



State of
New Hampshire

HOUSE RECORD

First Year of the 169th General Court Calendar and Journal of the 2025 Session

Web Site Address: www.gc.nh.gov

Vol. 47

Concord, N.H.

Friday, April 25, 2025

No. 22

Contains: Amendments; Bills Laid on the Table; Committee Reports; House Bills Amended by the Senate; House Deadlines; Interpretive Ruling 2025-4 and Interpretive Ruling 2025-5; Meetings and Notices; Revised Fiscal Notes.

HOUSE CALENDAR

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE:

The House will meet on Thursday, May 1st at 10:00 a.m. Please hold Thursday, May 8th and Thursday, May 15th as possible session days. We will continue to keep you updated as Committees progress through bills sent over to us by the Senate. Staying on pace with our business will prevent log jams at deadline times.

For those of you travelling through the Hooksett Tolls, please remember that the open road tolling closure has been causing traffic delays. Please factor that in to your commutes to and from Concord.

Please be sure to track your House Bills as they are scheduled for hearings in the Senate, so you may be present to introduce your bills.

Please continue to wear your legislator name badge and/or security pin on Session days to aid our Sergeant-At-Arms staff in identifying you and keeping our Chamber and anteroom secure.

Sherman A. Packard, Speaker of the House

NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the chairs and vice chairs every Tuesday from 9:00 a.m.– 9:45 a.m. in Rooms 306-308 of the Legislative Office Building.

Sherman A. Packard, Speaker of the House

NOTICE

There will be a Republican Caucus on **Thursday, May 1st at 9:00 a.m.** in Representatives Hall.

Rep. Jason Osborne, Majority Leader

NOTICE

There will be a Democratic Caucus on **Thursday, May 1st at 9:00 a.m.** in the State House Cafeteria.

Rep. Alexis Simpson, Democratic Leader

NOTICE

ALL reports, scheduling and notices are due in the House Clerk's Office by **3:00 p.m. on WEDNESDAYS**. Reports and scheduling shall be turned in to House Committee Services for processing **no later than 1:00 p.m.** on Wednesday. Please be sure to complete that work in a timely fashion to meet the Calendar deadline.

CLOSES AT 3:00 p.m. ON:

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

AVAILABLE ON:

Friday, May 2, 2025

Friday, May 9, 2025

Friday, May 16, 2025

Paul C. Smith, Clerk of the House

2025 HOUSE DEADLINES

First Year Session Deadlines

Thursday, May 8, 2025	Last day to report Senate Bills going to a second committee
Thursday, May 15, 2025	Last day to act on SBs going to a second committee
Thursday, May 29, 2025	Last day to report all remaining SBs
	Last day to report list of retained SBs
Thursday, June 5, 2025	Last day to act on SBs
Thursday, June 12, 2025	Last day to form Committees of Conference
Thursday, June 19, 2025	Last day to sign Committee of Conference reports (4 p.m.)
Thursday, June 26, 2025	Last day to act on Committee of Conference reports
Monday, September 15, 2025	First Day to file LSRs for 2026 Session
Friday, September 19, 2025	Last Day to file LSRs for 2026 Session (4 p.m.)
Friday, November 21, 2025	Last Day to sign off LSRs for 2026 Session (4 p.m.)
	Last Day to report all retained bills
Thursday, January 8, 2026	Last day to introduce House Bills

NOTICE

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on April 7, 2025, voted to formally issue the following interpretive rulings, which are printed below in their entirety.

INTERPRETIVE RULING 2025-4

Defining Substantial (April 7, 2025)

The Legislative Ethics Committee has received several inquiries regarding the application of HB 1388 which was enacted in 2024. This legislation requires recusal from participation in legislative activities under certain circumstances. Those circumstances are set forth in RSA 14-C:4-a. In response to the inquiries, the Committee has issued and published Advisory Opinions and Interpretive Rulings in order to assist legislators in their compliance with the new provisions.

The statute has two parts, Part I and Part II. Part II addresses conflicts arising from the employment of the legislator, or a member of the legislator's household. Part I involves a legislator, or a member of the legislator's household, who has a personal conflict of interest and "could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and **substantial** financial benefit or detriment as a result." (emphasis added) The word "substantial" was not defined by the legislation and seems to be subject to different interpretations. What may appear substantial to one person may seem insignificant to another. There clearly needs to be some standard for this provision to be enforceable.

In order to address this dilemma, the Committee has looked to the prior actions of the legislature for direction. The legislature previously enacted 14-C:2, IV, (a) (3) which places a limit on gifts which may be received by a legislator to \$250 in a calendar year. This appears to be what the legislature believed was the break point at which a legislator's judgment might be compromised.

While the Committee has no authority to legislate, it does have the responsibility to interpret and apply the new recusal provisions. To do so, the Committee will adopt the prior standard set by the legislature in applying the term "substantial". Any yearly amount under \$250 shall be presumed non-substantial. Anything over \$250 shall be presumed to be substantial as applied to the recusal statute. ***The Committee emphasizes that this is a presumptive standard and is subject to the facts and circumstances of any specific case.*** If the General Court finds it warranted, it may further define "substantial."

Please note that this interpretive ruling applies for the purpose of recusal. It does not change current requirements regarding disclosure of conflicts.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman

INTERPRETIVE RULING 2025-5

Ethics Scenarios (April 7, 2025)

The Committee believes that the following hypothetical scenarios may be helpful in understanding the conflict of interest disclosure procedure and recusal requirements and knowing when disclosing financial interests on the Financial Disclosure Form, filing a Declaration of Intent Form, making a verbal disclosure, or recusing are required. ***The Committee is issuing these scenarios to provide general guidance. Individual circumstances may dictate specific responses that differ from those presented below. The Committee is available to provide advice with respect to specific situations as they arise.***

(1) A legislator is a retired state employee belonging to Group 1 of the New Hampshire Retirement System (“NHRS”). A bill would provide a cost of living adjustment (“COLA”) to all NHRS retirees for amounts up to \$50,000 but not affecting contribution levels or future expected benefits of members who have not yet retired.

Financial Disclosure Form’s “Checklist”? - Yes. The Committee has previously held that legislators, or legislators who have a household member, who are retired NHRS members collecting benefits or active members making contributions, have a financial interest which must be disclosed on the Financial Disclosure Form filed at the beginning of the legislative biennium. The membership should be reported under “(g) The New Hampshire Retirement System.”

Verbal disclosure? – No. The legislator will recuse and will not be participating in verbal advocacy.

Declaration of Intent? – Yes. The legislator is required to report recusal.

Recusal? – Yes. As the retired legislator would qualify to receive the proposed COLA, the legislator could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit. Recusal would be required by RSA 14-C:4-a, I, and the legislator would be required to refrain from participating in any legislative activities involving the bill.

(2) A legislator is the parent of a child who is currently enrolled in the New Hampshire public school system. Under current law, the legislator’s income exceeds the threshold that allows participation in the Education Freedom Account (“EFA”) program. A bill would remove that income cap and allow the legislator’s child to become eligible to participate in the EFA program.

Financial Disclosure Form’s “Checklist”? – No.

Verbal disclosure? – No.

Declaration of Intent? – No.

Recusal? No. Parents who have children attending NH public schools constitute a sufficiently broad cross-section of society. The legislator’s financial interest would not be considered *distinct from* nor *greater than* the public at large.

(3) A legislator serves on the governing board of nonprofit entity. The legislator receives no compensation for serving on the board. The nonprofit receives revenue from charitable gaming. There is a bill that caps charitable gaming grants to such entities at \$50,000 per year.

Financial Disclosure Form’s “Checklist”? – No. Only “financial interests” are required to be reported on the Financial Disclosure Form. In this example, the legislator is not compensated for serving on the board and therefore has no financial interest. However, the legislator presumably has a **fiduciary** responsibility for the welfare of the nonprofit entity. This creates a **non-financial personal interest** in the outcome of the legislation. The legislator would be required to either disclose this non-financial personal interest on the **General Disclosure of Non-Financial Personal Interests Form** or file a **Declaration of Intent Form** prior to participating in official activities related to the bill.

Verbal disclosure? – Yes. When a legislator becomes aware of a non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter the legislator is required to make a verbal disclosure prior to engaging in verbal advocacy at any meeting of the general court or county delegation.

Declaration of Intent? -Yes, if the legislator had not previously reported the non-financial personal interest on the General Disclosure of Non-Financial Personal Interests Form.

Recusal? – No. Recusal is not required for non-financial personal interests.

(4) A legislator serves in an uncompensated capacity on the board of a for-profit nursing home. A bill increases Medicaid rates for long term care.

Financial Disclosure Form’s “Checklist”? – No, because the legislator is not compensated for serving on the board. The legislator does not have a financial interest but may have a non-financial personal interest that could be reported on the General Disclosure of Non-Financial Personal Interests Form.

Verbal disclosure? – Yes. When a legislator becomes aware of a non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter the legislator is required to make a verbal disclosure prior to engaging in verbal advocacy at any meeting of the general court or county delegation.

Declaration of Intent? Yes, if the legislator had not previously reported the non-financial personal interest on the General Disclosure of Non-Financial Personal Interests Form.

Recusal? - No. Recusal is not required for non-financial personal interests.

(5) A legislator owns rental properties in NH. A bill would require landlords to give at-will tenants a 60-day notice of intent to evict.

Financial Disclosure Form's "Checklist"? – Yes. The ownership should be reported under “(d) Real estate, including brokers, agents, developers, and landlords.”

Verbal disclosure? – Yes. When a legislator becomes aware of a financial interest in the outcome of a matter the legislator is required to make a verbal disclosure prior to engaging in verbal advocacy at any meeting of the general court or county delegation.

Declaration of Intent? – No. A declaration of intent form is not required if no benefit or detriment could reasonably be expected to accrue to the legislator, or the legislator's household member, as a member of a business, profession, occupation, or other group, to any greater extent than to any other member of such business, profession, occupation, or other group, provided that disclosure of the legislator's or household member's membership is made in the Financial Disclosure Form.

Recusal? – No. In this scenario, although the legislator-landlord might incur a financial detriment if prevented from executing immediate eviction of a tenant, the potential financial detriment cannot be “reasonably expected” as is required for making recusal mandatory pursuant to RSA 14-C: 4-a, I.

(6) A legislator owns several rental properties in NH. A bill would limit annual rent increases to the rate of inflation, as calculated by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Financial Disclosure Form's "Checklist"? – Yes. The ownership should be reported under “(d) Real estate, including brokers, agents, developers, and landlords.”

Verbal disclosure? – No. The legislator will recuse and will not be participating in verbal advocacy.

Declaration of Intent? – Yes, to report recusal.

Recusal? – Holding several units of rental units in the state would likely result in a direct and substantial benefit or detriment and recusal would be required.

(7) A legislator holds title to property subject to current use taxation. There is a bill that would change the formula for taxation, decreasing the amount of taxes to be paid.

Financial Disclosure Form's "Checklist"? – Yes. The ownership should be reported under “(h) The current use land assessment program.”

Verbal disclosure? – No. The legislator will recuse and will not be participating in verbal advocacy.

Declaration of Intent? – Yes, to report recusal.

Recusal? – Yes. The Committee has previously held that the current use tax system constitutes a financial interest, and therefore a potential conflict of interest, with respect to any official activity pertaining to the tax. The bill can be expected to have a “direct and substantial” financial impact on the legislator, making recusal mandatory.

However, not all current use bills would necessarily require recusal. For example, a change in property classifications, type of vegetation, or method for filing current use liens would probably not have a direct or substantial financial impact. Recusal might not be required in those circumstances, although the legislator would still have a duty to disclose.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman

BILLS LAID ON THE TABLE

HB 96, requiring New Hampshire builders to use the 2021 Energy Building codes or a similar code that achieves equivalent or greater energy savings. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 145-FN, relative to background checks for licensed dietitians and adopting the dietitian licensure compact. Pending question: Ought to Pass with Amendment.

HB 147, relative to clarifying tax exemptions for properties used by religious, educational, and charitable organizations. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HB 157, establishing a study committee to examine ways to improve the usefulness of fiscal notes. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 159-FN, authorizing the state to report mental health data for firearms background check purposes and providing for processes for confiscation of firearms following certain mental health-related court proceedings and for relief from mental health-related firearms disabilities. Pending question: Ought to Pass with Amended.

HB 199, extending the statute of limitations on civil actions relative to damage caused by per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HB 251-FN, allowing the ownership of certain squirrels and raccoons. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 254, relative to options for end of life care. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HB 264-FN, relative to delegates to an Article V convention. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HB 306, establishing a commission to study the short and long-term impacts of pending national and regional carbon pricing mechanisms on New Hampshire's citizens, businesses, institutions, and environment. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 347, relative to protection of employment for members of the general court. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 351, requiring landlords to give tenants of at-will tenancies at least 60-days notice to evict. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 372-L, relative to lease agreements of equipment for building or facility improvements. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HB 386-FN, prohibiting nursing agencies from including non-compete clauses in contracts with health care entities. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 402, relative to liability as taxable income of education freedom account payments. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 408, moving the date of the state primary to the fourth Tuesday in August. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 425, allowing tax-exempt entities to keep their tax-exempt status while renting facilities or property to entities that share their mission. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HB 432, relative to recovery houses. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 442, relative to prohibiting payment of subminimum wages. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 460-FN, relative to utility investments in distributed energy resources. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 483-FN, relative to the definition of a scholarship organization for purposes of the education tax credit. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 526-FN, establishing a climate change and damage division in the department of environmental services. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 530-FN, increasing the amount of revenue transferred from the real estate transfer tax to the affordable housing fund. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 535-FN, relative to defining the role of the public utilities commission. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 536-FN, relative to a cost of living adjustment in the state retirement system. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HB 537, relative to electric rates approved by the public utilities commission for residential condominium property. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 542-FN, relative to weekly benefit amounts for unemployment compensation. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 553-FN, relative to the definition of abuse and neglect and conditions triggering a rebuttable presumption of harm in abuse and neglect cases. Pending question: Ought to Pass with Amendment.

HB 568, allowing subdivision regulations concerning water supply. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 581-FN, establishing a state retirement plan group for new state employee members of the retirement system. Pending question: No pending question.

HB 583-FN-L, relative to state participation in the Medicaid direct certification program for free and reduced price school meals. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 586-FN, establishing an employee assistance program for small town first responders and making an appropriation therefor. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 587-FN, allowing admission of one-party audio and video recordings in certain circumstances. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 599, establishing a committee to examine weatherization initiatives for homes in New Hampshire. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 614-FN, relative to litigation alleging constitutional rights violations. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 615-FN, relative to drug forfeiture proceedings. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 620-FN, relative to the exercise of the freedom of religion. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HB 637-FN, relative to the reduction in the calculation of state retirement annuities at age 65 for certain group I retirement system members. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 645-FN, relative to data collection and reporting requirements of the prescription drug affordability board. Pending question: Ought to Pass with Amended.

HB 654-FN, relative to allowing small customer-generators the ability to participate in group-net metering. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 674-FN, relative to non-wire alternatives, time-of-use tariffs, and multi-year rate settings. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 692, relative to utility companies adopting advanced meters. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 714-FN, creating a single primary ballot. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 726-FN, relative to the state minimum hourly wage. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 744-FN, relative to workers' compensation indemnity benefits percentage. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 755-FN, relative to the state's electric utility market. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 757, relative to tip pooling and sharing and automatic service charges. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 759-FN, relative to community energy generators. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 760-FN, relative to utility default service. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 761-FN, relative to customer energy storage. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 762-FN-A, appropriating \$30,000 to the judicial branch for the purpose of hiring a contractor to conduct a manual review of domestic violence and stalking cases and related criminal cases. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 764-FN, prohibiting the intentional release of polluting emissions, including cloud seeding, weather modification, excessive electromagnetic radio frequency, and microwave radiation and making penalties for violation of such prohibition. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 775-FN, directing the department of health and human services to issue a request for proposals for supervised visitation centers. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HCR 3, applying for a convention of the states under Article V of the Constitution of the United States. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HCR 5, rescinding House Concurrent Resolution No. 40 passed by the 2012 New Hampshire General Court asking that Congress call a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HCR 7, recognizing abortion as a critical component of comprehensive reproductive health care. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HJR 1, affirming the natural right of persons and affirming that the state and federal government are established for the purpose of upholding, protecting, and securing these rights. Pending question: Ought to Pass.

HR 17, affirming revenue estimates for fiscal years 2025, 2026, and 2027. Pending question: No Pending question.

2025 HOUSE BILLS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

HB 64, relative to extending hiring preferences for military members and their spouses to the state and private businesses, and establishing purchase preferences for disabled veterans and military spouses regarding state supply purchases. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 87-FN, prohibiting the posting of land not owned by the poster. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 92, (New Title) requiring recusal of members of zoning boards of adjustment and planning boards in certain circumstances. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 110, authorizing counties to establish revolving fund accounts. (SJ 3/28/2025)

HB 127, extending the closing date of the OHRV trails on the Connecticut River Headwaters property from September 30 to Columbus Day. (SJ 3/28/2025)

HB 134, relative to the state building code. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 144-FN, relative to the practice of dental hygiene. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 179-FN, relative to hazardous waste accident fees. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 213, relative to wage garnishment for child support. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 265, (New Title) requiring that a public body's meeting minutes include start and end times of the meeting and the printed name of the recording secretary. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 399, (New Title) establishing a commission to study the New Hampshire zoning enabling act and relative to the effective date of the C-PACER program. (House Concurs 3/6/2025)

HB 655-FN, (New Title) relative to fish and game violations, permits, and licenses. (SJ 4/17/2025)

HB 778-FN, (New Title) authorizing the director of the police standards and training council to detail law enforcement training specialists employed by the council for law enforcement and crowd control services and relative to disability retirement benefits. (SJ 4/17/2025)

THURSDAY, MAY 1 CONSENT CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

SB 22-FN, relative to disclosure of criminal history and criminal records to the child care licensing unit of the department of health and human services. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Peter Petrigno for Children and Family Law. This bill gives the Department of Health and Human Services direct access to the state police records system, so that they are able to conduct background investigations for individuals looking to work within the childcare system in New Hampshire. It expands the current language to capture people who have been charged with a crime but not yet convicted so that it will appear on their criminal record. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 23-FN, expanding the crime of endangering the welfare of a child. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Alicia Gregg for Children and Family Law. This legislation will strengthen the protection of children by expanding the crime of endangering the welfare of a child in some of our most egregious cases. The level of penalty does not currently reach the level of the crime. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 77-FN, providing children in delinquency and children in need of services (CHINS) cases the identical types of psychological evaluations as children in child protection matters. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Alicia Gregg for Children and Family Law. This bill provides children in delinquency and children in need of services the same psychological evaluations as children in child protection matters. The entire committee agrees that this is a need in current statute and addresses the need for services for these children. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 161, (New Title) making technical corrections to statutes governing out-of-state placements for children. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mark Pearson for Children and Family Law. There are many bills which simply and solely are submitted to make technical and specific changes to existing law to bring things into conformity with the intent of the original bill. This is one of those bills. **Vote 14-0.**

SB 278-FN, including qualifying convictions from other states as grounds for termination of parental rights petitions. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Heather Raymond for Children and Family Law. This bill is a common sense update to RSA 170 C:5, VII. It would ensure that convictions for serious crimes such as murder, manslaughter, or felony assault against children or family members can be considered by the court in termination of parental rights cases when those convictions occurred in other states just as they can be considered when the convictions occurred in New Hampshire. This enhances accountability and effectiveness of child protection efforts by aligning standards with best practices. **Vote 15-0.**

ELECTION LAW

SB 16, requiring municipalities to post a copy of election return forms on their websites and in public locations. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Ross Berry for Election Law. This bill requires city or town clerks to publicly post copies of the election return forms they submitted to the Secretary of State within seven days of an election. These postings must appear in the two locations where the municipality typically posts notices for its governing body meetings—such as the town website or official social media accounts. **Vote 14-0.**

SB 212, changing references from “votes” to “ballots” in the laws regarding elections. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Ross Berry for Election Law. As amended this bill makes grammatical changes to various sections of election law by changing “votes” to “ballots.” The distinction is that a voter gets one ballot but may cast multiple votes on said ballot, as is the case when a race has multiple open seats. **Vote 15-0.**

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

SB 50, establishing a committee to study the regulation of private animal boarding facilities. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Linda Haskins for Environment and Agriculture. The Environment and Agriculture Committee heard disturbing testimony from pet owners about their experiences with boarding kennels which were traumatic and in some cases ended in their animals’ death or disappearance. The committee learned that owners had no recourse when their pets were treated badly as there are no penalties or provisions for those cases in current statute. The committee believes that this issue demands that we study current statutes and rules in

order to determine what, if anything, is needed to shore up protections and minimum standards of care for kennels and the pet owners that utilize them. The proposed elements of the study committee will be to: (1) review current laws and regulations pertaining to private animal boarding facilities; (2) identify how facilities are licensed and how incidents are reported when an animal has been harmed, lost, or killed in their care; (3) identify gaps, if any, that may exist in current rules and regulations; and (4) solicit testimony from any person or organization with relevant information or expertise. **Vote 16-0.**

SB 229-FN, relative to the sale of uninspected bison, red deer, and elk meat. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Barbara Comtois for Environment and Agriculture. This bill expands the variety of meat that consumers can purchase from New Hampshire farms. Allowing the sale of uninspected bison, red deer, and elk at retail locations gives greater access to healthy locally raised meats while expanding our food security in the state. The meat will be properly labeled so the consumer will understand that the meat is uninspected. The bill also allows the producer to slaughter on the farm, which greatly reduces the stress of the animal while providing better quality meat. **Vote 16-0.**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 29, relative to membership, jurisdiction, and reports of the health care workplace safety commission and relative to health care facility reporting requirements under the workplace violence prevention program. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Patrick Long for Executive Departments and Administration. Workplace violence is a pressing occupational hazard affecting health care workers, and monthly incident reporting would help in more swiftly developing strategies for prevention of and response to such violence than current annual reporting requirements allow for. Annual reports of the health care workplace safety commission are aggregated reports containing no information that would allow for identification of involved individuals. The public interest in this information therefore outweighs any remote privacy interest in keeping them confidential. The state-operated health care facilities are already voluntarily reporting workplace violence incidents, so there is no additional administrative burden in including them, and no policy reason that state-employed health care workers should not have the same level of transparency about workplace safety as private sector health care workers. **Vote 14-0.**

SB 68, adding a member to the governor's commission on disability. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill adds a member to the governor's commission on disability to represent the interests of the deaf and hard of hearing community in a non-voting role. The coordinator of the program for the deaf and hard of hearing, bureau of vocational rehabilitation, at the department of education will serve as that voice, and this has the approval of all concerned parties. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 93-FN, (New Title) relative to licensed nurse assistant (LNA) licensure application materials. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Jaci Grote for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill puts into statute a long-standing practice of approving LNA licensure by submitting successful completion of a fundamentals of nursing curriculum from a board-approved nursing education program. This bill results from placing legislative intent into statute to support current rules. The committee amendment clarifies the language and makes the bill effective on passage, to support the current crop of nursing students who plan to take the LNA exam this spring. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 192, establishing a committee to study enhanced coordination between county correctional facilities, the department of corrections, and the department of health and human services. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Schmidt for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill establishes a committee to study implementation of a justice system unique identification number, a unified client information system for justice agencies, and relevant data dashboards.

The committee is aware that NH, like the country as a whole, needs to improve how it deals with mental health issues and with members of our community who are impacted. However, a strong majority of the committee does not agree that a further study of these problems is the best way to proceed, given that much relevant data already exists but is often siloed and inaccessible; and efforts are often duplicative, or not transparent. Better implementation and communication should be the first order of business. **Vote 13-2.**

SB 194-FN, (New Title) relative to qualifications for cosmetologists. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill reduces the number of hours required for a cosmetology license from 1,500 to 1,200. Cosmetology covers hair, nail, and skin care. Today there are nine CTE Cosmetology programs in New Hampshire, with two of the CTE facilities located in Vermont and accepting New Hampshire students. Five centers have cosmetology programs that qualify a student for

licensure in the state of the school, as Vermont only requires 1,000 hours of training, and all of these facilities have salons open to the public. The four programs without salons on campus offer shorter programs, from 275 to 360 hours, which serve as an important introduction to cosmetology and transferable credits to privately operated schools. While three CTE programs offer 1,500 hour courses, students from sending districts often do not obtain the full hours due to differences in scheduling between sending districts and the CTE home district leaving these students to transfer a fraction of their hours to a private beauty school and take out student loans to obtain licensure. Some of the arguments against this change in hours included some misunderstanding about the scope of the programs offered at the five CTE facilities with salons. The four programs with more limited programs will continue to offer limited programs unless they update the school to include a publicly accessible salon. This change in hours is supported by all of the directors of the CTE cosmetology programs. The committee believes that 1,200 hours is enough to train students to perform cosmetology procedures safely, even if expertise requires more practice. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 196-FN, relative to the exemption from competitive bidding requirements for certain state agency projects. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill increases the cost cap for in-house public works projects for three state departments to \$1 million from \$500,000. It also corrects the name of the department of military affairs and veterans services. The amendment removes a contingency section from the bill, as at the time of drafting the sponsors were unsure as to whether there would be a need for two additional positions in the department to accommodate this change, however in the fiscal note and in presentation to the committee it was made clear that there are already sufficient architects and other professionals on staff to handle these projects. Considering inflation, this change is necessary but still a potential decrease in real purchasing power compared to when the \$500,000 limit was initially adopted. **Vote 14-0.**

SB 201-FN, relative to classified and unclassified positions. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. John Sellers for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill allows employees, such as lawyers and accountants, to change to a salary position and not need to continue to clock in and out on a daily basis. The employee will have the option of staying as they are or becoming salaried employees. The employee will not see any decrease to wages or changes to benefits. Though there is a fiscal note, there isn't any cost for implementing this change. **Vote 14-0.**

SB 254, relative to controlled substance inventories. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill is a simple change to the inventory laws regarding controlled substances in pharmacies, to remove the requirement that the biennial inventory required by federal law be conducted in odd numbered years. Established pharmacies are unlikely to change the year of official federal inventory, as inventories happen on a far more frequent basis, however this will remove a challenge for new pharmacies opening in even numbered years. The non-germane amendment changes the language regarding background checks for surrogate parents and is the language requested by the department of education and their associates at the state police criminal records division after the FBI rejected the language previously adopted by this body. Surrogate parents are the people who are appointed to act as an advocate for a child with disabilities in place of the child's parents in the educational decision making process. This is established policy, the amendment simply corrects the language to satisfy the changing needs of the FBI. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 285, relative to changing the term "physician assistant" to "physician associate." **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill changes the name in statute for PA's to physician associate from physician assistant. The amendment clarifies the language to prevent unlicensed people from calling themselves physician assistants, physician associates, or PAs. This bill implements the sole recommendation from the committee to study physician assistant's scope of practice, created by 2024's HB 1222. This bill does not change their scope of practice, and does not mandate that anyone refer to PAs as physician associates. **Vote 15-0.**

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

SB 18, permitting the commissioner of health and human services to authorize additional beds for a pediatric intermediate care facility under certain circumstances. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Lucy Weber for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. There is only one pediatric intermediate care facility in New Hampshire, Cedarcrest in Keene. This highly specialized facility provides medical care and educational instruction for children who have both developmental disabilities and complex medical issues. The facility provides both residential care and respite care. Cedarcrest was granted an exception in statute to the bed licensing moratorium in RSA 151:2, VI(a) for two extra beds from July 1, 2023 to June 30,

2026. To allow for the changing needs for these specialized beds going forward, this bill allows the commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to inform the health and human services policy committees in the NH House and Senate and the fiscal committee of the need for the change, and may increase the facility's number of licensed beds upon approval of the fiscal committee. This will allow much-needed flexibility in the number of beds available to children who may have to be cared for out of state, and also for respite care for families caring for children at home. The amendment simply corrected a typographical error. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 133-FN, relative to the designation of emergency medical services performed by ambulance service providers as essential services. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Gary Woods for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill clarifies the designation of first responders by specifically including ambulance service providers. The current statute might be considered sufficient to include this category under emergency medical services. However, some administrative details identified this conclusion might be open to interpretation. Therefore, this bill clarifies any ambiguity and specifically identifies ambulance service providers as emergency medical providers and solves this administrative concern. **Vote 16-0.**

HOUSING

SB 91-FN, allowing one-time special appraisals of residences located in commercial zones. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Joe Alexander for Housing. The Housing Committee believes this bill is a simple solution that will shorten the amount of special appraisals property owners must go through every year if their property is a residential property in a commercial zone. Under current law, a property owner must submit paperwork that their property remains a residential property every year. This bill would waive that responsibility and only require a property owner to submit this paperwork one time. This bill would save property owners money and the additional responsibility of filing paperwork every year and instead shift the responsibility to the municipality to keep an accurate database of residential property in commercial zones - something that should already be happening. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 284, relative to the required maximum number of residential parking spaces. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Joe Alexander for Housing. The Housing Committee recently passed HB 382 which would permit municipalities to regulate parking up to one space per residential unit. The majority of the committee believes that the free market is the best determinant of what sufficient parking is needed for each residential unit and property owners are the best decision makers when it comes to how much parking is necessary for their property. This bill as amended still allows municipalities to regulate parking up to one space per unit. The amendment replaces the bill with the House position on parking. **Vote 14-1.**

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

SB 28, relative to workers' compensation claims involving emergency responders with acute stress disorder or post-traumatic stress disorder. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Steven Kesselring for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The committee recommends this bill Ought to Pass. During the public hearing, it became clear to the entire committee that additional steps are needed to support first responders coping with PTSD and acute stress disorder. This bill takes a thoughtful step forward by allowing workers' compensation coverage for emergency personnel suffering from these conditions and establishes the date of injury as the first time they experienced the traumatic event. This bill acknowledges the mental health challenges inherent in public safety work and helps ensure that those who protect us receive the care and support they deserve. For these reasons, the committee voted Ought to Pass. **Vote 18-0.**

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

SB 110-FN, relative to terrain permitting. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Tanya Donnelly for Resources, Recreation and Development. The majority of the committee strongly supports passage of this bill, crucial legislation already integrated within HB 2, designed to assist New Hampshire in alleviating our critical housing shortage. This bill streamlines the terrain alteration permitting process by clearly amending RSA 485-A:17, II(a), establishing predictable application fees and simplifying permitting through a new permit by notification for smaller projects under 150,000 square feet. These practical changes will accelerate responsible housing development across the state. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services said any specific concerns raised can be addressed with the agency's rulemaking process. Passing this bill represents a decisive step forward toward affordable housing solutions and community growth statewide. **Vote 15-1.**

SB 299, relative to penalties for contractors violating water pollution and waste disposal regulations. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Pierre Dupont for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill was created to protect homeowners and rein in contractors who flaunt the law. Closing this loophole frees New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services from waiting a year to take action against those who violate the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act. **Vote 16-0.**

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

SB 65-FN, relative to stormwater management for solar arrays. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Kat McGhee for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill adopts language that supports appropriate terrain management for ground based solar arrays. The committee amendment includes language that clarifies the specific process to be used if a project is ever sited within protected shoreline areas. **Vote 18-0.**

SB 108-FN, relative to the department of energy. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Vose for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill makes numerous continuing changes to the statutes governing the operation of the Department of Energy and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to further refine the separation of these two agencies since the creation of the department in 2021. The changes include prohibiting unauthorized telecommunications service provision, protecting ratepayer communication preferences, and clarifying the complaint procedure regarding community aggregation grievances. The committee amendment removed section two of the bill as amended by the Senate to resolve an objection to that section by the PUC. **Vote 18-0.**

SB 230-FN, (New Title) relative to electric utility restructuring and investment in distributed energy resources. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Vose for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill sought to add a definition of advanced nuclear resources to statute and to allow utilities to invest in those resources. The first of these changes was made with more specificity by HB 710 as passed by the House. The second was explicitly removed from the introduced version of HB 710 because it exposes utility ratepayers to substantial financial risk. Therefore, the committee saw no need to advance this version of that legislation. **Vote 18-0.**

SB 232, clarifying certain net metering terms and conditions. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Vose for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill modifies the statute that spells out when electricity generators who participate in net metering must withdraw from or de-list as producers in the ISO-NE (Independent System Operator New England) market. Existing law says that you can do one or the other, but not both. Currently, around 50 generators, primarily hydroelectric generators, retain a legacy dual status. The bill as amended by the Senate included language to codify this dual status. The committee amendment clarified this language to ensure that such participants transfer market revenues for energy, capacity, and ancillary services entitlements payments to the distribution utility with whom they participate in net metering. **Vote 18-0.**

SB 233-FN, establishing an energy reliability and large-scale storage task force. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. JD Bernardy for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill created an energy reliability task force that was to focus on the development of enhanced market-based structures and programs to support electric system reliability using new energy technologies, including advanced battery systems. The amendment retitles the bill and adds its specified tasks and responsibilities to the existing Grid Modernization Advisory Group (GMAG), thereby avoiding the need to establish a new commission. The GMAG is required to make periodic reports of its recommendations as part of its Department of Energy responsibilities. **Vote 18-0.**

SB 236, relative to transferring control of the Electric Assistance Program to the department of energy. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Michael Vose for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill transfers from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to the Department of Energy the full administrative responsibility for the Low-income Energy Assistance Program funded by the Systems Benefits Charge. Since the department already administers the program with PUC budgetary approval, this change will remove a layer of redundancy from the program and increase its efficiency. **Vote 18-0.**

WAYS AND MEANS

SB 51, relative to decal fees and the statewide public boat access program. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Susan Almy for Ways and Means. The Lake Restoration and Preservation Fund contains three funds for different restoration activities which share a single decal bought by the lake-user for \$9.50.

Two of them were enacted with a clause making them non-lapsing. The third, the milfoil and other exotic aquatic plants fund, was enacted without this verbiage. The decal covers boat access points across the state. The milfoil section needs to be made non-lapsing to make the decal consistent. The bill as amended by the Senate empowers the Department of Environmental Services to use the funds to control aquatic nuisance weeds and be the agency which receives all relevant federal funds, grants, and gifts for this purpose. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 147-FN, relative to licenses to sell pari-mutuel pools on simulcast horse races. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Scott Bryer for Ways and Means. Under current law, only two locations are eligible for a license to offer simulcast wagering. Of these, only one currently holds a license. Under this bill, 15 game rooms would be eligible for a license to offer simulcast wagering, including the two locations currently eligible. The cost associated with agreements between the track where the races occur and the facility where the races are simulcast may be cost prohibitive for smaller venues. Simulcast is also a declining industry, in general, as more tracks continue to close down. **Vote 19-0.**

THURSDAY, MAY 1 REGULAR CALENDAR

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 74-FN, relative to real property annual reporting requirements of state departments for permitting programs. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill will provide information on the permitting process impacting real property to the legislature regarding the numbers of permits granted or denied, pending, and further details on those pending more than 90 days after submission. The committee believes that legislators should have information about the timelines faced by property owners and the departments for permitting, which this bill requires. Currently most, but not all, application timeframes are set by the Administrative Procedures Act, RSA 541-A, with several departments and agencies either exempt or are requesting legislative carveouts for longer timeframes with anecdotal information of driveway permits at times taking 3 years for approval. The committee believes we need better data to decide appropriate time limits for permitting. **Vote 13-0.**

JUDICIARY

SB 146-FN, relative to medical examiner's certificates and medical certification of the death record. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Marjorie Smith for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill, requested by the Department of Justice and the medical examiner, amends requirements for viewing of a deceased body by the medical examiner prior to the medical examiner's certification of the death record. Increasingly, bodies are being cremated after death. Except in cases where death results from a contagious or infectious disease, state law currently requires a 48-hour delay between death and cremation, and also requires a certificate from the medical examiner that he or she has viewed the body and made personal inquiry into the cause and manner of death, and has concluded that no further examination or judicial inquiry is necessary. This bill removes language requiring that the examiner personally view the body. Almost all deaths take place where the deceased is under the care of an attending physician or other medical professional, who provides the examiner with detailed documentation concerning the death. Such records allow the examiner to make the determination of cause and manner of death without viewing the body. The testimony at the hearing established that in cases where there are no circumstances raising questions as to how the death occurred, the requirement that the medical examiner view the body requires unnecessary travel, time and expense to the state and can needlessly delay families desiring to complete the cremation process. And with respect to the issue of identity, the witnesses explained that the medical examiner has no prior involvement with the decedent and therefore has no information from which he or she would be able to make an identification of the body. It must be emphasized that nothing in this bill alters the requirement that the medical examiner make the personal inquiry necessary to determine the cause and manner of death, nor does the bill in any way preclude the medical examiner from conducting a personal view of the body where he or she finds the same necessary in order to make these determinations. **Vote 10-6.** Rep. Kristine Perez for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority of the committee thinks that this bill, which would eliminate the requirement that a medical examiner view a body before cremation, leaves a margin of error for misidentification of a decedent. Although this bill is concerned with natural death, most likely occurring in a medical facility or long-term care facility where the decedent is known and the committee was assured of correct identification procedures, the minority finds that although there are controls around the identification, there is a possibility that misidentification could still occur. One more set of eyes makes a difference when talking about a person's life. The minority is unclear as to the purpose of the motivation of this legislation other than from a fiscal perspective, which was not necessarily emphasized in the hearing.

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

SB 67-FN, relative to workers' compensation and resolution of payment disputes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Samuel Farrington for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill establishes a time limit for applying to the commissioner of the Department of Labor for resolving workers' compensation disputes. When a dispute between the health care provider and insurance carrier over the value of services can not be resolved privately, the commissioner has the final say. While the bill is well intentioned, the committee believes that the specific time limit in the bill is not appropriate. Testimony at the hearing was widely divergent regarding appropriate dispute resolution time limits and this disparity needs to be resolved. For this reason, the committee unanimously recommends Inexpedient to Legislate on this bill. **Vote 18-0.**

SB 169, requiring employers to provide certain information regarding cost sharing to employees receiving workers' compensation benefits. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Lino Avellani for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The language of this bill requires employers who provide supplemental pay to employees who receive workers' compensation to notify the employee of a breakdown of payments and financial adjustments. The majority of the committee finds that the bill has flaws in its language, including no definition for "supplemental pay" as well as potential burdens for the notification requirements. The majority of the committee voted Inexpedient to Legislate on this bill because of the lack of clarity regarding which payments were to be reported and how these payments would be communicated to the Department of Labor and employee. **Vote 10-9.** Rep. Brian Sullivan for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill provides notification to employees who are out on workers' comp leave. This notification lets the employee know on a monthly basis what expenses the employer is covering on behalf of the employee and the employee will be liable for when returning to work. An example of this type of expense is the employee's share of a health insurance premium that is normally deducted from the employee's paycheck, but cannot be deducted while no paycheck is being provided by the employer. The minority of the committee believes that the language of the bill provides sufficient clarity for the purpose of providing this notification. The minority further believes that such notice is needed so no employee is confronted with a surprise bill for thousands of dollars upon return from workers' comp leave.

SB 171, relative to required pay for remote work. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brian Labrie for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. As amended, this bill repeals the so-called "two-hour rule," which currently requires certain employers to pay employees for a minimum of two hours if they report to work but may not be needed for the entire two hours. Currently, this rule does not apply to counties, municipalities, unions, or ski and snowboard instructors—and only six (6) other states have similar laws. The committee found that attempting to exempt remote workers by creating yet another carve-out was discriminatory, confusing, and practically unenforceable. Employment benefits—such as minimum pay for reporting to work—should be negotiated exclusively between employers and employees upon hire, just like any other workplace benefit. This repeal levels the playing field and allows both employees and employers to decide what works best for them without government interference. **Vote 10-9.** Rep. Kris Schultz for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The minority of the committee recommends Inexpedient to Legislate on this bill, as amended in House Labor because it completely repeals RSA 275-43. Eliminating this entire section of law has numerous unintended consequences and attempts to fix laws that are not broken. It in fact creates problems. The crucial component of existing law says hourly workers called or scheduled into work for any period of time will be paid - at a minimum - for two hours of work. That codifies a measure of respect for an employee's time and the inconvenience of setting up and paying for childcare, changed appointments with your dentist, rescheduling time with friends and family, and all the things one forgoes preparing for and commuting to work. The original bill addressed the application of the two-hour rule for remote work. The amendment effectively hijacks the bill with a full repeal instead of a clarification for remote work. Eliminating this section of the law creates problems which NH has fixed. These were Republican lead solutions from decades ago and they work for everyone. The minority does not support this bill as amended.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

SB 241-FN-A, relative to construction of a public pier on Hampton Beach and making an appropriation therefor. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Nicholas Bridle for the **Majority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill seeks to establish a Hampton Beach State Park pier fund, a fund dedicated to siting, permitting, designing and constructing a public pier at Hampton Beach State Park. This fund would be administered by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources' Division of Parks and Recreation, and its creation would address several issues highlighted in the recent accessibility study for the beach area. Initially an appropriation was \$12 million and as amended the appropriation is \$1. This was to address the fiscal concerns of this budgetary cycle, but still allow for the creation of the fund, that way external fundraising efforts would still be allowed to occur. The committee heard testimony from both sides addressing accessibility needs, with those who oppose stating that this does not address the entirety of the recommendations in the accessibility study. Additionally, opposing testimony was heard regarding other needs in Hampton, specifically the roads and flooding. The committee recognizes that Hampton Beach is an economic driver for the state and this will allow those with accessibility issues to enjoy more of our seacoast resources. **Vote 9-7.** Rep. Will Darby for the **Minority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill ostensibly establishes a fund to develop a beachfront pier to improve accessibility for the needs of persons with disabilities at Hampton Beach State Park. However, a similar bill

in 2023 was tabled in lieu of funding for a Hampton Beach State Park Accessibility Feasibility Study. This study, completed in October 2024, identified a comprehensive set of recommendations to improve accessibility at Hampton Beach. While it included a pier in its analysis, it also included many other projects such as the long underfunded Hampton Ocean Boulevard project, which provides accessibility improvements to parking and sidewalks. This study's recommendations would increase accessibility much more than a pier for a much lower cost. In addition, the 2022 Hampton Beach Pier Feasibility Study estimated the pier development costs of at least \$12 million, and assumed the pier would take 10 years to complete construction. This bill, however, terminates the fund in 10 years and returns unspent funds to the state park gifts and donations account. It is clearly infeasible to both raise \$12 million in funds and complete a 10 year project within a 10 year period. And, who will be stuck paying the bill to finish a half-done pier to avoid an eye sore jetting out from the state's premier oceanfront beach? Maintenance is another significant consideration. According to the same study, a \$12 million pier is expected to cost more than \$300,000 per year in maintenance. Will the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources' Division of Parks and Recreation be forced to find the money each year to keep the pier operational in the face of Nor'easters? The good news is that improved accessibility at Hampton Beach does not have to break the state's tight parks budget. A better version of this bill would focus the fund on the true goal of improving Hampton Beach accessibility, including those recommended in the Hampton Beach Accessibility Feasibility Study.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

SB 228-FN, relative to the limitations on community customer generators. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Michael Vose for the **Majority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill expands net metering by lifting the 100Kw cap for certain tariffs on customer-generators to 500Kw. Since these below 100Kw tariffs are significantly larger than for those above that level, this expansion will increase net metering costs. The bill also adds colleges and other institutions to the definition of political subdivision, which would greatly expand the number of organizations able to participate in net metering, also substantially increasing these ratepayer-borne costs. **Vote 10-8.** Rep. Thomas Corman for the **Minority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill would extend net metering in a few helpful ways. It would allow a customer-generator to participate in group net metering as a group member as long as it is not also a group host; allow a customer to belong to more than one group, with appropriate restrictions to prevent double-dipping; raise the annual cap on new low-moderate income community solar projects from a total of 6 megawatts to 18 megawatts; and designate nonprofit educational institutions and public housing authorities as eligible municipal net metering hosts. The minority recognizes the potential benefits to low-moderate income homeowners, as well as the savings that the University System of New Hampshire could realize in a time that its budget is being cut.

WAYS AND MEANS

SB 60-FN, relative to advanced deposit account wagering. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Mary Murphy for Ways and Means. This bill allows advanced deposit wagering on pari-mutuel betting on horse racing, which currently already takes place in New Hampshire and is not subject to current regulation in this state. The Lottery Commission states this bill establishes a revenue sharing agreement where licensed advanced deposit wagering will pay the state 1.25% of handle on advanced deposit wagers from New Hampshire residents. The Lottery Commission assumes approximately \$17,000,000 in advanced deposit wagering handle per year based on estimates of current operations. Therefore, this bill would increase state lottery revenue by \$212,500 per year (\$17,000,000 x 1.25%). Lottery revenue is credited to the Lottery Fund, with net revenues after expenditures being credited to the state Education Trust Fund. This is not a new tax, but closing a loophole of an existing tax to the online wagering on pari-mutuel betting on horse racing. **Vote 19-0.**

SB 63-FN, relative to funding for the division of travel and tourism. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Brian Cole for Ways and Means. This bill makes a technical but important correction to the formula used to calculate funding for the Division of Travel and Tourism, including the Travel and Tourism Development Fund. Currently, state law provides that the division is funded at no less than 3.15% of the net income from the Meals and Rooms (M&R) Tax. However, in recent years, the definition of "net income" was changed to exclude the transfer to the Municipal Revenue Fund before the 3.15% is calculated. This change has unintentionally reduced the division's funding, impacting its ability to effectively promote New Hampshire as a tourism destination. This bill restores the original intent of the law by recalculating the 3.15% allocation before the transfer to the Municipal Revenue Fund. This correction ensures that the division receives the full support it was intended to have in order to continue driving tourism-related economic activity across the state. According to the Department of Revenue Administration, this change would have increased the division's FY 2024 allocation from \$10.2 million to \$14.3 million—a \$4.1 million difference. Over the course of a biennium, this adjustment is projected to generate approximately \$60 million in additional tourism-driven

revenue for the state. This bill has strong support from both public and private stakeholders, including the tourism industry and business community. With every dollar spent on tourism marketing yielding up to \$15 in return, this investment strengthens one of New Hampshire's most vital economic sectors. **Vote 19-0.**

SB 73-FN, relative to the operation of bingo games. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Bill Bolton for Ways and Means. This bill, as amended, is an enhancement bill that amends paragraph XI in RSA 287-E:7 which contains an increase in the maximum prize payout from \$4,000 to \$5,000. The previous payout of \$4,000 hasn't been increased since 2008 (17 years ago), and if the Consumer Price Index increases were considered, the payout limit should have exceeded \$6,000. The bill also changes the coverall from 50 to 49 or fewer balls. If no player achieves coverall in 49 or fewer balls, all remaining funds after all prize payouts are rolled over to successive game dates. After testimony from legislators and representatives from the bingo industry, House Ways and Means voted unanimously to support this bill as amended. **Vote 19-0.**

SB 107-FN, enabling the state treasurer to invest certain fish and game funds. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Susan Almy for Ways and Means. Most dedicated funds are joined together in large investment pools representing the levels of stability and risk desirable for the goals of each dedicated fund. The default alternative is for the fund to gain simple interest. Some laws are written, as this one was, forgetting to add instructions to the State Treasurer to invest the interest on the fund's behalf. The nongame species special fund oversees the thousands of wildlife, insects, and snakes and other species found in our state which are not hunted, fished, or trapped, prioritizing species at risk of extinction and those of most interest to the public. It receives funding only from occasional federal funds, private donations, plus an annual match from the Treasury capped at \$100,000 a year. This change will allow them to acquire donations from outdoors enthusiasts who are requesting the best use of their funds. **Vote 15-0.**

SB 160-FN, relative to the administration of raffles. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Brian Cole for Ways and Means. This bill pertains exclusively to bingo gaming operations in New Hampshire. It updates the maximum price at which a raffle ticket or group of raffle tickets may be sold—from the current \$1 limit, set in 1985, to a new cap of \$10 per ticket. Additionally, it increases the maximum allowable prize for raffle tickets sold at bingo events from \$500 to \$1,200. The legislation also permits employees of commercial bingo facilities to participate in the sale of raffle tickets. Furthermore, it removes the requirement that raffle tickets be sold sequentially. This change allows for greater flexibility in distribution, including the ability for multiple individuals to sell tickets from the same roll. **Vote 19-0.**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY (RSA 12-J:1), State House, Executive Council Chambers, Room 207, 107 N. Main Street, Concord

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 126-A:13), Room 205-207, LOB

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

SOLID WASTE WORKING GROUP (RSA 149-M:61), NHDES, Room 208C, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting. Remote attendance option:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3435858814888164108>

MONDAY, APRIL 28

EDUCATION FUNDING, Room 205-207, LOB

10:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on retained **HB 742-FN-A**, requiring catastrophic special education state aid funding to be drawn from the education trust fund.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301-303, LOB

9:30 a.m. **SB 225-FN-L**, requiring public notice before re-assessment of property values for local tax purposes.

Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

10:00 a.m. Executive session on **SB 42**, relative to notice of death affidavits; **SB 217**, relative to public notice of historic tax rates and tax impacts of proposed projects; **SB 78**, relative to the zoning board of adjustments appeal period; **SB 105**, enabling towns to adopt budget caps; **SB 225-FN-L**, requiring public notice before re-assessment of property values for local tax purposes.

NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL ON SUICIDE PREVENTION (RSA 126-R:2), National Guard Edward Cross Training Center, 722 Riverwood Drive, Pembroke

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD (RSA 126-BB:2), DHHS, Brown Building Auditorium, 129 Pleasant Street, Concord

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, Room 302-304, LOB

10:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **SB 19**, relative to hotel and motel operations.

11:00 a.m. Executive session on **SB 19**, relative to hotel and motel operations.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB

10:00 a.m. **SB 153-FN**, relative to expedited driveway permitting of major entrances for residential use of 20 units or greater.

Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 202-204, LOB

10:00 a.m. **SB 291**, relative to the religious use of land property tax exemption.

10:20 a.m. **SB 249-FN**, relative to the uncompensated care and Medicaid fund.

Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS, Room 205-207, LOB

9:30 a.m. Executive session on **SB 36**, relative to the collection and reporting of abortion statistics by health care providers and medical facilities; **SB 37**, relative to residential care and health facility licensing; **SB 92-FN**, relative to the collection of birth worksheet information; **SB 118-FN**, relative to the personal needs allowance of residents of nursing homes; making an appropriation to the department of health and human services for Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility staff; and establishing the Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility capital investment fund; **SB 119-FN**, relative to Medicaid pharmaceutical services; **SB 130-FN**, establishing a commission to study delivery models for emergency medical services in the state of New Hampshire; **SB 134-FN**, relative to work requirements under the state Medicaid program; **SB 138**, relative to record requests by health care providers and establishing a committee to study access to medical records in the state of New Hampshire; **SB 202**, relative to Alzheimer's disease and other related dementia training for first responders; **SB 243-FN**, relative to the child care scholarship program; **SB 248**, establishing a committee to study palliative and hospice care in New Hampshire; **SB 251**, establishing a commission to study the delivery of public health services through regional public health networks and the continued development of coordinated responses to public health incidents and emergencies in New Hampshire; **SB 252**, relative to criteria for providing certain medical care through telemedicine; **SB 257**, establishing a committee to study state guidelines for Medicaid eligibility determinations.

FRIDAY, MAY 2

EDUCATION FUNDING, Room 205-207, LOB

9:30 a.m. Executive session on **SB 204-FN-A**, relative to the responsibility of local school districts to provide meals to students during school hours, reimbursing schools for meals provided to students at no cost, and making an appropriation therefor; **SB 295-FN**, relative to education freedom accounts; **SB 98-FN**, extending the donations to regional career and technical education center programs; **SB 292-FN-A**, authorizing a warrant for the funding of state special education aid; **SB 294-FN**, relative to lab fees for career and technical education courses.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 17-N:1), Room 212, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, MAY 5

JOINT LEGISLATIVE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE (RSA 17-I:1), Room 100, SH

11:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, MAY 6

HOUSING, Room 305, LOB

10:00 a.m. Executive session on **SB 84-FN**, relative to zoning procedures concerning residential housing; **SB 163**, prohibiting local moratoria and limitations on building permits; **SB 165**, relative to the audit requirements for consumer cooperative associations; **SB 166**, relative to notice required prior to sale of a manufactured housing unit located in a resident-owned community; **SB 170**, relative to development and related requirements in cities, towns, and municipalities; **SB 173**, relative to residential property subject to housing covenants under the low income housing tax credit program; **SB 174**, prohibiting planning boards from considering the number of bedrooms a given unit or development has during the hearing and approval process; **SB 188-FN**, allowing independent permitting and inspections, and allowing local governments to authorize licensed engineers and architects to perform building code inspections; **SB 281**, prohibiting municipalities from denying building or occupancy permits for property adjacent to class VI roads under certain circumstances; **SB 282**, relative to stairway requirements in certain residential buildings; **SB 283**, relative to the calculation of floor-area-ratios under local building ordinances.

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2), Edward Cross Training Center Facility, 722 Riverwood Drive, Pembroke

5:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB

10:00 a.m. **SB 154-FN**, relative to authorized organizations issuing multi-use decal plates.
 10:20 a.m. **SB 271**, relative to qualifications for issuing veteran license plates to include General Discharge Under Honorable Conditions.
 10:40 a.m. **SB 273-FN**, relative to motorist duties when approaching highway emergencies involving a stopped or standing vehicle.
 Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.
 1:00 p.m. Executive session on **SB 12**, relative to adding eligibility for a disability placard for certain veterans; **SB 13-FN**, invalidating out-of-state driver's licenses issued to undocumented immigrants; **SB 40**, relative to safe boater education certificates; **SB 150-FN**, defining electric vehicle charging station and charging a fee for annual testing by the division of weights and measures; **SB 151-FN**, relative to accessible parking permit verification and fraud prevention; **SB 154-FN**, relative to authorized organizations issuing multi-use decal plates; **SB 156**, allowing the division of motor vehicles to contract with a third-party vendor to facilitate the secure transfer of title applications and information; **SB 157-FN**, relative to inspection and registration of certain fleet vehicles and necessary amendments and administrative rules regarding the state implementation plan; **SB 266-FN**, relative to safety and accountability of drivers under 18 years of age; **SB 271**, relative to qualifications for issuing veteran license plates to include General Discharge Under Honorable Conditions; **SB 272-FN**, relative to electric-vehicle charging station funding; **SB 273-FN**, relative to motorist duties when approaching highway emergencies involving a stopped or standing vehicle.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

WAYS AND MEANS, 310 Daniel Webster Hwy, Suite 102, Nashua

11:00 a.m. Tour of the Nash Casino.

FRIDAY, MAY 9

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE INCIDENCE OF POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER IN FIRST RESPONDERS (RSA 281-A:17-e), NH Fire Academy, 98 Smokey Bear Blvd., Concord

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SIEC) (RSA 21-P:48, IV), Marine Patrol Bureau, 31 Dock Road, Gilford

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, MAY 12

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (RSA 188-E:10-b), 25 Hall Street, Concord

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 485-F:4), NHDES, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee meeting.

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (RSA 541-A:2), Room 306-308, LOB

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

COMMISSION TO STUDY ENVIRONMENTALLY-TRIGGERED CHRONIC ILLNESS (RSA 126-A:73-a),

3:00 p.m. Regular meeting. Join Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86117818803?pwd=cWRXdGwQnQvc2ZRbkNOBhGc3M0dz09> Meeting ID: 861 1781 8803 Passcode: 669915

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE USE OF OHRVS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE (RSA 215-A:44-a), Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, 172 Pembroke Road, Concord

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FISCAL COMMITTEE (RSA 14:30-a), Room 210-211, LOB

11:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, MAY 19

ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD (RSA 21-J:14-a), Training Room, Department of Revenue Administration, 109 Pleasant Street, Concord

9:30 a.m. Subcommittee meeting.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE USE OF OHRVS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE (RSA 215-A:44-a), NH Automobile Dealers' Association, 507 South St., Bow

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CANADIAN TRADE COUNCIL (RSA 12-O:22), Room 100, SH

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

STATE COMMISSION ON AGING (RSA 19-P:1), NH Hospital Association- 125 Airport Road, Concord

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, MAY 20

STATE HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND STATE HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 126-A:88), New Hampshire Hospital Association, Foundation for Healthy Communities, Room 1, 125 Airport Road, Concord

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting. Join Zoom: Meeting ID: 919 2440 4723 Password: 039529

<https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/91924404723?pwd=iGGIYA5u57zTlaudZ0RDbb1ZkoAQm6.1>

Dial-in number: 1-646-558-8656

FRIDAY, MAY 23

PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE (RSA 187-A:28-a), Room 100, SH

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, JUNE 2

NH LAND AND COMMUNITY HERITAGE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS (RSA 227-M:4), Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food, Granite Place South, Concord

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

REVISED FISCAL NOTES

The following bills have a revised fiscal note: HB 66, HB 85, HB 86, HB 112, HB 211, HB 215, HB 240, HB 284, HB 327, HB 369, HB 378, HB 494, HB 496, HB 498, HB 502, HB 505, HB 506, HB 508, HB 509, HB 511, HB 514, HB 517, HB 518, HB 521, HB 523, HB 524, HB 525, HB 526, HB 528, HB 534, HB 535, HB 536, HB 538, HB 542, HB 546, HB 547, HB 553, HB 566, HB 572, HB 574, HB 575, HB 581, HB 583, HB 586, HB 607, HB 608, HB 609, HB 611, HB 615, HB 616, HB 619, HB 621, HB 622, HB 624, HB 630, HB 633, HB 635, HB 637, HB 639, HB 646, HB 648, HB 650, HB 651, HB 652, HB 653, HB 654, HB 657, HB 658, HB 659, HB 662, HB 665, HB 669, HB 671, HB 672, HB 674, HB 677, HB 680, HB 681, HB 683, HB 686, HB 687, HB 688, HB 690, HB 691, HB 696, HB 702, HB 708, HB 710, HB 711, HB 712, HB 716, HB 719, HB 720, HB 721, HB 725, HB 726, HB 727, HB 729, HB 730, HB 731, HB 733, HB 736, HB 738, HB 739, HB 741, HB 743, HB 750, HB 753, HB 755, HB 756, HB 759, HB 760, HB 761, HB 762, HB 763, HB 767, HB 769, HB 770, HB 771, HB 775, HB 782. SB 26, SB 36, SB 49, SB 58, SB 60, SB 71, SB 73, SB 79, SB 80, SB 87, SB 112, SB 134, SB 147, SB 148, SB 151, SB 153, SB 157, SB 160, SB 170, SB 188, SB 201, SB 206, SB 222, SB 297.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Rockingham County Executive Committee Meeting, Friday, May 23, 2025, 9:30 a.m., Hilton Auditorium, Rockingham County Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Brentwood, NH. The purpose of the meeting is for Subcommittee Chairs to report FY-2026 budget recommendations and vote on budget to be presented at the Executive Committee Public Hearing on June 4, 2025. A quorum is required. Executive Committee Members must attend in person. Zoom Access is available:

<https://zoom.us/j/5713255541?pwd= TkV4NnM5OHp5SnZzVEcxaFlrL0VYZz09>

To access the meeting by audio, please following the instructions below.

Dial 1-929-205-6099 or 1-312-626-6799 (click phone call option) Meeting ID: 571-325-5541 No Participant ID - Press # to continue Meeting Password: 312900

Rep. John Potucek, Clerk

Rockingham County Executive Committee Public Hearing, Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., Hilton Auditorium, Rockingham County Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Brentwood, NH. Executive Committee conducts Public Hearing on Proposed FY-2026 Budget and votes to consider any changes at conclusion of Public Hearing (RSA 24:13-c). A quorum is required. Executive Committee Members must attend in person. Zoom Access is available:

<https://zoom.us/j/5713255541?pwd= TkV4NnM5OHp5SnZzVEcxaFlrL0VYZz09>

To access the meeting by audio, please following the instructions below. Dial 1-929-205-6099 or 1-312-626-6799 (click phone call option) Meeting ID: 571-325-5541 No Participant ID - Press # to continue Meeting Password: 312900

Rep. John Potucek, Clerk

MEMBERS' NOTICES

The following notices are published in the House Record as a courtesy to the member(s) requesting publication. These are not official public notices and will be limited to legislative policy or legislative social activities and political meetings or events. Publication should not be construed as support for either the events listed or the views espoused by the individual or organization sponsoring the event.

All Representatives are invited to a Bible study and prayer during the lunch break on Session Days. We will meet in the Upham Walker House with Pastor Peter Chamberland for this time together. Come and be refreshed both physically and spiritually during our lunch hour. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Rep. Vanessa Sheehan

Members who receive constituent inquiries into their client case with the Department of Health and Human Services are welcomed to forward the inquiry to DHHS for follow-up. You will not receive any information back other than the case is being placed in a queue and being reviewed. Contact Ms. Kathie Capron, Executive Administrative Assistant, Office of the Commissioner, (603) 271-9445, Kathleen.A.Capron@dhhs.nh.gov

Reps. Lucy Weber and Jess Edwards

The spate of measures in front of this body that have dire consequences for New Hampshire renters proves that the perspective of those who rent their homes is needed to ensure fairness for us as well as property owners. We representatives who rent must join together to make sure our voices are heard. If any of my colleagues are interested in forming a bipartisan renters' caucus, please see me in person or email me.

Rep. Lily Foss

Pocket-Size Copies of the NH Constitution are available. The passage of HB 1323 (2024), RSA 5:5-b, allowed for copies of State Constitution to be furnished. These pocket-size copies of the NH Constitution are now available in the Secretary of State's office for \$1 each.

Reps. Peternel, Drye and Dan McGuire

The Plymouth State University's Student Senate is hosting a Legislative Luncheon on **Friday, May 2 from 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.** All legislators are welcome. Please RSVP to psu-events@plmouth.edu or 603-535-3868.

Reps. Matt Wilhelm and Rep. Michael Moffett

The New Hampshire Women's Foundation cordially invites all legislators to join them for lunch on **Wednesday, May 7 at 12:00 p.m.** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Centre Street, Concord. The Women's Foundation invests in equality and opportunity for women and girls and provides grants to nonprofit organizations in all regions of New Hampshire. This lunch is an opportunity to meet some of the Foundation's grantees and learn more about the work they do serving women and girls in your community. RSVP is not required, but your response to Devan Quinn at Devan@nhwomensfoundation.org is appreciated.

Rep. Alexis Simpson

To all my friends in the New Hampshire Legislature. Always inspired by my Mom who dealt with the challenges of rheumatoid arthritis her entire life, I am honored to be named the Medical Honoree for the 2025 New Hampshire Arthritis Foundation Walk to Cure Arthritis, the premier event of the arthritis community committed to conquering arthritis for the nearly 60 million Americans, including hundreds of thousands of children, who live with this debilitating disease's daily pain and challenges. I invite you to join my team, "Make No Bones About It." The event begins at Delta Dental Stadium in Manchester on **May 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** You can walk, run, crawl, or wheel your way. The walk ends on the infield. Those who contribute \$10 or more receive a free ticket to the Fisher Cats game to follow. See me for more details on how to sign up. This event raises money to advance arthritis treatments and find a cure, develop resources, and take action to improve people's lives. Your help is needed now more than ever. Together, we can improve the lives of 1 in every 4 Americans who battle arthritis and ultimately cure the disease. Please join us. Thank you!

Rep. David Nagel

Please join us for the 15th Annual Campaign for Legal Services Kickoff Breakfast, celebrating a legacy of bipartisan public and private support for access to justice in New Hampshire. Governor Ayotte will be the keynote speaker and Nina Gardner will be recognized. **Tuesday, May 13, 2025**, at the Grappone Center (70 Constitution Ave., in Concord). Registration and coffee will begin at 7:00 a.m. The program starts at **8:00 a.m. sharp** and we'll have you on your way by 9:00 a.m.! RSVP to dmckinney@nhla.org by May 6th.

Rep. Bob Lynn

The New Hampshire Beverage Association will be holding a legislative luncheon on **Thursday, May 15, 2025 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** in the State House cafeteria. New Hampshire Beverage Association members are companies licensed to manufacture and distribute soft drinks, juices, teas, and bottled water. They provide almost 1,000 jobs and create a direct economic impact of \$841 million in New Hampshire. Please stop by to learn more about their efforts to increase sustainability and sample various new products.

Reps. Jason Osborne and Alexis Simpson

The New Hampshire Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Association cordially invites you to attend the 33rd Annual New Hampshire Fallen Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony. This Ceremony is being held to honor the Law Enforcement Officers throughout the State of New Hampshire who have made the ultimate sacrifice and died in the line of duty while protecting the citizens of the State. The Ceremony will be held on **Friday, May 16, 2025, beginning promptly at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Memorial Site in front of the Legislative Office Building. The Ceremony will proceed rain or shine. Please do not hesitate to contact Colonel Kevin Jordan at the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, 603-271-3128, should you have any questions.

Speaker Sherman Packard

The NH Oral Health Coalition invites you to our 2025 Legislative Luncheon “#Oral Health Matters: It’s All Connected” hosted on **May 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** in the NH State House cafeteria. This year’s event includes oral health and dental providers and programs from your local communities that serve those needing affordable and accessible care. Additionally, we will celebrate the NH Smiles – Medicaid Adult Dental Benefit on its 2nd Birthday. Please RSVP to Gail Brown gbrown@NHOralHealth.org or 603-415-5550. See you there. All Representatives and their staff members are Welcome!

Rep. Tom Buco

The NH Retail Lumber Association invites legislators and staff to lunch on the plaza **Thursday, June 5**. Please join your local building materials suppliers at your noontime break for food truck fare and the opportunity to learn about the independent building material industry in New Hampshire.

Reps. Jason Osborne and Alexis Simpson

AMENDMENTS

(LISTED IN NUMERICAL ORDER)

Amendment to SB 18 (2025-1605h)

Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs–c

Amend RSA 151:2, VI(a)(2) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(2) Provided however, effective July 1, 2023, any pediatric intermediate care facility, established before the effective date of this subparagraph is authorized to house 2 additional pediatric residents beyond its licensed capacity prior to that date, with this authorization to expire June 30, 2026. ***Notwithstanding the moratorium established in subparagraph (a)(1), the commissioner of health and human services may assess the capacity of any pediatric intermediate care facility and report any need for additional beds to the standing policy committees of the house and senate with jurisdiction over health and human services and the fiscal committee of the general court. If the commissioner determines additional beds are necessary, the commissioner may increase a pediatric intermediate care facility’s number of licensed beds upon approval of the fiscal committee of the general court.***

Amendment to SB 65-FN (2025-1594h)

Proposed by the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy–c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Terrain Alteration; Rulemaking. RSA 485-A:17, II-a is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

II-a. By January 1, 2026, the department shall adopt rules to establish a permit by notification for alteration of terrain that is limited to the installation of solar panels and related structures if the generating capacity of the installed panels is less than or equal to 5 MW. These rules shall exclude projects located

within protected shore-land areas pursuant to RSA 483-B from permit by notification and shall instead require such projects to undergo the standard alteration of terrain permit review process. Until completion of such rulemaking, the department shall consider waivers from the rules adopted pursuant to RSA 485-A:17, I, on a per case basis. Approval of such waivers shall not unreasonably be withheld.

**Amendment to SB 73-FN
(2025-1470h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means-r

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following and renumbering the original sections 2 and 3 to read as 3 and 4, respectively:

2 Operation of Bingo Games. Amend RSA 287-E:7, XI to read as follows:

XI. Except as provided in paragraphs XIII and XV, all prizes, tokens, or awards used, given, offered or awarded in connection with any game or series of games conducted on one game date shall not exceed the total value of [~~\$4,000~~] **\$5,000**, up to \$500 of which may be provided by the commercial hall.

2025-1470h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill revises the definition and operational rules of “carry-over coverall” bingo games and increases the amount of prizes that may be awarded on a single game date.

**Amendment to SB 93-FN
(2025-1646h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration-c

Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

1 Submission of Documentation. Amend RSA 326-B:19, I to read as follows:

I. Submit documentation of successful completion and certification from a [~~board-approved~~] **board-approved** nursing assistant education program **or documentation of successful completion of fundamentals of nursing curriculum, or its equivalent, from a board-approved nursing education program.**

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

**Amendment to SB 108-FN
(2025-1585h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy-c

Amend the bill by deleting section 2 and renumbering the original sections 3-11 to read as 2-10, respectively.

2025-1585h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill transfers specific regulatory and adjudicative responsibilities from the public utilities commission to the department of energy, including prohibiting unauthorized telecommunications service provision, protecting ratepayer communication preferences, and adjusting complaint, investigation, and aggregation procedures related to net energy metering.

**Amendment to SB 161
(2025-1539h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Children and Family Law -c

Amend the bill by replacing sections 1 and 2 with the following:

1 Child Protection Act; Presumption in Favor of In-State Placements; License; Controlling State. Amend RSA 169-C:19-b to read as follows:

169-C:19-b Presumption in Favor of In-State Placements. There shall be a presumption that an in-state placement is the least restrictive and most appropriate placement. The court may order an out-of-state placement only upon an express written finding that no options for in-state placement exist and the out-of-state placement offers specialized programming or services that are unable to be provided within New Hampshire, and the placement is [~~contracted with the state~~] **licensed in accordance with the laws of the state in which they operate and certified by the department.** Preference shall be given to out-of-state placements that are in proximity to the child’s family and/or kin, who are able to participate in family and/or reunification services. Any out-of-state placements shall be limited in time and require [~~both~~] increased judicial oversight, and the written approval of the director of the division for children, youth and families, **or designee, for placements outside of New England.**

2 Order of Preference; Controlling Law. Amend RSA 169-F:5 to read as follows:

169-F:5 Presumption in Favor of In-State Placements. There shall be a presumption that an in-state placement is the least restrictive and most appropriate placement. The court may order an out-of-state placement only upon an express written finding that no in-state options exist and that the out-of-state placement offers specialized programming or services that are unable to be provided within New Hampshire, and the place-

ment is ~~[contracted with the state]~~ ***licensed in accordance with the laws of the state in which they operate, and certified by the department.*** Preference shall be given to out-of-state placements that are in proximity to the child's family and/or kin, who are able to participate in family and/or reunification services. Any out-of-state placements shall be limited in time, and require ~~[both]~~ increased judicial oversight, and the written approval of the director of the division for children, youth and families, ***or designee, for placements outside of New England.***

**Amendment to SB 171
(2025-1520h)**

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Service –r
Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT repealing certain requirements relative to the payment of wages.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Repeal. RSA 275:43-a, relative to when payment of wages is required if an employee reports to work at an employer's request, is repealed.

2025-1520h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill repeals the requirement that, with certain exceptions, an employer pay at least 2 hours of wages if an employee reports to work at the employer's request.

**Amendment to SB 196-FN
(2025-1568h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration–c

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

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

2025-1568h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill exempts certain agency projects of not more than \$1,000,000 from the department of administrative services competitive bidding requirements. The current statute exempts such projects if the estimated total cost is not more than \$500,000.

**Amendment to SB 212
(2025-1695h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Election Law–c

Amend the bill by replacing sections 2-3 with the following:

2 Elections; Election Procedure; Write-In Votes and Nomination. Amend RSA 659:88, I - II to read as follows:

I.(a) A person whose name was not printed on the official state primary election ballot of a political party shall not be entitled to the nomination of that party for any office unless the person received at least 35 write-in votes or write-in votes equaling 10 percent or more of the total ~~[votes]~~ ***ballots*** cast for that party ~~[on]~~ ***in*** the state primary election ~~[ballot]~~, whichever is smaller.

(b) A person whose name was not printed anywhere on the official state primary election ballot, and who receives the nomination of a party by write-in vote in a primary election and wishes to accept the nomination, shall file a declaration of candidacy with the secretary of state no later than the first Monday after the primary. The declaration of candidacy shall be filed with the understanding that, where the form says "primary election," it shall be construed to mean "general election." Such person shall not, however, be required to pay the administrative assessment under RSA 655:19-c.

II. If a person is disqualified from a nomination in accordance with the provisions of paragraph I, then the nomination shall be awarded to the qualified person who received the highest number of votes, provided that person received at least 35 votes or votes equaling 10 percent or more of the total ***ballots*** ~~[votes]~~ cast for that party ~~[on]~~ ***in*** the state primary election ~~[ballot]~~, whichever is smaller.

3 Elections; Election Procedure; Candidate of One Party. Amend RSA 659:91-a, II to read as follows:

II. Notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 655:37, if any candidate is disqualified from accepting the nomination of another party by means of write-in votes because the candidate is disqualified under the provisions of paragraph I, then the nomination shall be given to the candidate who received the highest number of write-in votes and who was not disqualified under the provisions of paragraph I, so long as he or she receives 35 write-in votes, or write-in votes equaling 10 percent or more of the total ***ballots*** ~~[votes]~~ cast for that party ~~[on]~~ ***in*** the state primary election ~~[ballot]~~, whichever is the smaller.

**Amendment to SB 232
(2025-1602h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy–c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Subparagraph; Net Energy Metering. Amend RSA 362-A:9, XVI by inserting after subparagraph (c) the following new subparagraph:

(d) Renewable energy generators participating in ISO-NE electricity markets, including energy, capacity, or ancillary services markets, as of January 1, 2025, shall not be required to withdraw or delist from these markets or change their status as market participants as a condition or requirement to be a customer-generator or qualify as eligible for net metering tariffs. To be eligible for net metering tariffs, renewable energy generators in ISO-NE electricity markets shall transfer market revenues associated with any energy, capacity, and ancillary services entitlements, along with any associated revenues and proceeds, to the interconnected electric distribution utility throughout the term of participation as a customer-generator.

Amend the bill by deleting section 2 and renumbering the original sections 3 and 4 to read as 2 and 3.

2025-1602h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows renewable energy generators in ISO-NE electricity markets to retain their market participant status while qualifying for net metering tariffs and clarifies metering practices for customer-generators.

**Amendment to SB 233
(2025-1592h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy–c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to the grid modernization advisory group.

Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

1 New Subparagraphs; Grid Modernization Advisory Group. Amend RSA 12-P:16, II(a) by inserting after subparagraph (4) the following new subparagraphs:

(5) The current and growing electricity reliability challenges in the New Hampshire and New England markets.

(6) The role of energy storage in addressing short-term and long-term reliability challenges.

(7) Market-based solutions to incentivize the development and connection of large-scale energy storage systems designed to enhance reliability.

(8) The use of an indexing storage credit model to incentivize storage market development.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

2025-1592h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides additional recommendations for consideration by the grid modernization advisory group.

**Amendment to SB 254
(2025-1548h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration–c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to controlled substance inventories and relative to surrogate parent criminal history records checks.

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following and renumbering the original section 2 to read as 3:

2 Special Education; Surrogate Parents. Amend RSA 186-C:14, III-a to read as follows:

III-a.(a) The department shall complete a criminal history records check of each surrogate parent [as it would a credentialing applicant pursuant to RSA 189:13-c]. The department shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A, relative to the procedures for conducting criminal history records checks of surrogate parents.

(b) The criminal history records check of a surrogate parent shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the day they are deemed qualified by the department to serve as a surrogate parent.

(c) The department shall maintain the confidentiality of all criminal history records information received pursuant to this paragraph. The department shall destroy all criminal history record information within 60 days of receiving said information.

(d) The department may require the surrogate parent applicant to pay the actual costs of the criminal history records check.

III-b.(a) The surrogate parent applicant shall submit to the department a criminal history records release form, as provided by the division of state police, which authorizes the division of state police to conduct a criminal history records check through its state records and through the

Federal Bureau of Investigation and to release a report of the surrogate parent applicant's criminal history record information, including confidential criminal history record information, to the background check coordinator of the department, as described in RSA 21-N:8-a, I-a.

(b) The surrogate parent applicant shall submit with the release form a complete set of fingerprints taken by a qualified law enforcement agency or an authorized employee of the department of education. In the event that the first set of fingerprints is invalid due to insufficient pattern, a second set of fingerprints shall be taken in order to complete the criminal history records check. If, after 2 attempts, a set of fingerprints is invalid due to insufficient pattern, the department may, in lieu of the criminal history records check, accept police clearance from every city, town, or county where an applicant or candidate has lived during the past 5 years.

(c) Any person who has been charged pending disposition for or convicted of any violation or attempted violation of RSA 318-B:2 for possession of a controlled drug with the intent to sell, felony level, within the last 10 years, RSA 630:1; 630:1-a; 630:1-b; 630:2; 631:1; 632-A:2; 632-A:3; 632-A:4; 633:1; 633:7; 639:2; 639:3; 645:1, II or III; 645:2; 649-A:3; 649-A:3-a; 649-A:3-b; 649-B:3; or 649-B:4; or any violation or any attempted violation of RSA 650:2 where the act involves a child in material deemed obscene in this state, or under any statute prohibiting the same conduct in another state, territory, or possession of the United States, shall not qualify for selection as a surrogate parent.

2025-1548h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill removes the requirement that controlled substance inventories be done in the odd-numbered year.

This bill further amends the requirements for a criminal history records check for educational decision-making surrogate parents, and makes certain criminal offenses disqualifying.

Amendment to SB 284

(2025-1556h)

Proposed by the Committee on Housing-c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to authority for municipalities to regulate mandatory on-site parking requirements.

Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

1 Local Land Use Planning and Regulatory Powers; Zoning; Grant of Power. Amend RSA 674:16, VII to read as follows:

VII. In its exercise of the powers granted under this subdivision, the local legislative body of a city, town, or county in which there are located unincorporated towns or unorganized places may regulate accessory parking for vehicles, but shall not require more than [1-5] **one** residential parking [spaces] **space** per unit [for studio and one bedroom units under 1000 square feet that meet the requirements for workforce housing under RSA 674:58, IV, and shall not require more than 1.5 residential parking spaces per unit for multi-family developments of 10 units or more].

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

2025-1556h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill amends the amount of accessory parking that municipalities can require for residential units.

Amendment to SB 285

(2025-1623h)

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration-c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Title Change; Physician Associate. Amend the following RSAs by replacing "physician assistant" with "physician associate": 5-C:1, III; 5-C:1, V; 5-C:1, XXIX-a, 5-C:62, I; 5-C:62, II(e); 5-C:62, III(c); 5-C:62, III(e); 5-C:62, IV(d); the introductory paragraph of 5-C:62, V; 5-C:62, V(a); 5-C:62, VI; 5-C:63, I; 5-C:63, IV and V; 5-C:63, VIII; 5-C:64, II and III; 5-C:64, IV(a) through (c); 5-C:64, VI and VII; 5-C:64, XI through XV; 5-C:66, I and II; 5-C:74, I; 5-C:80, III and IV; 5-C:81, II; 5-C:94, II through IV; 5-C:96, I(b); 126-AA:2, III(d)(1) and (3); 126-A:3, III-a(a); 126-A:89, VIII; the introductory paragraph of 126-A:101, I; 126-X:1, VII(a)(3) and (4); the introductory paragraph of 135:21-b; 135:21-b, I; 135-C:2, XII-a; 135-C:36, I(c); 135-C:36, II; 137-J:2, V; 137-J:2, XXI; 137-J:33; 137-L:2, VI and VII; 141-G:2, I; 141-G:8, VIII; 141-G:10, III(a); 141-G:13, I through III; 141-G:19, II(i); 151:12-c, I; 153-A:11, II; the section heading of 153-A:16; 153-A:16, I and II; 167:83, II(q); 170-E:58; 200:32; 200:40-b, I(a)(3); 200-N:1, III(b); 261:88, I(c); 261:88, III; 261:88, V and VI; 290:1; 290:1-a; 313-A:31, II; 318:1, XII-a; 318:42, VII(a) and (c); the introductory paragraph of RSA 318:42, VIII; 318:47-m, I; 318:47-m, III; 318:47-m, VII; the introductory paragraph of RSA 318:52-a; 318:52-c, I; 326-E:1, VII; 326-E:1, X; the introductory paragraph of 326-E:8, I; 328-D:1, I; 328-D:1, II-c; 328-D:1, III; 328-D:2, I through III; the introductory paragraph of 328-D:3, I; 323-D:3-b, I(a) and (b); 328-D:3-b, II(c) and (d); 328-D:3-b, IV; 328-D:3-b,

XIII; 328-D:3-b, XVII through XIX; 328-D:10, I(j); 328-D:12; 328-D:14; 328-D:15, I through III; 328-D:16, I and II; 328-D:17, I through III; 329:1-c; 329:1-d, III; the introductory paragraph of 329:1-g; 329:13-b, I; 329:13-b, IV(a); 329:13-b, VI; 332-I:1, II(b); 332-L:2, I; the introductory paragraph of 415:18-a, III(a); 415:18-a, IV(b) (9); 415:18-a, V(j); and 464-A:25; I(a)(2) and (6).

Amend the bill by inserting after section 10 the following and renumbering the original section 11 to read as 12:

11 Physician Associates; Penalty. Amend RSA 328-D:13 to read as follows:

328-D:13 Penalty.

I. Any person who, not being licensed or otherwise authorized according to the law of this state, shall advertise oneself or hold oneself out as a physician assistant, ***physician associate, or PA***, or any person who does such act after receiving notice that such person's license has been revoked, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

II. Any person who shall practice or attempt to practice as a physician assistant, ***physician associate, or PA*** in this state without a license shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor if a natural person or guilty of a felony if any other person.