

SB 237 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0237

06/09

SENATE BILL **237**

AN ACT relative to the office of the consumer advocate and the site evaluation committee.

SPONSORS: Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Altschiller, Dist 24; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Rep. Cormen, Graf. 15; Rep. McGhee, Hills. 35

COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill adds the interests represented by the consumer advocate into the definition of "material interest" resulting in the consumer advocate having a role in the proceedings of the site evaluation committee, particularly in matters affecting residential utility consumers.

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 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT relative to the office of the consumer advocate and the site evaluation committee.

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

1 1 Support Personnel to Commission; Office of the Consumer Advocate. Amend
2 RSA 363:28, II to read as follows:

3 II. Except as pertains to any end user of an excepted local exchange carrier or services
4 provided to such end user, the consumer advocate shall have the power and duty to petition for,
5 initiate, appear or intervene in any proceeding concerning rates, charges, tariffs, ***facilities***, and
6 consumer services before any board, commission, agency, court, or regulatory body in which the
7 interests of residential utility consumers are involved and to represent the interests of such
8 residential utility consumers.

9 2 Energy Facility Evaluation, Siting, Construction, and Operation; Role of State Agencies in
10 Proceedings. Amend RSA 162-H:7-b, III to read as follows:

11 III. Within 30 days of receipt of a notification of proceeding, a state agency not having
12 permitting or other regulatory authority but wishing to participate in the proceeding shall advise the
13 presiding officer of the committee in writing of such desire and be allowed to do so provided that the
14 presiding officer determines that a material interest in the proceeding is demonstrated and such
15 participation conforms with the normal procedural rules of the committee. ***For purposes of this***
16 ***paragraph, a material interest includes, but is not limited to, the interests represented by***
17 ***the consumer advocate pursuant to RSA 363:28, II.***

18 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.