

SB 270 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0306

06/09

SENATE BILL **270**

AN ACT relative to allowing owners to gather items necessary for work from impounded vehicles.

SPONSORS: Sen. Murphy, Dist 16; Rep. Lynn, Rock. 17; Rep. T. Walsh, Merr. 10; Rep. Alexander Jr., Hills. 29; Rep. Mazur, Hills. 44; Rep. Seidel, Hills. 29

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

ANALYSIS

This bill allows individuals to retrieve personal and work-related items from an impounded vehicle so long as the individual is accompanied by the vehicle's owner.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 allowing owners to gather items necessary for work from impounded vehicles.

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

1 1 Review of Fees for Removal and Impoundment. Amend RSA 262:35-a, III to read as follows:

2 III.**(a)** Any time that a person is storing a vehicle pursuant to the provisions of this
3 subdivision, the person may remove any items from within the vehicle that are not a part of or
4 accessories to the vehicle. The person may hold any such items, other than wallets, purses, life
5 essential clothing, mail, legal documents, car seats, eyeglasses, medicine, medical equipment, or
6 house keys pending payment of any fees due under this subdivision. If fees remain unpaid after 20
7 days, the person may dispose of the items.

8 ***(b) Individuals other than the vehicle's registrant shall be permitted to retrieve,***
9 ***at no cost, items necessary for work and other personal belongings from an impounded***
10 ***vehicle if accompanied by the vehicle's owner and upon producing sufficient proof of***
11 ***ownership of the items. The custodian shall allow access to the vehicle for this purpose,***
12 ***provided that such access does not interfere with the removal and storage process. Items***
13 ***that are essential for daily living, such as work tools, clothing, medication, and personal***
14 ***documents, shall be retrievable without restriction under this section.***

15 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.