8 [~~Hepatitis B,~~] and Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib).

9 7 Termination of Refugee Program Administered Through the Department of Health and
10 Human Services.

11 I. In this section "refugee resettlement program" means the U.S. Refugee Admissions
12 Program (USRAP) and any other federal program or nonprofit program or grant designed to settle,
13 fund, or otherwise help refugees or asylees.

14 II. On the effective date of this section, the department of health and human services shall,
15 as promptly as practicable, terminate any contracts administered under a refugee resettlement
16 program.

17 III. No department, agency, or administrative unit of state government may accept money
18 from any source for refugee resettlement.

19 IV. No department, agency, or administrative unit of state government may spend money to
20 settle, fund, or otherwise assist refugee resettlement, either directly or indirectly via payments to
21 towns or nongovernmental organizations.

22 8 Severability Clause. If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, the
23 remainder shall not be affected.

24 9 Repeal. RSA 161:2, XVIII, relative to the New Hampshire refugee resettlement program, is
25 repealed.

26 10 Effective Date.

27 I. Section 6 of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

28 II. Sections 7-9 of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

29 III. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

SB 625-FN- FISCAL NOTE

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENTS #2026-1955h and #2026-1956h)

AN ACT establishing a committee to study options for family members of intentional homicide victims where the department of justice does not file charges in a case, repealing the refugee resettlement program in the department of health and human services, and prohibiting expenditure of state funds on refugee resettlement.

FISCAL IMPACT: This bill does not provide funding, nor does it authorize new positions.

Estimated State Impact				
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Revenue	\$0	Section 6: \$20,000 reduction	Section 6: \$82,000 reduction	Section 6: \$82,000 reduction
<i>Revenue Fund(s)</i>	Insurance Assessment through the NH Vaccine Association			
Expenditures*	\$0	Section 6: \$20,000 reduction in direct expenditures; possible indirect costs Sections 7-9: \$4.5 million reduction in federal expenditures	Section 6: \$82,000 reduction in direct expenditures; possible indirect costs Sections 7-9: \$4.5 million reduction in federal expenditures	Section 6: \$82,000 reduction in direct expenditures; possible indirect costs Sections 7-9: \$4.5 million reduction in federal expenditures
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	NH Vaccine Association assessment; potential general funds; federal funds			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	None			

*Expenditure = Cost of bill

*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill

METHODOLOGY:

Sections 1-5 of this bill establish a committee to study options for family members in certain cases of intentional homicide. These sections will have no fiscal impact.

Section 6 removes Hepatitis B from the list of vaccines required for children in the state. The direct fiscal impact of this section is in the form of reduced expenditures for vaccine purchases, estimated at \$20,000 in FY27 (since some doses will have already been ordered prior to the effective date of the bill) and \$82,000 in subsequent years. Such purchases are funded through

an assessment on insurers through the NH Vaccine Association, and so the assessment would presumably decrease by the same amounts. The Department notes that some purchases would continue to occur, to be dispensed on a voluntary basis based on shared clinical decisions between physicians and their patient's parent or legal guardian.

For informational purposes, the Department states there may be indirect costs resulting from investigations and emergency response activities should the lack of mandated vaccines for Hepatitis B result in increased outbreaks. The Department estimates a range of \$100,000 to \$350,000 per outbreak, and notes that multiple outbreaks per year are possible.

Sections 7-9 terminate the refugee resettlement program administered through the state Department of Health and Human Services, and prohibits public spending to assist refugee resettlement. The Department states that the refugee resettlement program is entirely federally funded, and that its Office of Health Access currently administers approximately \$4.5 million per year in federal funds. As a result of the bill, these funds would no longer be spent. For informational purposes, the Department's budget also contains approximately \$1.7 million per year in its "Minority Health/Refugee Affairs" account, which is a mixture of federal and state general funds. In prior correspondence with the Office of the Legislative Budget Assistant, the Department has noted that these funds are used not for refugee resettlement, but rather for communications access for clients who are deaf, have hearing loss, or vision/speech or other impairments. For this reason, this fiscal note assumes that those funds will be unaffected by this bill.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Health and Human Services