



State of
New Hampshire

HOUSE RECORD

Second Year of the 169th General Court Calendar and Journal of the 2026 Session

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Friday, February 6, 2026

No. 6

Contains: Amendments; Committee Reports; Bills Laid on the Table; House Bills Amended by the Senate; House Deadlines; Meetings and Notices; Revised Fiscal Notes.

HOUSE CALENDAR

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE:

The House will meet on Thursday, February 12th, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., in Representatives Hall. Please plan for a session day on Thursday, February 19th, which is the deadline to act on all early bills. There is a possibility that we may need to meet on Wednesday, February 18th, so please pencil in that day. We will update you as we are able to assess progress on early bills.

On session days, members who have assigned parking in the LOB parking garage, which remains closed, will receive parking instructions and reminders. Members with an assigned street space should continue to park in those assigned spaces on session days. Members assigned to park in the Legislative Garage on Storrs Street should continue to park in that garage. If you have business at the State House on a non-session day, any member may use the Legislative Garage on Storrs Street.

Thank you for your continued hard work during our busy committee schedule. Please work with your committee chair to make sure bill reports are submitted in a timely fashion. Having reports in soon after the executive sessions will allow for better pace for House sessions and hopefully fewer later nights.

Pursuant to House Rule 44(d), if any House business is canceled due to inclement weather, notice will be posted on the General Court website at gc.nh.gov. In addition, an email notification will go out to affected committees and staff.

For planning purposes, during the week of February 23 - 27, 2026, which coincides with most New Hampshire schools' winter recess, we will have no House session. If committees are caught up on their business, chairs may choose to limit meetings or keep their meetings to public hearings only.

Please remember that the State House Café is available for breakfast and lunch service, as well as catering meetings and events. Their Granite Place location on the 4th floor of the North Tower is now open from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please stop by and support their efforts to bring food and beverage services to us there.

State offices will be closed on Monday, February 16th, 2026 in observance of Presidents' Day.

Sherman A. Packard, Speaker of the House

NOTICE

There will be a Republican Caucus on **Thursday, February 12th at 9:00 a.m.** in Representatives Hall.
Rep. Jason Osborne, Majority Leader

NOTICE

There will be a Democratic Caucus on **Thursday, February 12th 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, February 11, 2026

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

AVAILABLE ON:

Friday, February 13, 2026

Friday, February 20, 2026

Friday, February 27, 2026

Paul C. Smith, Clerk of the House

2026 HOUSE DEADLINES

Second Year Session Deadlines

Thursday, February 12, 2026	Last day to report House Bills going to a second committee
Thursday, February 19, 2026	Last day to act on House Bills going to a second committee
Thursday, March 5, 2026	Last day to report House Bills not in a second committee
Thursday, March 12, 2026	Last day to act on House Bills not in a second committee
Thursday, March 19, 2026	Last day to report all House Bills
Thursday, March 26, 2026	CROSSOVER – Last day to act on all House Bills
Thursday, April 16, 2026	Last day to report Senate Bills going to a second committee
Thursday, April 23, 2026	Last day to act on Senate Bills going to a second committee
Thursday, May 7, 2026	Last day to report all Senate Bills
Thursday, May 14, 2026	Last day to act on all Senate Bills
Thursday, May 21, 2026	Last day to form committee of conference
Thursday, May 28, 2026	Last day to sign committee of conference reports (4:00 p.m.)
Thursday, June 4, 2026	Last day to act on committee of conference reports
Tuesday, September 1, 2026	First day for incumbents running for re-election to file LSRs with complete information
Friday, September 11, 2026	Last day prior to the General Election for incumbents running for re-election to file LSRs with complete information
Friday, October 23, 2026	Last day to file 2026 Interim Study reports
Wednesday, November 4, 2026	First day for all Representatives to file LSRs with complete information
Wednesday, November 18, 2026	Last day to file LSRs with complete information (4:00 p.m.)
Tuesday, January 5, 2027	Ten-day signoff begins
Friday, January 15, 2027	Last day to sign-off on all LSRs (4:00 p.m.)
	Last day to introduce House Bills
	Last day to amend House Rules by majority vote

BILLS LAID ON TABLE

HB 414-FN, prohibiting the division of motor vehicles from suspending a license on the basis of debt owed to a private entity related to the towing or storing of a motor vehicle. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 748-FN, establishing a local education freedom account program. Pending question: Majority committee amendment.

HB 1105-FN, making the term of office for certain Belknap county elected officials 4 years. Pending question: Ought to Pass

HB 1196-FN, relative to municipalities denying building or occupancy permits for property adjacent to class VI roads under certain circumstances. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 1436-FN, relative to the classification and protection of personal digital information and cloud-stored files. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 1446, providing that an individual's use of therapeutic cannabis shall not disqualify the individual from the purchase, ownership, or possession of a firearm. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 1612 -FN, relative to the use of price-fixing websites, algorithms, or other software by landlords. Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate.

HCR 11, declaring the directives of the judicial branch in the Claremont cases that the legislative and executive branches define an "adequate education," adopt "standards of accountability," and "guarantee adequate funding" of a public education are not binding on the legislative and executive branches. Pending question: Refer for Interim Study.

2026 HOUSE BILLS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

HB 59-FN, relative to the assault of a firefighter, emergency medical care provider, or law enforcement officer. (SJ 1/9/2026)

HB 109-FN, relative to false reports to law enforcement. (SJ 1/7/2026)

HB 126, relative to prescriptions for certain controlled drugs. (SJ 1/7/2026)

HB 191-FN, (Second New Title) providing criminal penalties for the transporting of an unemancipated minor in order to obtain a surgical procedure or a termination of the minor's pregnancy without parental permission. (SJ 1/7/2026)

HB 221, (New Title) enabling electric utilities to own, operate, and offer advanced nuclear resources, and relative to purchased power agreements for electric distribution utilities and limitations on community customer generators. (SJ 1/7/2026)

HB 222, (New Title) repealing the requirement for a memorandum of understanding between a chartered public school and school district regarding how students with disabilities will receive special education services and updating the organizational structure of the department of corrections. (SJ 1/7/2026)

HB 292, (New Title) establishing a revolving loan fund for school districts. (SJ 1/7/2026)

HB 340-FN, relative to electioneering by public employees. (SJ 1/7/2026)

HB 481, (New Title) relative to the state primary date. (SJ 1/7/2026)

HB 751-FN, (Second New Title) establishing a committee to study licensure of outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities, authorizing parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state, and creating a limited exemption from parental consent required for certain recordings under the parental bill of rights. (SJ 1/29/2026)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

CONSENT CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

HB 1717-FN, relative to the jurisdiction of the circuit court, family division. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Mark Pearson for Children and Family Law. When this bill was presented to the committee, we were told that it was offered in case no other bills regarding family court would be filed. In fact, two new bills were presented and one from last year was returned to us for additional work. Questions regarding family court will be discussed when we take up those bills. Additionally, several questions were posed at the hearing regarding various parts of this bill, but no one offered any explanation or answered. For these reasons, the committee recommends that the bill be found Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 15-0.**

HB 1762-FN, relative to the calculation of child support. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jay Markell for Children and Family Law. This bill would create needless litigation by parties alleging they should be able to modify, reduce or increase child support based on allocated parenting time that were inconsistent with orders. RSA 461-A:14 provides that child support orders shall be most conducive for the benefit of the children (best interests of the child), and is not based on allocated parenting time. **Vote 16-0.**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 1139-FN, relative to criminal trespass on secured premises. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Terry Roy for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The committee opposes this bill because it amends the definition of “secured premises” for purposes of criminal trespass in a way that adds complexity without improving protection for property owners or clarity for the public. Current criminal trespass statutes already allow prosecution when a person knowingly enters or remains on posted, fenced, or otherwise clearly restricted property without authorization, and courts and law enforcement understand and apply these standards in day to day practice. By layering new language and conditions onto the definition of “secured premises,” the bill risks creating ambiguity about what is or is not covered, rather than making the law more straightforward. The bill is also unnecessary because the problems it purports to solve are already addressed under existing statutes and case law. If there are occasional disputes at the margins, those are better resolved through interpretation and application of the current law than by rewriting a core definition in a way that could unsettle settled expectations for landowners, businesses, and the public. In practice, the proposed language could generate more litigation over technical questions of whether a specific property configuration meets the new “secured premises” criteria, instead of focusing on the simple and familiar question of whether the defendant knew they had no right to be there. **Vote 11-0.**

EDUCATION POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 1055, granting the state board of education rulemaking authority relative to student use of cell phones and personal communication devices in schools. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Katy Peternel for Education Policy and Administration. This bill grants broad rule-making authority to the State Board of Education in regards to the usage of cell phones during the school day. RSA 189:1-a.V, enacted in 2025, required local school boards and the board of trustees of chartered public schools to develop and adopt policies regarding the use of cell phones and other personal electronic communication devices. Since policy making authority has been granted to the local boards and the committee has not heard concerns regarding the implementation of the bell-to-bell cell phone ban, the committee recommends Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1122, requiring all high school students to learn about hunting, wildlife management, and responsible firearms usage. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Katy Peternel for Education Policy and Administration. This bill is a mandate on public education, requiring high school students to learn about hunting, wildlife management, and responsible firearms usage.

Funding for this mandate would be 1% of the proceeds deposited into the Education Trust Fund. It would expand the definition of an adequate education and require the Department of Education and the Fish and Game Commission to collaborate on policy approval and curriculum guidelines. The committee also heard testimony from Prospect Mountain School District that this course is an option for their students and that it was not difficult to implement under existing law. Since 1953, RSA 194:17 has allowed for decisions to be made locally without any burdensome mandates. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1267, prohibiting school district attorneys and non-school personnel from questioning students without their parent or guardian present. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Melissa Litchfield for Education Policy and Administration. This bill would require public schools to get a parent or guardian's permission before a student is questioned at school by attorneys, law enforcement, or other outside individuals, and it gives adult students the choice to have their parents notified and present. The goal of this bill is to make sure parents are involved when important or serious conversations happen with their children. This would protect students, respect parental rights, and help families stay informed and involved, while also giving schools clear rules to follow and building trust between parents and schools. **Vote 16-1.**

HB 1493-FN, relative to health education and requiring pupils to view certain videos demonstrating gestational development of the heart, brain, and other vital organs. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Katy Peternel for Education Policy and Administration. This bill is a mandate on health studies in public education. It requires a viewing of a video as part of health curriculum, adding a new section in statute. The committee spent much time amending a similar bill in 2025, which was subsequently vetoed by the Governor. **Vote 15-1.**

HB 1524-FN, requiring a logic and critical thinking course within the state high school education curriculum. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mike Belcher for Education Policy and Administration. This bill is incorrectly titled as a mandating "critical thinking" course, when it actually introduces a mandate for "digital literacy" and teaching what sources may or may not be valid. It represents an additional unfunded mandate and wades into territory that is reserved to the individual conscience by introducing adjudication of sources and amounts to teaching "what to think" instead of "how to think." The committee recommends Inexpedient to Legislate because there is already critical thinking and logic instruction in schools. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1628, requiring schools to provide excused absences for certain religious instruction, defining released time courses, and permitting schools to adopt policies and provide credit for released time courses. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Katy Peternel for Education Policy and Administration. This is another mandate on public education. There are several concerns with this bill such as time away from public education, how to determine the amount of credit to be awarded for these courses, and how much credit can be awarded. The committee received no testimony indicating that this was an issue in the state. Most religious organizations provide education outside of school hours and there is no specific need for release time or this legislation. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1731-FN, relative to the creation of an educational opportunities information system. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kristin Noble for Education Policy and Administration. This bill would setup a section of the Department of Education website where parents can find all educational options in specific areas. While this is a good idea and would help cut down on phone calls to the department, it was determined that real estate agents normally have this information. It also has a large fiscal note and is not enough of a priority to continue at this time. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1819-FN, relative to review of education freedom account service providers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mike Belcher for Education Policy and Administration. This bill contains an apparent technical error importing "all state and federal anti-discrimination laws," not merely all education-applicable laws, and seems to strip existing protections and exemptions from religious institutions – freedoms guaranteed by our constitutions under religion and conscience. The committee unanimously affirms Inexpedient to Legislate on the basis that, as written, the bill would not accomplish the expressed purpose. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 1830-FN, requiring firearm safety education in all public schools. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Katy Peternel for Education Policy and Administration. This bill mandates firearms training for grades K-12. As an unfunded mandate, there is an indeterminable cost to local districts. It requires the Department of Education (DOE) to provide curricular material at no cost to each school district. Also required is collaboration between the DOE and the Department of Safety to develop the program. The committee believes that local districts need fewer mandates and should maintain the local control they have had in this matter for 73 years per RSA 194:17. **Vote 17-0.**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 1030, relative to licensed practical nurse scope of practice. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**
Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill is at the request of the board of nursing to ensure that the laws surrounding licensed practical nurses performing patient assessments and care plans is consistent with currently accepted training and practice. The committee supports the technical changes in this bill, and the amendment corrects errors in the bill as introduced. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 1110, relative to the New Hampshire real estate practice act. **OUGHT TO PASS.**
Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill updates the statutes for real estate practice to clarify the types of hours needed for licensure, to clarify that inactive brokers don't need a surety bond because they are inactive, and corrects references to statutes that were repealed in 2023 when responsibilities were shifted from the boards to the office of professional licensure and certification. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 1119, relative to the regulation of funeral directors. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**
Rep. Jaci Grote for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill, as amended, creates a new position for associate funeral director. The amendment addresses rulemaking authority of the board. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 1159, relative to updating the state building code. **OUGHT TO PASS.**
Rep. Jaci Grote for Executive Departments and Administration. As the historical protocol of the committee, this bill updates the state codes to 2024, all except for the international energy codes, that are addressed in a separate bill. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 1259, relative to the issuance of certificates as a certified public accountant. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**
Rep. Jaci Grote for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill modifies the requirements for certification for a certified public accountant including sitting for the exam 120 days before completion of their baccalaureate pursuant to rules established by the board. The amendment puts into statute the current version of the Uniform Accountancy Act. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 1271, relative to third-party code review and inspection services for building permits. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**
Rep. Jaci Grote for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill seeks to add third party inspections for solar installations. Those involved have asked for the bill to be sent to interim study to allow the stakeholders to continue discussing the best way to proceed with statewide implementation. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 1443-FN, allowing retired state employees to defer earned retirement medical benefits to their surviving spouse. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**
Rep. Jaci Grote for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would have allowed the state's payment of a premium or partial premium for a retiree's medical coverage to Medicare for an eligible retired employee and/or their spouse. Since surviving spouses are entitled to lifetime health benefits, there would be no fiscal impact. But this bill seemed to indicate that spouses would be independently eligible whether or not the retiree had elected the coverage, and, therefore, the fiscal impact would be indeterminable and significant depending on the number of spouses that would enroll. **Vote 15-0.**

HB 1459-FN, standardizing the application of post-retirement part-time hour limits under the New Hampshire retirement system. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**
Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would allow state retirees to transfer their higher, grandfathered, part-time hourly limits to other state positions. While at first glance, this seems a straightforward process, it raises several significant complications. First, the part-time limits for government service during retirement are designed to encourage the state and its subdivisions to hire traditional working age employees who pay into the retirement system. The defined benefit New Hampshire retirement system is based upon current employees contributing to the retirement pay of current retirees. Under this model, increasing hours of government service by retirement contribution exempt retirees is a threat to the sustainability of the system. There are no prohibitions or restrictions on state retirees working for private companies, therefore the current limits on government part time employment during retirement does not prevent retirees from supplementing their income. **Vote 14-1.**

HB 1472, relative to the suspension period in cases involving the administrative appeals unit relative to licensure or certification concerning lead paint poisoning prevention. **OUGHT TO PASS.**
Rep. Diane Kelley for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill sets the license suspension period to run beginning at the time of notification of a suspension of license rather than beginning the 2 year period after appeals are completed. This bill deals specifically with a license to perform as a lead abatement contractor, lead inspector, or lead risk assessor and certification for lead abatement workers and lead clearance testing technicians. The committee believes that justice is best served by consistent application of penalties, and that a license should not be suspended longer for those who exercise their right to appeal a suspension. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 1605-FN-A, establishing a state office for intelligence and counterintelligence within the executive branch. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jeremy Slottje for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would create a new State Intelligence and Counter-Intelligence Office in the Department of Safety to investigate foreign threats, China, Russia, cartels, terrorists, elite capture, and infrastructure risks. It includes 3 to 5 analysts, 2 to 5 investigators with military-equivalent training, limited support staff, subpoena power, independent verification of federal intelligence, and a \$6,000,000 appropriation from the general fund for the FY 2026-2027 biennium to cover startup, salaries, training, secure networks, vehicles, an unarmed aerial platform, night/thermal imaging, and operations. The undefined mission scope presents multiple challenges including the potential to acquire advanced unmanned aerial systems or military grade platforms with price tags as high as \$30 million each. Implementation begins July 1, 2026, an off-budget year and the \$6 million appropriation adds new, unbudgeted general fund spending outside the regular cycle, drawing from surplus or lapsed funds if available or directly otherwise, with ongoing costs requiring future appropriations. **Vote 13-0.**

FISH AND GAME AND MARINE RESOURCES

HB 1074, extending the time period for the remission of certain OHRV and snowmobile fees. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mike Ouellet for Fish and Game and Marine Resources. The committee felt that the system currently works well with the local vendors and does not need change. **Vote 12-1.**

HB 1094, repealing the prohibition on collecting seaweed between sunset and sunrise. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Sean Durkin for Fish and Game and Marine Resources. The committee felt the current laws protect the ecosystem and discourages the multi-billion dollar seaweed business from coming to New Hampshire and disrupting our coast. The Fish and Game Department felt seaweed collection at night would create enforcement and safety issues. **Vote 12-2.**

HB 1304, requiring guide examinations to be administered by conservation officers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Lovett for Fish and Game and Marine Resources. A bill requiring guide examinations to be administered by the Fish and Game Department.

The committee unanimously agreed that this is an issue that should be heard through the rulemaking process of NH Fish and Game Department. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1314-FN, enabling minors to apply for a freshwater fishing application without paying a fee. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Paul Tudor for Fish and Game and Marine Resources. This bill removes the fishing license fee for individuals aged seventeen and eighteen. Although the committee agreed that this was a viable proposal, they noted that implementing it would incur substantial costs for the Fish and Game Department. The Fish and Game Department operates on a self-funded basis, and incurring these costs would have placed significant financial strain on its budget. **Vote 14-0.**

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

HB 1720-FN, relative to notice to child day care providers of child care scholarships. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Mark McLean for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to electronically notify a licensed child care program provider that a family has named them in a child care scholarship application within three days of receipt of the application. Competition for child care spaces is fierce, and a provider may hold a spot for a family of limited means open if they know a decision on a child care scholarship is pending. The committee believes that this bill will help level the field of access to child care, and give families that are financially strained increased opportunities to re-enter the workforce. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1755-FN, relative to the 340B discounted drug purchasing program. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Mark McLean for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill requires participants in the federal 340B program to report transactional information to the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice on an annual basis as a hedge against fraud. The large pharmaceutical companies fund the program and provide subsidies allowing participating health care facilities to purchase drugs at a discounted price. In the case of Medicaid patients, the discount monies are passed on to the state's Medicaid program. In the case of other patients, the facilities keep the difference between the price charged and the discounted price to invest in continuous improvement and other projects. The committee heard testimony that the state's Medicaid program doesn't currently have the bandwidth to implement a monitoring program due to resources being tied up in complying with federal Medicaid work requirements, but that they feel that

the federal auditing conducted by HRSA (the Health Resources and Services Administration) is adequate to identify most fraud. The other concern expressed was that the added administrative burden might lead to facilities completely pulling out of the 340B program, effectively ending a revenue stream that Medicaid has come to rely upon. Understanding these considerations, but wanting to be certain that all avenues to prevent fraud have been explored, the committee recommends this bill be Referred for Interim Study. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1763-FN, requiring the department of health and human services to disburse funds to municipalities in an amount equal to the sum of the assessed property values of nonprofit residential facilities in those municipalities. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Jim Kofalt for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. As amended, this bill creates a study committee to examine the problems associated with some Department of Health and Human Services-funded group homes and their potential impact on the cities and towns in which they are located. Unlike the original bill, the amended version does not expend funds, except to the extent that it covers minimal costs associated with a study committee. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1809-FN, authorizing the medical use of psilocybin through a program established in the department of health and human services. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Yury Polozov for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill authorizes the medical use of psilocybin through a program established in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). It creates a regulated pathway for qualified patients to access psilocybin under medical supervision for conditions such as treatment-resistant depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance use disorders, and other qualifying diagnoses determined by an advisory board and the department. The bill requires DHHS to license qualified medical professionals as providers, limit administration to natural psilocybin (excluding synthetics), and enforce patient safeguards including diagnosis requirements. This legislation offers a balanced, medically-supervised approach to therapeutic psilocybin use. It addresses unmet needs for individuals with severe, treatment-resistant conditions by providing access in a controlled environment, grounded in emerging scientific evidence and harm reduction principles. **Vote 18-0.**

JUDICIARY

HB 1230, relative to increases in state tax rates and debts. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Eric Turer for Judiciary. This bill attempts to amend RSA 6-C, governing debt management, by adding a section imposing a statewide tax cap on both state and municipal spending, with the cap limit calculated as the lower of the 4-year average rate of inflation or 2.5%, as well as the percentage change in statewide population from the prior year. It also provides for an individual right of action, with jury trial and the potential for attorney's fees, court costs, and 20 times damages, for any citizen that believes the cap had been violated by the state or a municipality. The committee found numerous problems with this proposal. First, this provision would override local control and conflict with municipal tax cap provisions defined in RSA 32:5 et. seq. Additionally, the drivers of state and municipal budgets are not adequately captured by average inflation, particularly with a 2.5% limit. The source of annual population change is not specified. The provision for unconstrained private civil actions, with guaranteed jury trials, against the state or any political subdivision thereof, has the potential to generate a large number of cases based solely on an individual's contention of a violation, which could greatly burden the state's court system. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1509-FN, relative to judicial immunity and permitting civil actions against judicial officers for certain criminal bail decisions. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Paul Berch for Judiciary. This bill would subject judicial officers to civil lawsuits when a defendant released on bail later commits a criminal offense or tort. The committee believes this would undermine judicial independence and fundamentally distort bail decision-making in New Hampshire. Bail determinations are core judicial acts requiring the exercise of discretion under RSA 597:2–6, based on limited information available at the time of arraignment, statutory factors, and constitutional principles. Imposing personal liability would encourage overly restrictive or reflexive detention decisions driven by fear of personal exposure rather than individualized assessments, conflicting with Part I, Articles 15 and 35 of the New Hampshire Constitution. New Hampshire already provides accountability through appellate review, bail review hearings, ethical oversight by the Judicial Conduct Committee, and impeachment where warranted. Allowing civil suits in this context would be inconsistent with long-standing judicial immunity doctrine, would deter qualified individuals from judicial service, and would erode public confidence by converting discretionary judicial decisions into hindsight-driven liability judgments. Additional concerns include the difficulty of finding judges willing to preside over bail matters if this bill is enacted, as well as potential conflicts with judges' obligations under the Judicial Code of Conduct. **Vote 16-2.**

HB 1547-FN, relative to appeals from convictions in circuit court for certain offenses. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Katelyn Kuttub for Judiciary. This bill aims to build upon a recently enacted law, HB 369 (Ch. 182, Laws of 2025), which came into effect on January 1, 2026. This law provides protection for minors under 18

involved in misdemeanor sexual assault cases by requiring the defendant to opt for a circuit court trial and waive the right to a jury trial, or appeal directly to the superior court for a jury trial. The purpose of this provision was to spare minor survivors of sexual assault from the burden of enduring two separate trials and reliving their trauma. The proposed expansion of the bill aims to eliminate the age restriction, extending its applicability to all victims regardless of age, and broaden the covered case types to include simple assault, stalking, and domestic violence. While acknowledging the potential merit of the bill, the committee expressed the importance of evaluating the impact of the law that took effect on January 1st before considering further expansion, particularly in light of the significant fiscal implications. **Vote 18-0.**

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

HB 1692, relative to the legislative youth advisory council. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Vanessa Sheehan for Legislative Administration. Last biennium, the Legislative Administration Committee worked extensively on legislation that restructured how the Legislative Youth Advisory Council operates due to several years of poor quality output. These changes made just last term included the narrowing of the subject matter the council members are to focus and report on, as well as reducing the number of overall appointments to the council. Since then, the council has yet to meet or do any of the fundamental work of evaluating pending legislation from the youth perspective and testify to the various legislative committees. In fairness, a number of new appointments requested of the Speaker's Office remain in process. But rather than working to hit the ground running when that opportunity rises, it would appear their efforts have been instead to further refine the recently passed and untested restructuring documents. The unanimous position of the committee that an Interim Study motion would provide the council the rest of this legislative year to meet and work on pending legislation and next year, with a solid performance record, we may reconsider any additional reforms of the council. **Vote 11-0.**

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB 1626-FN, relative to the effectiveness of tourism expenditures. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Linda Ryan for Resources, Recreation and Development. The committee heard testimony from stakeholders who described how the existing tourism funding is currently being used to support marketing. Tourism is a major economic driver for New Hampshire, particularly for the Seacoast, Lakes, and North Country regions. This bill carries a large fiscal note and would be a duplication of efforts, as existing agency structures already provide accountability for tourism expenditures and collect information on the return on investment. The proposed changes would undermine the practices in place that currently function effectively. **Vote 16-0.**

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HR 33, affirming the state of California's request to divide into 2 states. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Lily Foss for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. While the committee appreciates the sponsor's commitment to optimum constituent representation, we do not believe that it is in the best interests of the citizens of New Hampshire or California to seek to influence a matter currently being debated in the California legislature. We have no data to suggest that splitting California is desirable or feasible. Even if we did, we don't believe that the supporters offered compelling reasons for the Granite State to involve itself. For those reasons we recommend this resolution be found Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 15-0.**

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 1480-FN, raising the meals and rooms tax rate. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Scott Bryer for Ways and Means. This bill would increase the Meals and Rooms (M&R) Tax rate from 8.5% to 9%. The Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) states that this bill will increase the General Fund and Education Trust Fund revenue because of the higher tax. The department could not predict the fiscal impact of increasing the M&R rate to 9% as it cannot predict what the M&R revenues will be in future years and whether the higher tax could result in fewer customers and thus affect revenue. Given the fact the M&R rate was only reduced to 8.5% on October 1, 2021, and that during testimony the committee heard that smaller restaurants and lodging facilities have still not fully recovered in the post-pandemic economy, increasing the cost of meals and rooms could suppress customer demand. Furthermore, having a desire to keep New Hampshire competitive with other New England states, the committee recommends this bill Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 17-2.**

HB 1599-FN, allowing net operating losses to be carried forward in perpetuity following a loss year. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. James Tierney for Ways and Means. Two words in this bill are the sticking point: "in perpetuity." A carry forward in perpetuity is a very long time, and leaves the state on the hook, possibly forever, depending on a

company's losses. This issue has been looked at in the past and it was determined that allowing 10 years of net operating losses (NOL) has been reasonable. The Department of Revenue Administration estimates that the hit to revenues would be approximately \$90 million per year. For those reasons, the committee voted to study this bill before making a final recommendation. It is possible that there is a different time period other than 10 years which makes more sense, but that will need to be researched and studied. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1707-FN, creating an additional property tax for certain unoccupied properties and creating a housing transfer tax exemption for certain low- and moderate-income home buyers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Mary Murphy for Ways and Means. The committee recommends this bill Inexpedient to Legislate for fairness and technical reasons. The majority opinion is that this is an unfair additional tax on properties already subject to additional taxes that might include Meals and Rooms taxes. Also, it potentially doubles the amount of property taxes due, which might force the sale of properties and devalue surrounding properties as a result of flooding the market. The bill has confusing language and creates questions about how a "one-time exemption" from payment of Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT) for single home buyers (and sellers) owning no other property and with low or median income would be applied (to the buyer/seller in their lifetime, to the specific property, per tax year, or something else). Another concern was the complexity and cost to municipalities of determining occupancy status in order to enforce this tax. Many of New Hampshire's smaller towns use part-time town clerks whom the bill expects to determine occupancy based on assumptions, such as tax bills being mailed to addresses other than the "primary" residence. However, this does not consider that many rural towns provide free Post Office boxes to primary homeowners on roads to which the USPS does not deliver mail. Finally, it is difficult to estimate the impact to RETT revenue or property tax revenue, but there would be an estimated \$300,000 cost to update Department of Revenue Administration forms and systems. The new tax might jeopardize the ability of families who inherited valuable legacy properties from continuing to afford and pass down these properties to future generations. In addition, there is the unintended consequence of campgrounds or seasonal compounds with multiple residences being subject to this new tax which might cause a forced sale and barrier to re-sale. The supplemental residence tax might unfairly affect owners who travel for work, people planning to retire in New Hampshire, and families who share seasonal residences. Finally, public testimony (in person, written, and online) was overwhelmingly in opposition to this bill. **Vote 19-0.**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12 REGULAR CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

HB 1323-FN, relative to parental alienation. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kimberly Rice for the **Majority** of Children and Family Law. The majority of the committee believes parental alienation harms children by damaging their relationship with a parent through manipulation, coercion, and repeated interference with parenting time. This bill provides a clear definition so courts can identify and address these patterns consistently and early. It also gives parents a direct enforcement tool through a family access motion when alienation results in unjustified denial of parenting time. Importantly, it protects legitimate safety concerns by excluding good-faith protective actions based on a reasonable belief of abuse or neglect under RSA 169-C. **Vote 9-6.** Rep. Heather Raymond for the **Minority** of Children and Family Law. Parental alienation, originally coined by psychiatrist Richard Gardner in the 1990s, has been widely discredited by the American Psychological Association, the Leadership Council on the Abuse of Children, the National District Attorneys Association, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and the American Bar Association after rigorous study spanning 30 years. In 2015, the American Bar Association reviewed over 7,000 cases where parental alienation was alleged and found it was most often brought by a parent who had been credibly accused of abuse, most frequently sexual abuse. After the review, the Bar Association published an article concluding that Parental Alienation Syndrome is “without any specific merit” and should not be considered in high conflict cases. In the past three years, CA, NY, MD, IL, CO, and PA have all restricted the use of parental alienation as a justification for forcing children into contact with parents against the child’s expressed will. NH’s judicial system is under strain. The Children and Family Law Committee frequently hears testimony from parents who feel the judges are already not applying laws or rules of evidence fairly. It would not be in the best interest of children, nor parents, to add a controversial term, already rejected by legal experts, into custody cases. It is not practical, and likely violates the First Amendment for judges to determine what parents are allowed to say to their children. As written, this bill could be used to prevent parents from discussing demonstrable facts with children such as when the other parent has an addiction or has been arrested: even if the child initiates the conversation. Parents who feel that they are being unfairly deprived of a meaningful relationship with their children due to divorce can, and should, seek family counseling and alert the court and the Division for Children, Youth and Families if they believe their children are being psychologically abused or manipulated by the other parent. For this reason, the minority strongly opposes this and recommends it be found Inexpedient to Legislate.

HB 1460-FN, prohibiting the sale of location and other sensitive data regarding children. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Mark Pearson for the **Majority** of Children and Family Law. The bill is very simple; it just prevents the sale of the location and other sensitive data regarding children. The operative word is “sale.” The bill therefore, does not prevent, say, parents who home school, from sharing information, or parents with children in summer camp sharing information. The bill is just about the sales of sensitive data. **Vote 9-7.** Rep. Alicia Gregg for the **Minority** of Children and Family Law. While this could be a valid and needed bill, we have no knowledge of anything on this bill. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the prime sponsor was unable to introduce the bill nor explain it. We had no testimony for or against. As legislators we have an obligation to due diligence. In this case, it would have been to Refer this for Interim Study and hear testimony from at least the prime sponsor.

HB 1710-FN, relative to procedures relating to child abduction. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Jay Markell for the **Majority** of Children and Family Law. This bill will aid parents who seek to prevent the abduction of their children by allowing recourse to the courts. The bill does not preclude a parent from asserting domestic violence or harm to the child exists. **Vote 9-7.** Rep. Peter Petrigno for the **Minority** of Children and Family Law. It is clear that there are many questions that need consideration. No state has adopted this legislation in its entirety; ten states failed to move similar legislation forward, including New Hampshire in 2008 and 2009. At various times the two bills in question were recommended for Referral for Interim Study, Ought to Pass with Amendment, Inexpedient to Legislate and tabled. The question is why. More inquiry is needed. More so, we are concerned with the potential weaponization of this bill in cases of domestic violence.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 1570-FN-LOCAL, relative to governmental budget authority for agreements for law enforcement agencies to participate in federal immigration enforcement. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Terry Roy for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The majority opposes this bill because it would require any New Hampshire law enforcement agency seeking a 287(g) agreement with ICE to first obtain prior approval from the local or county “governmental budget authority” complete with a formal cost estimate and public disclosure. Under current law, RSA 106P already authorizes chiefs of police and sheriffs to enter into these voluntary federal agreements without micro managing preconditions, recognizing that law enforcement professionals are best positioned to assess operational needs and partnerships. By inserting elected budget overseers into operational decisions, the bill politicizes law enforcement choices and risks turning routine federal cooperation into a contentious public spectacle. New Hampshire’s municipal budgeting process, governed by RSA 32 and RSA 40, already gives local voters and budget committees full control over funding through the annual warrant process, default budgets, and oversight of appropriations. Voters can reject or adjust any funding line item—including overtime or training costs related to a 287(g) program, by reducing it to zero or amending the budget at town meeting. This bill redundantly mandates preapproval for one narrow type of agreement while ignoring the existing, robust mechanisms that prevent taxpayer dollars from being misused, creating unnecessary red tape without enhancing fiscal accountability. Claims that 287(g) agreements impose unreimbursed costs on local budgets are simply erroneous. ICE fully covers training costs, including travel and IT infrastructure, for participating agencies; and since October 1, 2025, the federal government fully reimburses the annual salary and benefits of each trained 287(g) officer, including up to 25% overtime coverage, plus quarterly performance awards based on successful enforcement outcomes. Local personnel costs are thus offset by direct federal reimbursements, making these partnerships a net gain for public safety without straining municipal budgets. Because existing budgeting laws already provide ample voter oversight of expenditures, because chiefs and sheriffs have statutory authority to pursue lawful federal partnerships that come with substantial federal reimbursements, and because this bill needlessly politicizes routine enforcement cooperation as part of a national strategy to hinder federal immigration efforts, the majority finds this bill to be redundant, disruptive, and contrary to sound public safety policy. **Vote 7-6.**

HB 1642-FN, relative to extreme risk protection orders. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Terry Roy for the **Majority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The majority opposes this bill because it imports a “red flag” framework New Hampshire has repeatedly rejected, creating a new civil mechanism to seize firearms while doing nothing to treat the underlying mental health crisis or instability that allegedly makes the person dangerous. The core premise of the bill is that temporarily taking guns from a person in crisis meaningfully resolves the danger, yet the individual is left in the same environment, with the same untreated condition, and with hundreds of other means available to harm themselves or others. That is not safety; it is political optics at the expense of due process and New Hampshire tradition. Focus on people, not property. New Hampshire already has a clear and robust involuntary commitment law that squarely addresses the situation the minority describes: a person whose mental illness or crisis makes them dangerous to themselves or others. That framework focuses on the person, authorizing intervention, evaluation, and treatment when there is genuine danger, rather than fixating on one category of their property. If someone is truly so dangerous that the state must act, the appropriate response is to address their condition and risk comprehensively, not to send officers to invade their home, seize firearms, and then walk away leaving the person alone in a damaged and destabilized environment. Ineffectiveness of gunonly interventions. Some assert that this bill will “save lives,” but stripping a person in crisis of firearms alone leaves untouched the reality that there are countless other methods by which a determined individual can harm themselves or others. If the risk is real, a narrowly targeted property seizure order does not eliminate that risk; it merely shifts it. At best, the bill creates the illusion of safety, while the person’s underlying condition and capacity for harm remain, and at worst, it heightens anger, humiliation, and instability by subjecting the person to a forcible raid and property seizure without addressing their actual needs. New Hampshire’s consistent rejection of red flag laws. New Hampshire has chosen a different path, one that respects both due process and the right to keep and bear arms while prioritizing genuine mental health intervention. Due process and constitutional concerns. The idea that “no one gets arrested” at the outset ignores the reality that any technical misstep or alleged violation of an order converts this civil process into a criminal enforcement mechanism, with longterm consequences. Better tools already exist. Family members and law enforcement who recognize genuine signs of danger are not without tools. They already can seek mental health evaluations, invoke the involuntary commitment statutes when the statutory standard is met, and involve medical professionals and crisis services who are trained to stabilize and treat individuals at risk. Those approaches address the person’s condition rather than singling out firearms as a talismanic cause of violence. The majority believes legislative effort should strengthen access to treatment, crisis intervention, and followup care, not expand the use of home raids and property seizures that leave the underlying danger unaddressed. **Vote 9-3.** Rep. David Meuse for the **Minority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill creates a legal process under civil law to temporarily restrict a person’s access to firearms if a judge finds that they pose a significant danger of using firearms to harm themselves or others. No one gets arrested and no criminal record is created unless the respondent

violates the order. There is also a criminal penalty for any person who falsifies information to obtain a protective order. The process detailed in the bill ensures that family members and law enforcement officers who recognize signs of danger have the tools they need to prevent gun violence tragedies, such as firearm suicides and mass shootings, while also including robust due process protections that protect individuals' property and due process rights. The United States Supreme Court has recognized, in multiple contexts on multiple occasions, that the temporary ex parte process that is a key part of the bill satisfies the due process of law required by our constitution. The court has also made clear that pre-hearing deprivations are constitutional, especially in emergency situations, repeatedly recognizing "that where a State must act quickly, or where it would be impractical to provide pre-deprivation process, post-deprivation process satisfies the requirements of the Due Process Clause." This bill will save lives.

HB 1715-FN, relative to the electronic filing of domestic violence and stalking petition case documents. **IN-EXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Terry Roy for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The majority opposes this bill because it restricts victims of domestic violence and stalking to electronic filing for protective orders, except in "extraordinary circumstances," when the legislature should be expanding access to these critical remedies. Many victims lack reliable internet access, computers, smart phones, or the digital literacy to navigate online systems, especially in urgent crises; mandating efilg erects barriers that could delay or prevent them from obtaining immediate protection. Instead of empowering victims with flexible options, the bill shrinks their pathways to safety at a time when every minute can mean the difference between life and death. The bill also creates serious safety risks by forcing victims to generate electronic trails on home computers or personal devices that abusers could easily access. Domestic violence perpetrators often monitor their victims' devices, accounts, or shared networks; filing online leaves digital footprints, search histories, login records, IP addresses, that could tip off the abuser before the order is granted, escalating the danger. Paper filing at a courthouse or advocates office allows victims to seek help discreetly, without risking exposure through technology that abusers frequently exploit. Furthermore, the bill raises profound separation of powers concerns by dictating the mechanics of court filings to the judiciary, overriding judges' authority to manage case processing and accommodate individual circumstances. Courts already offer both electronic and inperson options where feasible, balancing efficiency with access; this mandate micro-manages judicial operations without regard for varying court capacities or local needs. It also ignores funding realities: implementing mandatory efilg statewide would require significant up front and ongoing investments in technology upgrades, training, public kiosks, and support for victims, costs that fall on under funded courts without dedicated appropriations. **Vote 7-6.**

EDUCATION FUNDING

HB 1701-FN, reestablishing the New Hampshire college graduate retention incentive partnership program and making an appropriation therefor. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Pam Brown for the **Majority** of Education Funding. A majority of the committee agrees the incentives the bill provides to keep New Hampshire college graduates in the state are unnecessary. The pricing system of a free market should be sufficient. **Vote 9-8.** Rep. Hope Damon for the **Minority** of Education Funding. The NH workforce pipeline is rapidly aging with 28% of our workforce over age 55. We consistently rank among the top five states for exporting students out of state for college. This bill is a proactive, future-focused effort to remain competitive in an increasingly intense 50-state competition for talent. This bill, with amendment, reestablishes the NH College Graduate Retention Incentive Partnership program (NH GRIP). The purpose of GRIP is to recruit and retain graduates from NH institutions of higher education to provide incentives to work in New Hampshire. This benefits employers, communities, new graduates of NH higher education institutions and the long-term economic vitality of the Granite State. It represents a strategic investment by businesses in our economy as they would provide a monetary award annually for up to four years to graduates of NH public or private institutions of higher education. This is a voluntary, employer-driven incentive that is paid for entirely by the employers. The NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs simply provides limited administrative framework and visibility for the program, but does not manage the program.

EDUCATION POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 1716-FN, relative to the academic accountability of education freedom accounts. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Margaret Drye for the **Majority** of Education Policy and Administration. Currently, Education Freedom Account (EFA) students have to show academic progress at the end of the academic year by choosing from these options: take a national achievement test, take a statewide student assessment test, or maintain a portfolio that is evaluated by a certified teacher or a teacher currently teaching in a non-public school. This bill requires the Department of Education to develop a rubric for evaluating portfolios including sources

of learning, evidence of subject competency, mastery of knowledge and skills, and evidence of reflection of learning outcomes. Outcomes of all three types of evaluation would be reported to the department, where the Division of Learner Support will analyze the results to determine the academic proficiency rates among pupils participating in the EFA program. The bill removes the option of having a teacher in a non-public school evaluate a portfolio, in spite of a record of almost 40 years of successful evaluations by such teachers for portfolios of home educated students. It also requires annual reporting of these scores and evaluation data for EFA students, while public school students are only assessed in 3rd to 8th grade and 11th grade, from which the parents have the option to opt-out. **Vote 10-8.** Rep. Peggy Balboni for the **Minority** of Education Policy and Administration. This bill would add student academic accountability to the Education Freedom Account (EFA) program. Annual student assessment is a requirement of all NH public school students, and test scores are often used as a measure of a school's success. The EFA program is funded with taxpayer dollars and is one of four education pathways for NH students. Currently, there is no comparable academic accountability required for students in the EFA Program. Per state law, students in the EFA program must provide an annual record of educational attainment by taking either a nationally standardized test or the NH statewide assessment; or submitting a statement of teacher evaluation of a student portfolio. This bill does not propose any new methods of evaluation, it merely clarifies the portfolio option and adds a reporting requirement to an already existing statute. The minority feels that all students in taxpayer-funded educational programs, including public schools, charter schools, and the EFA program, should be held to the same academic reporting standards to evaluate student growth and the success of the program.

HB 1808-FN-A, establishing the position of academic research and improvement performance data analyst in the department of education and making an appropriation therefor. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Katy Peternel for Education Policy and Administration. The academic research and improvement performance data analyst shall collect and analyze statewide assessment data to: 1) measure student progress, 2) evaluate program and instructional effectiveness, 3) guide curriculum and instruction development, 4) influence resource allocations and 5) promote accountability. The position shall assist districts in the effective use of data to drive and improve education decision-making. The analyst shall also use data driven decision making to: collect and analyze data, report, and utilize the information for school improvement. This will assist districts and the department to make recommendations for improvement. **Vote 17-0.**

ELECTION LAW

HB 1678-FN, requiring the secretary of state to accept voter registration forms directly from voters and to create an online portal for direct voter registration. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Katherine Prudhomme-O'Brien for the **Majority** of Election Law. While the goal of expanding voter registration options is well intentioned, the bill creates a new administrative layer at the state level that undermines New Hampshire's long-standing, locally administered election system. The fiscal note shows significant and ongoing costs, including an estimated \$637,000 in FY 2027 and continued annual expenditures thereafter, with no dedicated funding mechanism provided. Additionally, the Department of State has indicated that the proposed implementation timeline is not feasible given staffing, training, and technical requirements. The majority of the committee believes these costs and logistical challenges outweigh any potential benefit, particularly when existing voter registration processes are already accessible and functional. **Vote 9-7.** Rep. James Newsom for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill makes registering to vote easier and will bring NH into the 20th century by joining 42 states that allow this type of registration. Specifically, this bill will allow new voters to submit all of their documentation – proving identity, age, US citizenship, and NH domicile – via a secure online portal operated by the Secretary of State's office. The Secretary of State's office will then forward to the appropriate municipal clerk who will verify the documents and update the voter checklist. These voters will submit the same documents as they would for in-person registration. These documents will be reviewed by the clerk in the exact same manner as they would for in-person registration. The minority recommends Ought to Pass in order to improve voter access without harming election integrity.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 1636-FN, directing the department of revenue administration to study options for generating state revenue. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Jaci Grote for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The bill requires the department of revenue administration to study options for generating \$500 million in state revenue to pay for the "minimum conservative threshold" base adequacy found in recent New Hampshire supreme court rulings and directs the department to submit no fewer than five options in a report to the various members of the General Court. The department testified to the committee that, although doable, they recommended a steering committee and an outside consultation firm with a potential cost of \$175k-\$600k to provide guidelines

and assist them with this work. The majority of the committee did not agree that this type of work needed to be in statute because evaluating revenue options is the function of Ways and Means, and because the role of the department is to implement policy not to craft policy. **Vote 11-2.** Rep. Erica de Vries for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill changes no policy. It does not impose or increase any tax. That remains the sole prerogative of this General Court. All the bill does is provide information and, perhaps, options to this legislative body to meet fiscal challenges, without further burdening local property taxpayers and without making draconian cuts to needed services. This bill intentionally seeks to tap new perspectives. It leaves the broadest possible latitude to consider the widest and most innovative options. Passing this bill does nothing more than seek information. Defeating this bill, however, means we are choosing not to learn pathways to fulfilling our constitutional obligations to students.

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

HB 1584-FN, directing the department of health and human services to provide notice of medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements and relative to the form of such exemption. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Yury Polozov for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to provide notice of medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements. It also states that any written, signed statement attesting to a religious objection shall be sufficient. The bill creates an even playing field. It balances government-issued, one-sided advertisements for commercial medications by informing patients of their existing rights based on personal beliefs, medical needs, and medical sensitivities. The original bill also required DHHS to submit an annual compliance report. The committee amendment removes this provision to address the primary source of potential increased fiscal impact. Additionally, the committee amendment eliminates the new penalty language. It instead aligns enforcement with DHHS's existing reporting and disciplinary processes. **Vote 10-8.** Rep. Janet Lucas for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The members of the minority believe that it should be voted Inexpedient to Legislate because, as noted by the Governor when she vetoed a similar bill less than one year ago, "the state already has an established process by which parents can claim a religious exemption." The form currently in use is easy to locate on the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) website and said form provides a practical method of record keeping by school nurses that allows them to efficiently track immunization records during a disease outbreak. Replacing the standard form with, as this bill states, "any written and signed statement" would greatly hamper the schools' ability to notify parents during an infectious disease outbreak that their unvaccinated child may be at risk. The bill's penalty phase places an onerous burden on DHHS employees, and the Fiscal Note indicates a new part-time position will need to be created to handle the work created by the bill.

HB 1719-FN, removing Hepatitis B from the list of diseases for which immunization is required under state law. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Matt Drew for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill removes the Hepatitis B vaccine from the list of vaccines mandated for children in RSA 141-C:20-a. This bill does NOT ban any of the Hepatitis B vaccines. The majority of the committee believes that the state should not mandate this vaccine for children - the choice to vaccinate a child should be via informed consent by the parents in consultation with their doctor. **Vote 10-8.** Rep. William Palmer for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill eliminates the Hepatitis B vaccine requirement and would make New Hampshire only the third state to do so. This is against the recommendation of the New Hampshire State Epidemiologist, the Infectious Disease Society of America, the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Family Physicians. All the physicians who testified at the hearing were opposed to this bill, noting that the benefits far outweigh the risks of this vaccine. Since the universal birth vaccine dose became available in 1991 there has been a 95% drop in infant infections. Removal of the Hepatitis B vaccine requirement would further erode New Hampshire's already declining vaccination rates, putting children, staff and community at increased risk for a disease that can cause cirrhosis, liver cancer and death.

HB 1798-FN, relative to the coverage of diapers under the state Medicaid plan. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Steven Kesselring for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill proposes adding coverage for diapers under the state Medicaid program. During the public hearing, the committee heard heartfelt testimony from parents and advocates about the challenges of affording diapers and the positive impact such support could have on families. The committee approached the bill with compassion and recognizes the importance of supporting families in need. After careful consideration, the majority concluded that, while the intent of the bill is commendable, expanding Medicaid to cover diapers would be an unnecessary increase in state spending, as other organizations are already providing significant assistance in this area. Therefore, the majority recommends Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 10-8.** Rep. Lucy Weber for

the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a waiver for Medicaid to provide new mothers with 100 diapers per month during the first year of their infant's life. The cost of diapers can amount to \$1200 for the first year of life, and SNAP benefits may not be used to cover diapers. This can be a huge strain on a limited budget. Rationing of diapers leads to rashes, skin breakdown, and urinary tract infections. In addition, if the mother is working and the infant goes to day care, diapers must be supplied with the infant. If the mother has no diapers, she must miss work because she cannot send her infant to day care. There are some voluntary programs in the state which provide diapers to mothers in need, but they do not cover the whole state, and 100 diapers per month does not meet the individual monthly need, so voluntary help will always be necessary. Amendment 2026-0394(h) clarifies that the bill provides coverage only to mothers who qualify for the Medicaid benefit, which is a smaller number of recipients than the whole number of children who qualify. The fiscal note was based on all children who qualify for the Medicaid benefit, so the program would cost significantly less than indicated by the fiscal note. Members of the minority believe this is common-sense, family-friendly legislation which would help mothers give their infants a healthy start to life.

JUDICIARY

HB 1067-FN, relative to the mental health courts. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Joe Alexander for the **Majority** of Judiciary. The majority of the Judiciary Committee believes this bill has noble goals but implementation would be unwise. The bill would establish 11 county-based mental health court locations (two in Hillsborough County) whose goal would be to reduce "the costs of incarceration, by reducing the frequency of involuntary emergency admissions and by lowering recidivism and reducing the long-term costs by providing alternative interventions to incarceration by improving treatment and prevention options for those living with mental illness..." These goals sound great however there are a number of issues. First, testimony and questions indicated that there are a number of crimes that would qualify for mental health courts including violent crimes, sexual assault, and violent crimes that include drug possession. The majority has concerns that violent convicted criminals could qualify for expedited release from incarceration or in some cases no jail time. The "risk assessments" done by the Office of Statewide Treatment Courts are not entirely clear and are prone to mistakes. We have seen nationwide what happens when violent convicted criminals with mental disabilities are allowed to roam our streets unchecked. On top of these serious concerns is the fiscal note. Establishing these courts will bloat the government by numerous positions and cost the NH taxpayers \$2.7 million in fiscal year 2027 and \$4 million in every subsequent year. **Vote 10-8.**

Rep. Paul Berch for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority of the Judiciary Committee believes that establishing a statewide mental health court system is both compassionate and cost-effective. This bipartisan bill reflects collaboration among corrections, the court system, and mental health and social service providers, and is informed by a prior study commission. While mental health courts require up front investment, they reduce long-term costs by substituting effective treatment, supervision, and accountability for the high and recurring expense of incarceration. In human terms, they help people whose lives have been derailed by mental illness and substance use disorders stabilize and become productive members of society rather than cycling through jails and hospitals. Testimony from providers and organizations working with New Hampshire's existing mental health courts confirms these programs are effective and cost-saving, much like our widely acclaimed drug courts. By addressing the root causes of criminal behavior through treatment and case management, mental health courts reduce recidivism, improve public safety, and ultimately produce better outcomes at lower overall cost than traditional criminal processing.

HB 1501-FN, limiting judicial immunity. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Marjorie Smith for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill proposed to limit judicial immunity to allow for criminal or civil remedies for certain actions by the judicial branch. The language in the bill is vague, and uses undefined terms. The losing party in court proceedings not infrequently sees the decision not to be based on facts or law and might choose to challenge the decision claiming that the judge acted maliciously or for corrupt purposes. Under current law, if a judge acted outside of his or her judicial role, the judge is not immune from civil or criminal liability, and if the judge violated the Code of Judicial Conduct, the matter may be referred to the Judicial Conduct Committee. Therefore, to the extent that there might be a problem, current law provides for appropriate action. **Vote 13-5.**

Rep. Kristine Perez for the **Minority** of Judiciary. No one is above the law. That is something we hear echoed on a very regular basis; New Hampshire continues to have concerns with the multiple issues that have impacted our citizens and there appears to be no or minimal accountability for the justices. We need to have all those connected with the judicial system here in New Hampshire be accountable. We heard in testimony that "the problems are not isolated to one division. They affect access to justice, public safety, constitutional rights

and trust.” It does not appear that the judicial conduct committee is helping in this matter and dismisses or states that complaints are outside scope. Few complaints result in action. “When judicial officers operate with near total insulation amid evidence of systematic failures” it is time to do something, and this bill is a start.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 1505-FN, requiring municipalities, towns, and cities to submit documentation to the department of revenue administration proving they are in compliance with local budget and tax caps. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Diane Pauer for the **Majority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill strengthens accountability and transparency in the administration of locally adopted budget and tax caps by establishing clear reporting and enforcement mechanisms through the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA). Current RSA allows municipalities, towns, school districts, and village districts to adopt local tax caps and budget caps, but the law does not consistently require documentation demonstrating compliance, nor does it clearly define the enforcement role of the commissioner of revenue administration when caps are exceeded or improperly overridden. This bill requires political subdivisions that have adopted a local tax cap, school district budget cap, or town budget cap to submit standardized documentation to DRA detailing the calculation of the applicable cap, proposed and approved appropriations, estimated revenues, and the results of any ballot votes to override the cap. This ensures that DRA has the information necessary to verify compliance as part of its existing review of municipal budgets and tax rates. This bill also clarifies how appropriations are to be reduced when a proposed operating budget or default budget exceeds an adopted cap and fails to receive the required three-fifths supermajority vote. The bill provides consistent definitions of “appropriations already raised” and ensures that estimated revenues and anticipated state or federal funds are properly accounted for when determining whether a local tax cap has been exceeded. In addition, the bill updates and aligns the inflation adjustment language across local tax caps, school district budget caps, and town budget caps for clarity and consistency. Importantly, the bill establishes a new enforcement provision directing the commissioner of revenue administration to reduce or delete appropriations that exceed an adopted cap or that were not properly approved by the required supermajority ballot vote, while expressly protecting appropriations that were lawfully approved through the override process. The bill further provides that these clarifications and enforcement provisions apply to caps already adopted, without requiring towns or districts to re-adopt them. The committee amendment further clarifies and standardizes the calculation and application of school district and municipal budget caps by aligning statutory language with existing practice, correcting technical references, and ensuring consistency across budget cap statutes. The amendment reaffirms the use of average daily membership in residence (ADMR), as reported by the Department of Education, for local tax cap and school budget cap calculations; clarifies inflation adjustment language without changing voter-approved caps; corrects cross-references within the municipal budget law so that each cap applies only where locally adopted; standardizes the warrant article question language for the adoption of school district and town budget caps; and establishes staggered effective dates enabling the DRA to update forms and the DRA Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal, while enforcement provisions are effective in April 2027. Importantly, these changes are technical and clarifying in nature and do not impose new caps or expand existing caps beyond those already approved by local voters or available in law. In summary, this bill respects local voter decisions to adopt budget and tax caps, improves transparency, provides clear and uniform compliance standards, and ensures fair and consistent application and enforcement of existing law. **Vote 10-8.** Rep. Stephanie Grund for the **Minority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill requires those municipalities and school districts with a budget or tax cap to submit a form to prove they are in compliance with local budget and tax caps. The concern is that the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) would need to update their system and create a form to be submitted at a minimum cost of \$75,000 for only two (2) school districts and six (6) towns that have a budget or tax cap. When warrant articles are presented to the legislative body for voting, the local tax or budget cap is reached based on the order the warrant articles are presented. However, the DRA could calculate the tax or budget cap differently, if they determine that there is priority article and they may take them in a different order than presented. Testimony was presented and the DRA stated that they are not aware of and there is no proof that school districts and towns are doing anything wrong or incorrectly. This bill is not needed and it would cost money to create another document to be filed and adjustments to the DRA system for a total of eight (8) entities that would be required to submit documentation under this bill.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

HB 1607-FN, relative to the use and storage of road salt. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Bill Boyd for Public Works and Highways. This bill, as amended, addresses how road salt is stored. The nature of the problem is that water travels. If salt leaches into the groundwater or surface water, it can pollute our lakes, ponds and streams which fill our aquifers and feed our wells. The bill gives municipalities

and businesses sufficient time to comply. The NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) could issue rules regarding salt storage within approximately six months of the effective date of the statute with a compliance schedule as well. While statute enforcement could be burdensome on DES, the committee determined through testimony that significant voluntary compliance would occur improving the overall water quality. We were also reassured that enforcement would not be overly burdensome on small businesses. The committee recognized that additional financial impacts impose a great burden upon municipal and county entities. This bill gives municipal and county entities sufficient flexibility and latitude in their timeline compliance by which funds are raised to build salt storage facilities. The committee was unanimous in its Ought to Pass with Amendment recommendation. **Vote 15-0.**

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB 1301-FN, increasing certain mooring fees and directing such funds to the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Will Darby for Resources, Recreation and Development. Over the last several years, cyanobacteria has spread across an increasing number of New Hampshire's lakes, closing beaches, threatening tourism, and keeping people from enjoying the water during the short summer period. The cyanobacterial mitigation loan and grant fund was established to help lake communities reduce the blooms causing these closures but, with no sustained funding source, it has run out of money. This bill increases existing annual mooring fees, which have not changed since the 1980s, by \$25 with the increase targeting the cyanobacteria mitigation fund. While no single funding source can fully address the need to reduce the threat of cyanobacteria blooms, this bill follows the New Hampshire model where those who use a resource should contribute to it. The amendment clarifies the increase applies to all mooring types - public, congregate, and private. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1426-FN, requiring the department of environmental services to employ certified personnel in each program area. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Pierre Dupont for Resources, Recreation and Development. Testimony indicated questions and concerns of the public over who in the Department of Environmental Services (DES) is reviewing and approving their applications and related matters. The bill, as amended, was supported by DES and provides for the department to seek, through recruitment and retention efforts, training or state contracting, to ensure that at least one certified individual will address program-related matters and any issues that may arise in the course of its operations. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1530-FN, requiring notification of abutters and public review prior to disturbing beaver dams in non-emergency situations. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Tanya Donnelly for the **Majority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill, which mandates a 30-day notification period and public review before addressing beaver dams in non-emergency situations, poses a serious threat to the efficiency and reliability of our state's critical road infrastructure, especially for the logging industry. Our loggers depend on timely access to well-maintained roads to transport timber and keep our rural economy thriving. Imposing a month-long delay before removing beaver dams or lowering water levels would force logging operations to halt or shift to less optimal work sites. This not only increases operational costs and disrupts schedules but also risks leaving essential roadways impassable, jeopardizing both commerce and public safety. Beavers do not follow our calendars; they can cause flooding and road damage at any time. The flexibility to respond quickly is essential. Current regulations already ensure responsible management and oversight. Adding more red tape through this bill is unnecessary and counterproductive. Our logging industry, rural communities, and the integrity of our roadways were all considered in voting on this bill. **Vote 9-7.** Rep. Allison Knab for the **Minority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill was drafted in response to issues across the state with property owners partially or completely removing beaver impoundments, or installing flow devices, and not notifying abutters who are substantially impacted by these changes. The legislation would require notification and a public meeting before removal, thereby allowing landowners, adjacent property owners, and municipalities an opportunity to understand and discuss the impacts. This bill respects the rights of all property owners and recognizes potential impacts on home values and homesteading activities. It would also reduce the calls and time spent by the NH Fish and Game Department on issues related to beaver impoundments. The minority amendment would address concerns raised in the hearing by avoiding extra costs to the NH Fish and Game Department, clarifying the definition of abutter, removing concerns about cleaning culverts, and eliminating the public meeting requirement when all neighbors agree on the work being proposed. It would also exempt land managed by the State of New Hampshire.

HB 1655-FN, establishing a funding source for maintaining state owned dams. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Will Darby for the **Majority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. Lakes in New Hampshire are treasured for their natural beauty, recreational opportunities, and role in the state's essential tourism

economy. The vast majority of these lakes have dams, which raise the water to the level enjoyed and expected by summer lake-lovers. The dams were built long ago, and the state took ownership of many of them in the mid twentieth century. Over time, maintenance has fallen behind due to lack of funds, and now approximately \$300 million are needed to repair “high-hazard” dams, defined as likely resulting in loss of life if the dam should fail. While intimidating, NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) states catastrophe can be avoided with annual funding of approximately \$16 million. However, on average, only \$7.5 million is available annually from a combination of diminishing hydropower leases, the capital budget, and general funds. This bill helps to close that gap by charging a fee of \$100 annually to waterfront property owners and \$50 to those with deeded access to waterbodies impounded by state owned dams. Since the lake water level controlled by dams directly contributes to property values and recreational opportunities, this bill adheres to the Granite State tradition of asking those who benefit from a resource to contribute in helping to pay for it. As the funds raised only partially address the gap, additional sources will continue to be sought to avoid overburdening a single group. The fee is collected by municipalities and sent to the Department of Revenue Administration for deposit into the existing dam maintenance fund administered by DES. The amendment clarifies language as requested by the DES. **Vote 10-6.** Rep. Tanya Donnelly for the **Minority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill is fundamentally flawed in equity and fiscal policy. This bill singles out waterfront property owners for new annual fees: \$100 for direct access, \$50 for deeded rights, despite the fact that state-owned dams provide broad public benefits, including flood control, recreation, and environmental protection, enjoyed by all residents, not just those living on the water. Waterfront owners already pay higher property taxes due to elevated assessments, with no current statewide dam maintenance fees, making this proposal a form of unfair targeting of waterfront property owners. Moreover, the revenue generated would be negligible relative to the \$400 million backlog in dam repairs; only gets the money backlog 1/2 way there. This approach unfairly burdens a small group while failing to solve the underlying infrastructure crisis. Other states successfully fund dam maintenance through general revenue, bonds, and federal grants, mechanisms that distribute costs equitably and leverage substantial outside resources. New Hampshire should pursue these proven, broad-based solutions rather than imposing narrow, insufficient fees on lakefront property owners.

HB 1664-FN, directing the department of natural and cultural resources to remove the Hannah Duston Memorial in Boscawen. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Tanya Donnelly for the **Majority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. Removing the Hannah Duston Memorial is unnecessary and disregards the thorough research already conducted by our legislature and experts. The late 1600s were an incredibly dangerous time for women in New England. As Jay Atkinson details in “Massacre on the Merrimack,” women like Hannah Duston endured unimaginable hardships, including abduction, the brutal murder of her six-week-old baby, the safety of her other children, and the constant threat of being sold into slavery. Hannah’s captivity, vengeance, and escape are not world-historical events... but a uniquely American anecdote that vividly symbolizes the brutal struggle for this time for all. Atkinson further notes that Duston’s ordeal was not unique but emblematic of the era’s brutality. Hannah Duston is also the first woman in America to be honored with a statue. In 2016, HB 1397 created a study committee that produced a comprehensive 23-page report addressing this very issue, concluding that the statue should remain as a valuable educational tool and a testament to the hardships faced by all. The testimony presented highlighted many changes to this site, and future changes are expected based on the study committee’s report. The majority of the committee did not believe a new site advisory council was necessary. If passed, this bill ignores both the historical complexity of this era and the diligent work already completed. **Vote 9-7.**

Rep. Gregory Sargent for the **Minority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. The minority agrees that the Hannah Duston memorial should not be removed and that this bill as introduced should not pass. However, the minority recommends that the House adopt amendment 2026-0174h, which would establish a Hannah Duston memorial site advisory council. The council would include membership from the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Department of Transportation, a Boscawen representative, historians with relevant subject-matter expertise, a Duston family representative, and representation by the local Native population, among others. This approach creates a structured, accountable process to deliver a practical plan for stewardship, interpretation, and public use. A 2016 study committee focused primarily on site improvements and the feasibility of connecting trail systems, and few of its recommendations have been implemented. While that work has value, it does not address the central issue now before the House: ensuring the Hannah Duston site communicates the full historical context, including the later-era reasons for Duston’s memorialization and the inclusion of Native perspectives—as well as the broader context for why the statue was erected. Supporting this legislation is the more historically responsible and economically prudent course, and it is far more likely to produce a lasting, community-supported result: a site that tells the full history and makes the island a constructive destination for Boscawen and New Hampshire residents.

HB 1768-FN, relative to free day-use admission and metered parking at state parks for all honorably discharged state resident veterans. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Nicholas Bridle for Resources, Recreation and Development. The committee supports this legislation as a meaningful and appropriate way to honor the service and sacrifice of New Hampshire resident veterans by ensuring free parking at state parks, improving access to the state's recreational and natural resources for those who have served our country. The committee devoted focused discussion to the amendment which addresses gifts and donations. Members supported the amended language as a necessary policy improvement that removes unnecessary administrative barriers and clarifies the process by which veterans' organizations, advocacy groups, and community partners may voluntarily contribute resources to support park operations. The committee noted that this approach creates a practical opportunity to help offset costs associated with the veteran parking benefit without imposing new fees or mandates. The committee further emphasized that the amended language preserves state control over park operations, maintains appropriate oversight and executive council approval, and promotes fiscal responsibility while allowing greater flexibility for cooperative support. In doing so, the committee concluded that this legislation not only recognizes veterans' service in a tangible way but reflects the state's ongoing commitment to honoring those who have served. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1837-FN, relative to the New Hampshire marine patrol. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Will Darby for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill was requested on behalf of the Department of Safety to reduce inconsistencies and resolve technical issues in existing statute. It consists of changes to include allowing boating violations to be resolved by paying a fine rather than forcing defendants (and Marine Patrol) to appear in court; applying the violation of riding on gunwales to the boat operator rather than the passenger, which is typically a child; removing the redundant specification of public and congregate mooring fees; clarifying the requirement to clearly display boat registration numbers; and removing outdated approaches to boater safety training, which have been replaced by the existing safe boater education statute starting with RSA 270-D:10. The amendment corrects some language in the original bill, and changes the effective date to allow this bill to apply during the 2026 boating season. **Vote 16-0.**

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

HB 1002, repealing the solar energy systems tax exemption. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. JD Bernardy for the **Majority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill is not about clean or less expensive energy but is instead about fairness to taxpayers. It repeals the current exemption from property taxes for solar systems, which allows property owners to enhance the value of their property while avoiding an assessment adjustment that would increase taxes. This avoidance spreads the responsibility for taxes to all the other taxpayers in a municipality. This exemption negatively affects the least affluent taxpayers who must pay more in taxes while likely being less able to afford the upfront costs of acquiring their own solar system. Enacting this bill will restore the state constitution's requirement that "no class of men" shall be economically elevated over any other. The majority believes that bills like this one strengthen local control by protecting it from being hijacked by local factions. **Vote 10-6.** Rep. Kat McGhee for the **Minority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill repeals the solar energy systems tax exemption that allows towns to opt into solar energy tax exemptions if it fits their plans to lower local energy demand and costs. One hundred and fifty three cities and towns are using this exemption to support local sustainable energy adoption. The Hudson tax assessor was sent by his select board to ask us not to pass this bill. The tax impact was 'in the noise' and the town was committed to the exemption. Passing this bill upends traditional respect for local control. In every case of the towns who will be affected by this if it goes forward, voters spoke on what they thought was best. The minority believes passing this bill tells them they were wrong.

HB 1542-FN, relative to renewable energy fund compliance payments. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jeanine Notter for the **Majority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill puts money back in the pockets of ratepayers. It does so by refunding certain ratepayer costs resulting from the renewable portfolio standard (RPS). As amended, this bill will rebate Alternative Compliance Payments (ACP) back to the ratepayers, like rebated funds from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). **Vote 10-6.** Rep. Thomas Cormen for the **Minority** of Science, Technology and Energy. The bill, as amended, rebates all money in the Renewable Energy Fund, except for income received on investments, to the ratepayers on a per-kilowatt-hour basis. Though the rebate to each customer would be small, the Renewable Energy Fund will be severely depleted, and the following programs would lose most, if not all, of their funding: the residential electrical renewable energy rebate program, the residential solar hot water heating rebate program, the residential central wood pellet boiler/furnace heating system rebate program, low/moderate income community solar, the commercial and industrial solar technologies rebate program, the commercial and industrial central wood pellet boiler/furnace rebate program, and the commercial and industrial competitive grant program. The minority views this as a terrible tradeoff.

HB 1738-FN, relative to ratepayer benefits from the regional greenhouse gas initiative. **OUGHT TO PASS.** Rep. Michael Harrington for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill extends NH's involvement in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) with needed updates. If NH does not update its RGGI program, the current revenue would not continue as NH's allowances would not be consistent with the required RGGI program elements and would not be offered for sale during RGGI auctions. This would result in negative impacts on NH ratepayers as they would continue to pay RGGI costs in wholesale electricity rates but would not get the RGGI rebates from the allowance auctions. Bottom line, it would cost NH ratepayers up to \$68 million. **Vote 16-0.**

TRANSPORTATION

HB 1176-FN, relative to the display of license plates on vehicles. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Henry Giasson for the **Majority** of Transportation. As amended, the bill would allow passenger cars to display only the rear license plate. Any vehicle with apparatus in tow or any commercial vehicle must still display both license plates. Further, the majority believes that most operators will still affix both license plates, but for vehicles without a front mounting plate this gives the freedom to choose to the vehicle's owner. There is precedent in law for the display of only one plate. With anniversary and special order plates such as the bicentennial plate, the 300 year anniversary Nashua plate, and the fact that legislative plates are not required to be displayed in pairs has tested the efficacy of having only the rear plate on display. Further, this has not been a concern for motorcycles which only display a rear plate that is half the size of a car's license plate. **Vote 9-7.** Rep. Daniel Veilleux for the **Minority** of Transportation. This bill partially repeals the requirement for vehicles to display a front license plate. It would continue to require a front plate on commercial vehicles and on any vehicle towing a trailer that obscures the rear plate. While this represents a compromise compared to prior proposals that fully repealed the front plate requirement, it still raises concerns about the ability of public safety officials to reliably identify vehicles in situations where the rear plate is obscured or where the front plate is the primary means of identification, such as in amber alerts, silver alerts, and BOLOs. The bill also raises practical and financial concerns related to vehicle identification in tolling systems and paid parking facilities, particularly in locations where vehicles park nose-in.

HB 1421-FN, modifying title exemptions for motor vehicles manufactured before the year 2000. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Henry Giasson for the **Majority** of Transportation. As amended, the bill legislates that any vehicle who's manufactured model year is older than 20 years is exempt from the need to title a motor vehicle upon purchase or transfer. This restores the rolling title exemption as it was prior to 2018 but sets it at 20 years as opposed to 15 years. Further, any vehicle over 20 years old which falls into an exempt status may electively be titled by the owner provided that they submit the proper documentation to establish chain of custody and ownership at the point when a title application is submitted. The majority of the committee believes that this will meet the standard to prevent fraud with the vehicles that are most 'at risk' while alleviating the time, expense, and difficulty of re-titling older vehicles. Additionally, if a person believes that they get more benefit from maintaining a title, this amendment allows for them to electively apply for a title despite exempt status. **Vote 10-5.** Rep. Seth Miller for the **Minority** of Transportation. Issuance of titles is a valuable service provided by the state, to help ensure chain of ownership of vehicles, and delivered at reasonable price. While this bill, as amended, strikes a reasonable compromise on when titles are required, the minority feels that requiring titles for all passenger vehicles is the appropriate policy for the state.

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 1409-FN, modifying the deposit of revenues collected from video lottery terminals. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Brian Cole for the **Majority** of Ways and Means. This bill strips the general fund of up to \$93.9 million per year and provides no alternative revenue to backfill the loss. The fiscal note openly admits this is a net-zero shell game, not new funding for education. Every dollar shifted to the Education Trust Fund is a dollar removed from essential core state services like public safety, mental health, infrastructure, and municipal aid. At a time when New Hampshire is facing budget pressure, workforce shortages, and rising costs, deliberately eliminating tens of millions in flexible general fund revenue is fiscally reckless. By hardwiring 100% of video lottery terminal revenue into the Education Trust Fund, it removes the ability to respond to changing economic conditions. Earmarking by statute reduces transparency and shifts decisions away from a biannual budget process where priorities should be debated openly. It also sets a dangerous precedent by reassigning general fund revenues to politically favored silos, which would affect every other revenue stream. This weakens long-term fiscal stability. **Vote 11-8.** Rep. Thomas Oppel for the **Minority** of Ways and Means. When New Hampshire became the first state to adopt a statewide lottery in 1964, citizens were assured proceeds

beyond administration and prizes would go to support public education. That commitment was solidified in 1990 when citizens voted to add to the state's constitution that lottery "moneys shall . . . be appropriated and used exclusively . . . for the purpose of state aid to education and shall not be transferred or diverted to any other purpose" (N.H. Const. pt. 2, Art. 6-b). But proceeds from video lottery terminals (VLTs) are being diverted, contravening our constitution and the explicit wish of the voters. VLTs have the word "lottery" in their name, are overseen by the state's Lottery Commission, which was established when the first statewide lottery was established. There is no reasonable argument that they do not fall under the same constitutional requirement. This bill restores our commitment to the voters and our constitutional obligations by requiring all proceeds beyond administrative costs, including prizes and charitable contributions, to be paid into the Education Trust Fund. The minority amendment only changes the effective date to July 1, 2027 to ease administration of this change.

HB 1580-FN-LOCAL, relative to the taxation of non-primary residences. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. James Tierney for the **Majority** of Ways and Means. This bill proposes to tax non-primary residences. Non-primary residences are defined as "any residential property, including single-family homes, condominiums, or mobile homes, that is not the owner's principal place of abode." The test for residency is different than residency in other statutes. Enforcing this proposed law could be difficult and problematic. Public testimony was very much opposed to this bill. Why should a property owner have a higher tax simply because he/she chooses to own investment property or a vacation home? Additionally, this may be unconstitutional, as they would be taxed differently than other homes. **Vote 16-3.** Rep. Thomas Schamberg for the **Minority** of Ways and Means. This bill seeks to open a new revenue stream by taxing non-primary residences valued over \$500,000 that are left unoccupied for more than 183 days out of the year at a rate of three quarters of a percentage point. The minority of the committee recognizes the legislature looks to find alternative revenue that shifts the tax burden away from the over-reliance on property tax. The minority believes that this is a small step towards the goal of finding a new form of revenue that moves the state away from property taxation without implementation of broad-based taxes. This bill mandates that all monies raised go directly back to the community in which it was raised to be used for the specific purpose of reducing local municipal taxes. The minority of the committee believes that at a time when many of our citizens can't begin to afford one home and our state is saddled by ever rising property taxation, a new revenue source from non-primary residences left unoccupied for more than 183 days out of the year is appropriate.

HB 1596-FN, relative to the collection of certain health care program premiums; funding for the university system of New Hampshire; and raising the tobacco tax. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Brian Cole for the **Majority** of Ways and Means. Raising the tobacco tax from \$1.78 to \$2.80 per pack significantly erodes New Hampshire's long-standing competitive advantage of low taxes. Border communities rely on price differentials to attract commerce from neighboring states. A sharp increase of this magnitude risks driving consumers to purchase tobacco products elsewhere, thus reducing in-state retail activity and ultimately weakening the revenue stream the bill depends on. The bill also creates a permanent \$18 million annual appropriation to the University System of New Hampshire while simultaneously repealing health-care programs that were designed to offset general fund costs. According to the fiscal note, this results in approximately \$34 million per year in new general fund expenses beginning in fiscal year 2027. By repealing premiums for Children's Health Insurance Program and the Granite Advantage Program, the bill shifts costs away from program participants and onto all taxpayers. These premiums were intentionally implemented to help control costs and reduce pressure on the general fund. Eliminating them increases state expenditures by an estimated \$16 million annually with no corresponding cost containment measures, weakening fiscal discipline and expanding government obligations without reform. This legislation raises taxes, expands recurring spending, and relies on uncertain revenue while dismantling existing cost sharing mechanisms. It threatens New Hampshire low-tax identity and creates long term budgetary pressure that will be difficult to unwind. **Vote 11-8.** Rep. Terry Spahr for the **Minority** of Ways and Means. Like the 90 other flat fees that were raised last year in the budget, the minority recommends raising the flat cigarette tax for the first time in 13 years to adjust for inflation. This adjustment would bring enormous relief to the \$67 million of losses suffered in 2025 in the state budget and halt the possible loss of tens of millions of dollars in 2026. Besides a smart financial decision for the state, this adjustment should likely encourage some remaining smokers to quit, lowering future health costs to themselves and to our state. It would also enormously benefit businesses in New Hampshire which lose a whopping \$1.5 billion dollars every year in productivity from workers who smoke and are unable to perform their work. Politically, financially, and medically, passing this bill is a no-brainer in making New Hampshire stronger.

HB 1810-FN, relative to a road salt fee to support certified winter road maintenance practices. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Jordan Ulery for the **Majority** of Ways and Means. All members of the committee agreed that salt pollution is an issue that needs to be reviewed by the policy committee. Questions were raised regarding what fee level would produce the best results. This bill would add a \$4 per ton fee to road salt purchases in an attempt to get more people to participate in the existing Green Snow Pro program offered by the NH Department of Transportation (DOT) which teaches how to use less salt and shields certified contractors from some liability. DOT reported that road salt was being more appropriately applied in general. While the goal is laudable, the \$4 per ton fee would have the effect of raising costs to keep people safe on winter roads with a fee that would have an unknowable effect in terms of getting people to sign up for the Green Snow Pro program. Discussion during the presentation revealed that the program currently provided liability protection to applicators as a result of the current fee paid for the training and certification. In addition, discussion revealed that making the program better known through advertising, getting businesses and municipalities to require best practices in their salt/sand contracts, as well as educating salt application contractors would be more valuable than increasing the salt purchase fee to change behavior. **Vote 11-8.** Rep. Thomas Schamberg for the **Minority** of Ways and Means. The minority supports this bill because it establishes a responsible, sustainable framework for reducing chloride pollution through a modest road salt fee that funds certified winter maintenance practices. This bill establishes a road salt fee to fund a mitigation program and requires certification for bulk road salt providers. Road salt contamination has harmed New Hampshire's rivers and aquatic ecosystems, enhanced cyanobacterial blooms, and affects drinking water supplies. This bill as presented provides the necessary resources to ensure proper handling, training, and mitigation. By promoting best practices, certification, and improved environmental stewardship, this bill strengthens public health protection and safeguards water quality for future generations. This bill represents a balanced, evidence-based approach that supports both municipal operations and statewide environmental needs.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 159, GP

10:00 a.m. Continued executive session on any remaining bills from February 4, 2026.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

EDUCATION FUNDING, Room 232, GP

10:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1803-FN**, rendering a recipient of an education tax credit scholarship ineligible to receive education freedom account funds in the same program year; **HB 1827-FN-A**, establishing a grant program to support school districts extraordinary needs and fiscal capacity disparities relative to providing an adequate education; **HB 1557-FN**, modifying the state average expenditure per pupil relative to students in special education; **HB 1776-FN**, requiring higher educational institutions to report the reception of foreign grants, donations, and contracts to the department of education and the general court; **HB 1826-FN**, relative to the cost of an opportunity for an adequate education; **HB 1799-FN**, relative to required state funding for providing an opportunity for an adequate education; **HB 1831-FN**, repealing the education trust fund targeted aid cap.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 17-N:1), Room 234, GP

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, Room 228, GP

9:00 a.m. Continued public hearing on **HB 1287**, adopting the federal definition of "veteran."
9:15 a.m. **HCR 13**, requesting Congress to call a constitutional convention relative to implementing term limits for elected members of both houses of Congress.
9:45 a.m. **HCR 16**, applying for a convention of the states under Article V of the Constitution of the United States.
10:30 a.m. **HR 34**, declaring that Sharia law and political Islam represent an existential threat to the state and country and that any deference to Sharia law by a government institution is prohibited.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

EDUCATION POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 232, GP

10:00 a.m. **HB 1331**, enabling the town of Derry to absorb the Derry cooperative school district.

10:30 a.m. **HB 1374**, relative to the procedures for withdrawal from a cooperative school district.

11:00 a.m. **HB 1644**, permitting towns to unilaterally withdraw from a cooperative school district.

1:00 p.m. **HB 1191**, relative to parental notice for non-academic surveys in public schools.

1:30 p.m. **HB 1688**, expanding the circumstances where the restraint is permitted in schools and treatment facilities and modifying the definition of seclusion.

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

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 234, GP

10:00 a.m. Division work session on retained **HB 241-FN**, relative to health insurance coverage of pain management services for the management of chronic pain; **HB 629-FN**, raising the cost of a boat decal fee and allocating the funds collected by such fees to the dam maintenance fund; **HB 1411-FN**, directing the state treasurer to withhold payments owed by the state to the federal government where the state has been deprived of federal aid as a result of presidential executive order; **HB 1042**, raising the unified contingent credit limit.

FINANCE - DIVISION II, Room 228, GP

10:30 a.m. Division work session on retained **HB 112-FN**, requiring students in the university and community college systems of New Hampshire to pass the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services civics naturalization test, take a course that covers fundamental American documents as part of the general education curriculum, or pass a civics course competency test; **HB 1399-FN**, making an appropriation to the Claremont school district for costs associated with a building renovation project from the revenue stabilization reserve account.

FINANCE - DIVISION III, Room 230, GP

10:00 a.m. Division work session on retained **HB 661-FN**, relative to the department of health and human services management of social security payments, supplemental security income payments, and veterans benefits for children in foster care; **HB 1515-FN**, repealing the child care grant program administered by the department of health and human services; **HB 1566-FN-A**, making a contingent appropriation to the department of health and human services for the purpose of providing recruitment and benefit grants to child care employers; **HB 1569-FN**, repealing the directive that the state sell the Anna Philbrook Center for Children property in Concord; **HB 1750-FN**, making a supplemental appropriation to the department of health and human services for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

HEALTH CARE CONSUMER PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 7:6-h), Dept. of Justice, Press Room, 1 Granite Place South, Concord

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

JUDICIARY, Room 158, GP

10:00 a.m. **HB 1631-FN**, relative to the contents of the attorney general's annual report detailing state forfeiture information for the preceding fiscal year.

10:30 a.m. **HB 1634**, establishing state court remedies for violations of state and federal law by federal employees.

11:00 a.m. **HB 1665**, relative to the issuance of subpoenas in administrative proceedings.

11:30 a.m. **HB 1684**, establishing a free speech advisory commission.

1:00 p.m. **HB 1702-FN**, relative to notice requirements and enforcement for pharmacies dispensing medications intended to induce chemical abortions.

1:30 p.m. **HB 1769-FN**, relative to certain prohibitions on abortion referrals by publicly funded medical facilities.

2:00 p.m. **HB 1801-FN**, relative to causes of action for wrongful detention, drug forfeiture proceedings, the regulation of law enforcement officers, and the offense of unsworn falsification.

2:30 p.m. **HR 28**, requesting the opinion of the justices clarifying the scope of the state's constitutional obligations concerning education.

3:00 p.m. **HR 29**, requesting an opinion of the justices on the scope of part II, article 4 of the New Hampshire constitution, as well as other related articles.

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

NEW HAMPSHIRE CANADIAN TRADE COUNCIL (RSA 12-O:22), BEA, 100 North Main Street, Caswell Conference Room, Concord

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING (RSA 125-Q), Walker Room #100, 21 S. Fruit Street, Concord (VR building)

1:00 p.m. Organizational meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 485-F:4), NH Department of Environmental Services, Rooms 313 + 314, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord

9:10 a.m. Subcommittee meeting.

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE OPIOID ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 126-A:85), DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, One Granite Place South, Room 107, Concord

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 229, GP

9:00 a.m. **HB 1535**, relative to clarifying eligible renewable energy classes under the renewable portfolio standard.

9:30 a.m. **HB 1577**, relative to the disclosure of utility customer data to municipalities for emergency response planning.

10:00 a.m. **HB 1666-FN**, requiring capacity planning in the state 10-year energy strategy. Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

11:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1567**, relative to the valuation of telecommunications use of public rights-of-way; **HB 1718-FN**, relative to authorizing energy storage in connection with net metering.

1:00 p.m. **HB 1685**, relative to establishing a technology commission to study making New Hampshire a technology-first state.

2:00 p.m. **HB 1722**, relative to consumer protections and energy classifications for large-use electric facilities.

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

3:00 p.m. Executive session on **HB 1741-FN**, relative to the enrollment and use of distributed energy resource aggregations by electric utilities; **HB 1777-FN**, relative to the enhanced 911 system fund; **HB 1775-FN**, relative to utility ownership of natural gas and nuclear power generation facilities; **HB 1748-FN**, establishing the New Hampshire energy efficiency and resource development authority.

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

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89065895282> Meeting ID: 890 6589 5282

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND OTHER RELATED DEMENTIA (RSA 126-A:15-a), Room 100, SH

3:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 159, GP

1:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 1420-FN**, creating a temporary local newspaper advertisement tax credit.

10:00 a.m. Full committee work session on **HB 1194-FN**, relative to credits for assessments paid by insurers; **HB 1068**, relative to the meaning of "hotel" as it pertains to meals and rooms taxation; **HB 1474-FN**, relative to the formula of distribution of revenue from the meals and rooms tax; **HB 1787-FN**, modifying the statewide education property tax; **HB 1800-FN**, relative to statewide education property taxes; **HB 1433-FN**, creating a child care tax credit for qualifying businesses; **HB 1646-FN**, creating an off-site infrastructure improvement tax credit for the value of qualified off-site infrastructure improvements constructed or funded by business organizations that directly benefit the public; **HB 1435-FN**, relative to changes to the Winnepesaukee river basin control replacement fund.

11:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1194-FN**, relative to credits for assessments paid by insurers; **HB 1068**, relative to the meaning of "hotel" as it pertains to meals and rooms taxation; **HB 1474-FN**, relative to the formula of distribution of revenue from the meals and rooms tax; **HB 1787-FN**, modifying the statewide education property tax; **HB 1800-FN**, relative to statewide education property taxes; **HB 1433-FN**, creating a child care tax credit for qualifying businesses; **HB**

1646-FN, creating an off-site infrastructure improvement tax credit for the value of qualified off-site infrastructure improvements constructed or funded by business organizations that directly benefit the public; **HB 1435-FN**, relative to changes to the Winnepesaukee river basin control replacement fund.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW, Room 230, GP

- 10:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1036**, relative to the maximum duration of term alimony; **HB 1225**, relative to the definition of adjusted gross income with respect to child support guidelines; **HB 1228**, relative to the enforcement of alimony orders; **HB 1229**, relative to waivers of alimony; **HB 1779-FN**, supporting the cultural background of children placed in foster care; **HB 652-FN**, abolishing the family division, creating the office of family mediation, and reassigning the jurisdiction of the family division.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1376**, relative to a parent's ability to raise their child in a manner consistent with the child's biological sex.
- Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, Room 159, GP

- 1:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 1744-FN**, relative to oversight and reporting requirements for health insurance carriers regarding mental health coverage; **HB 1056**, establishing a commission to study the impacts of reinsurance on the cost and availability of property insurance in New Hampshire; **HB 1765-FN**, enabling wine and beverage manufacturers to offer tastings of and sell products of certain New Hampshire wine and beverage manufacturers; **HB 1491**, relative to pooled risk management programs.

COMMISSION TO STUDY STABLE TOKENS, TOKENIZED REAL-WORLD ASSETS, AND BLOCK-CHAIN-BASED TRUSTS FRAMEWORKS (RSA 383:26), NH Banking Department Conference Room, Suite 200, 53 Regional Drive, Concord

- 3:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

EDUCATION FUNDING, Room 232, GP

- 10:00 a.m. **HB 1121**, defining the cost of an adequate education.
- Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

ELECTION LAW, Room 158, GP

- 10:00 a.m. **HB 1667-FN**, establishing the first-in-the-nation security task force to coordinate planning for presidential campaign events.
- 10:10 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1600-FN**, requiring the division of motor vehicles to make available the opportunity to register to vote at the time of application for or renewal of a drivers license or nondrivers identification card.
- 10:20 a.m. **HB 1601-FN**, requiring the secretary of state to create a voter education program that includes information on recent changes to voting laws.
- 10:40 a.m. **HB 1391**, establishing a commission to study the implementation of a single ballot primary election.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 1330**, allowing all registered voters to vote in state and presidential primaries regardless of declared party affiliation.
- 11:20 a.m. **HB 1388**, relative to the form of ballot for amendments to the constitution.
- 11:40 a.m. **HB 1277**, relative to proof of identification on absentee ballot applications.
- Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 153, GP

- 9:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 1621-FN**, requiring a baseline environmental impact study to be completed prior to development of certain manufacturing and storage facilities.
- 10:00 a.m. Full committee work session on **HB 1621-FN**, requiring a baseline environmental impact study to be completed prior to development of certain manufacturing and storage facilities; **HB 1622-FN**, requiring the state to develop additional solid waste disposal capacity; **HB 1053**, establishing a study committee to determine if and how the department of agriculture could receive electronically-submitted pesticide use reports; **HB 1780**, increasing penalties for persons violating laws relative to the sale of seeds, plants, and nursery stock; **HB 1186**, relative to the sale and labeling of eggs; **HB 1013**, prohibiting games in which the object is to capture a pig; **HB 1766-FN**, relative to cruelty to livestock.

- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1096**, establishing a committee to study ways to manage disposal of vapes and e-cigarettes.
- 1:15 p.m. **HB 1192**, exempting certain household pharmaceutical wastes from the definition of hazardous waste.
- 1:30 p.m. **HB 1620**, establishing closure and remediation requirements for abandoned or leaking on-premises-use fuel oil tanks and requiring disclosure of tank status during property sales.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 1282**, establishing a commission to advise the department of environmental services on food waste diversion.
- 2:45 p.m. **HB 1275**, relative to the effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on agriculture.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

HOUSING, Room 231, GP

- 9:00 a.m. **HB 1613-FN**, directing the department of business and economic affairs to produce a report detailing methods to increase lending practices for housing developments that help persons with disabilities.
- 9:30 a.m. **HB 1021**, amending the date to provide written notice to a municipality of a taxpayer's election to be assessed under the low-income housing tax credit program.
- 10:00 a.m. **HB 1026**, relative to the definition of manufactured housing.
- 10:30 a.m. **HB 1050**, establishing the right to provide educational instruction in municipally zoned and non-zoned areas.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 1218**, relative to the disclosure of rights and responsibilities during the sale of a mobile home in a mobile home park.
- 11:30 a.m. **HB 1251**, relative to restricting municipal downzoning inconsistent with existing neighborhood density.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1764-FN**, establishing community workforce housing targets, special assessment provisions, and a revolving loan fund for workforce housing development.
- 1:30 p.m. **HB 1432**, relative to electric utility rate classification and cost allocation for condominium associations.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 1517-FN**, relative to certain residential property interests controlled by certain entities.
- 2:30 p.m. Continued public hearing on **HB 1295**, relative to eligibility requirements for charitable and nonprofit housing projects.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, Room 159, GP

- 10:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1245-FN**, relative to voluntary portable benefits plans for independent contractors; **HB 1767-FN**, relative to unemployment compensation eligibility and weekly benefit amounts; **HB 1188**, relative to noncompete agreements for low-wage employees; **HB 1705-FN**, establishing an employee assistance program for small town and volunteer first responders and making an appropriation therefor; **HB 1484**, establishing a state minimum wage and providing for incremental increases.
- 11:30 a.m. Presentation on the State Unemployment System from Rich Lavers, Commissioner, NH Employment Security.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 154, GP

- 9:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1427-FN**, limiting the authority of a municipality, county, or school district to issue bonds.
- 9:25 a.m. **HB 1386**, enabling citizens in a municipality to vote to require that a financial audit of the local school district take place.
- 9:45 a.m. **HB 1135**, prohibiting the acquisition of prescriptive rights in private roads through adverse use.
- 10:05 a.m. **HB 1181-FN**, relative to public hearing notice requirements for zoning board of adjustment appeals.
- 10:30 a.m. **HB 1195**, relative to municipal zoning requirements for child day care providers.
- 11:10 a.m. **HB 1303**, authorizing municipalities to adopt zoning ordinances related to the protection, management, or replacement of tree canopy.
- 11:35 a.m. **HB 1327**, relative to the definition of commercially-zoned land.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1351**, relative to uniform municipal standards for regulation of home-based businesses.
- 1:15 p.m. **HB 1473-FN**, relative to the use of agricultural fairground property.
- 1:40 p.m. **HB 1691**, relative to limitations and qualifications for land placed in current use.
- 2:10 p.m. **HB 1214**, relative to public libraries.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 229, GP

- 10:00 a.m. **HB 1724**, relative to public transparency of electric utility retail charges and cost reporting for transmission, wholesale electricity, capacity, and generation adequacy.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 1728-FN**, requiring sufficient cybersecurity protections for critical infrastructure and technology projects.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1733**, relative to default electric service procurement and the recovery of competitive market supply costs.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 1736**, repealing the authority of the public utilities commission to approve alternative forms of regulation for utilities.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

TRANSPORTATION, Room 234, GP

- 10:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1410-FN**, creating a new classification for electric vehicles; **HB 1415-FN**, establishing a special veterans license plate and creates a fund and administrative programs from the proceeds of the sale of such plates; **HB 1492-FN**, relative to the regulation and appeal of motor vehicle towing from public highways; **HB 1533-FN**, relative to the use of electric bicycles and alternative electric micromobility devices; **HB 1536-FN**, establishing penalties for unauthorized parking in designated electric vehicle and motorcycle spaces; **HB 1549**, establishing that titles, bills of sale, and identification documents are required only at initial registration or transfer of ownership; **HB 1560-FN**, relative to annual motor vehicle inspection standards and reinstatement; **HB 1682-FN**, relative to registration and road access for low-capacity and low-weight battery-operated vehicles; **HB 1698**, relative to electronic credentials; **HB 1758**, relative to school bus drivers' certificates.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11**COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, Room 229, GP**

- 10:00 a.m. **HB 1281**, establishing standards for the training of comfort dogs.
- 10:30 a.m. **HB 1208-FN**, relative to caller identification requirements for telemarketing calls.
- 10:45 a.m. **HB 1614-FN**, restricting the use of coal tar-based sealant products containing levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 1265**, prohibiting the construction of data centers in the state and establishing a committee to study the environmental impact of data centers.
- 1:15 p.m. **HB 1174-FN**, requiring all on-premises and off-premises licensees and state liquor stores to post visible signage warning of the potential health risks associated with alcohol use.
- 1:30 p.m. **HB 1315**, relative to the sale of tobacco products, e-cigarettes, devices, e-liquids, or alternative nicotine products.
- 1:45 p.m. **HB 1532**, relative to the maximum temperature for vape heating coils and other required safety measures.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 1538**, preventing vape products from being marketed towards minors.
- 2:15 p.m. **HB 1630-FN**, prohibiting the sale of nitrous oxide and certain inhalants for recreational purposes.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 159, GP

- 9:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 1051**, establishing a commission to study the creation of a statewide fingerprinting and background check database in New Hampshire.
- 10:00 a.m. **HB 1408-FN**, prohibiting public disclosure of personal information on the Internet by an elected official.
- 10:30 a.m. **HB 1366-FN**, relative to military orders of protection.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 1637**, relative to the scheduling of hearings on certain motions to modify or revoke bail.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

CURRENT USE BOARD (RSA 79-A:3), Department of Revenue Administration, Training Room, 109 Pleasant Street, Concord

- 1:00 p.m. Rulemaking hearing.
- 1:10 p.m. Regular meeting.

EDUCATION POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 232, GP

- 10:00 a.m. **HB 1700**, adding a non-voting student member to the state board of education.
- 10:20 a.m. **HB 1453**, relative to student school board members.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 1490**, requiring scholarship organizations to provide written notice to parents explaining the parents' requirement to provide written notice upon termination of a home education program.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1669**, establishing a teacher bill of rights.
- 1:30 p.m. **HB 1754-FN**, repealing the statewide use of the multi-tiered system of supports for behavioral health and wellness relative to systems of care for children's mental health.
- Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 153, GP

- 10:00 a.m. Full committee work session on **HB 1096**, establishing a committee to study ways to manage disposal of vapes and e-cigarettes; **HB 1192**, exempting certain household pharmaceutical wastes from the definition of hazardous waste; **HB 1620**, establishing closure and remediation requirements for abandoned or leaking on-premises-use fuel oil tanks and requiring disclosure of tank status during property sales; **HB 1282**, establishing a commission to advise the department of environmental services on food waste diversion; **HB 1275**, relative to the effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on agriculture.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 1018**, prohibiting the use of certain second generation anticoagulant rodenticides.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1676**, limiting consumer access to certain high-risk rodenticides.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 1138**, limiting the placement of out-of-state waste going into New Hampshire landfills.
- Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 231, GP

- 10:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1458-FN**, relative to the licensing of massage, reflexology, structural integration, and Asian bodywork facilities; **HB 1469-FN-A**, relative to the licensing and inspections requirements for massage therapy establishments, and making an appropriation therefor; **HB 1572-FN**, relative to the qualifications to obtain certain occupational licenses; **HB 1585-FN**, relative to environmental, social, and governance-related investment strategies by the state retirement system; **HB 1605-FN-A**, establishing a state office for intelligence and counterintelligence within the executive branch; **HB 1683-FN**, relative to the modification of administrative rules by the joint legislative committee on administrative rules; **HB 1457-FN**, relative to natural organic reduction of human remains; **HB 1555-FN**, relative to the administration and enforcement of the state fire code; **HB 1024**, prohibiting investments by the New Hampshire retirement system in businesses owned by a sitting president or their family; **HB 1052**, relative to qualifications for licensure as a LADC, or licensed alcohol and drug counselor; **HB 1109**, relative to notice and update requirements regarding state employee investigations; **HB 1328-FN**, relative to alcohol and other drug use professionals.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1675**, establishing a commission to investigate the New Hampshire Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence and requiring funding only be provided for the direct services materially benefitting survivors of sexual and domestic assault.
- Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS, Room 158, GP

- 9:00 a.m. **HB 1317**, relative to patient privacy protections.
- 10:00 a.m. **HB 1318**, renewing the committee to study non-pharmacological treatment options for patients with chronic pain.
- 10:30 a.m. **HB 1321**, relative to the regulation of the provision of elective intravenous therapy.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 1368**, establishing a committee to study the availability of and access to primary care providers, especially in rural areas of the state.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 1782-FN**, relative to access to rural maternal health care and directing the department of health and human services to develop a rural maternal health care delivery pilot program.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 1372**, establishing a commission to study the feasibility of reestablishing a state psychiatric hospital for adults with severe mental illness.
- 2:30 p.m. Executive session on **HB 1179**, relative to minimum nursing home staffing standards; **HB 1562-FN**, relative to licensing requirements for health care facilities that operate on a membership-based business model; **HB 1734-FN**, authorizing the establishment of experimental treatment

centers; **HB 1735-FN**, permitting treatment of certain severe illness under the right to try act; **HB 1784-FN**, relative to the health care consumer protection trust fund; **HB 1811-FN**, repealing statutory immunization requirements for children.

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

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATION (RSA 14:14-C), Room 122-123, SH

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

JUDICIARY, Room 230, GP

10:00 a.m. **HB 1233**, relative to the minutes of non-public sessions.

10:30 a.m. **HB 1260-FN**, relative to marriage registration forms and delayed certificates of marriage.

11:00 a.m. **HB 1276**, relative to the liability for death of a companion animal.

11:30 a.m. **HB 1283-FN**, relative to the use of face recognition technology.

1:00 p.m. **HB 1292-FN**, expanding the right to try act to include certain qualifying severe illness and permitting certain regenerative stem cell therapies under the act.

1:30 p.m. **HB 1297**, relative to property owned pursuant to the public trust doctrine.

2:00 p.m. **HB 1313-FN**, repealing buffer zones for reproductive health care facilities.

2:30 p.m. **HB 1356-FN**, relative to the statute of limitations for bringing a private right of action for violation of the statute prohibiting medical procedures and treatments intended to alter a minor's gender.

3:00 p.m. **HR 38**, authorizing and directing the house judiciary committee to investigate whether cause exists for the impeachment of any justice of the New Hampshire supreme court.

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

RACING AND CHARITABLE GAMING STUDY COMMISSION (RSA 284:6-c), 14 Integra Dr., Concord

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Room 228, GP

10:00 a.m. **HR 22**, to name a certain peak after Alan Shepard.

10:30 a.m. **HR 44**, concerning the protection of public lands.

11:00 a.m. **HB 1258**, relative to per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and public health data.

11:30 a.m. Public hearing on proposed non-germane Amendment #2026-0430h to HB 1141, prohibiting the extraction of groundwater for the purpose of bottling in plastic bottles. The amendment adds definitions for mining-related terms, authorizes rulemaking for permitting, reclamation, and fees based on mineral volume, and establishes a transition period for pending applications under the current law. Copies of the amendment are available on the General Court website.

11:45 a.m. Executive session on retained **HB 113**, relative to OHRV operation on certain highways within the town of Windsor.

1:30 p.m. Executive session on **HB 1019**, relative to the composition of the state water well board; **HB 1020**, proclaiming Lake Winnepesaukee the official state lake of New Hampshire; **HB 1204**, relative to the grading and use of timber grown in New Hampshire; **HB 1258**, relative to per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and public health data; **HB 1095**, increasing the maximum weight of a utility terrain vehicle to 3,000 pounds; **HB 1141**, prohibiting the extraction of groundwater for the purpose of bottling in plastic bottles.

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 154, GP

10:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 1648**, providing property tax exemptions for qualifying residences.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS OF PERFLUORINATED CHEMICALS (RSA 126-A:79-a), REMOTE

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting. This meeting will take place by remote conference. Please register for the Commission on the Environmental and Public Health Impacts of Perfluorinated Chemicals meeting on February 13, 2026 2:00 PM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8637317398493433177>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Join by phone: Call in Number: 1 (562) 247-8422

Access Code: 190-004-962 Webinar ID: 388-954-979

The following email address will be monitored throughout the meeting by someone who can assist with and alert the committee to any technical issues:

Amy.E.Rousseau@des.nh.gov. You may also call Amy Rousseau at 603-271-8801.

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

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

This meeting will take place by remote conference. Please register for the Commission on the Environmental and Public Health Impacts of Perfluorinated Chemicals meeting on February 13, 2026 2:00 PM EST at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8637317398493433177>
You also may join the meeting by phone: Call in Number: 1 (562) 247-8422
Access Code: 190-004-962 Webinar ID: 388-954-979

The following email address will be monitored throughout the meeting by someone who can assist with and alert the committee to any technical issues: Amy.E.Rousseau@des.nh.gov. You may also call Amy Rousseau at 603-271-8801.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 159, GP

10:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1408-FN**, prohibiting public disclosure of personal information on the Internet by an elected official; **HB 1366-FN**, relative to military orders of protection; **HB 1637**, relative to the scheduling of hearings on certain motions to modify or revoke bail.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

EDUCATION FUNDING, Room 232, GP

10:00 a.m. **HB 1561-FN**, prohibiting nationals of the People's Republic of China from attending state institutions of higher education.
10:30 a.m. **HB 1807-FN**, relative to information on tax rates and tax impact information on warrant articles.
11:15 a.m. **HB 1099**, establishing a committee to study private businesses providing special education services and issues relative to local school district reimbursement.
1:00 p.m. **HB 1815-FN**, relative to education financing.
1:45 p.m. **HR 40**, urging the legislature to adequately fund public education.
2:30 p.m. **HR 19**, encouraging state colleges and universities to invite more conservative speakers to campus for the purpose of increasing diversity of viewpoints.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

JUDICIARY, Room 158, GP

10:00 a.m. Executive session on **CACR 23**, relative to legislative oversight of the judicial branch.
establishing legislative oversight of the judicial branch; **CACR 27**, relating to the authority to establish courts. Provided that the sole authority lies within the general court; **CACR 29**, Relating to the supreme court. Providing that the supreme court may not make rules that have the force and effect of law; **HB 1001**, allowing for appointment by county attorneys of investigators with law enforcement powers; **HB 1064-FN**, relative to liability of governmental units; **HB 1116**, relative to judicial privilege and relative to the litigation of small claims; **HB 1127**, relative to the uniform voidable transactions act; **HB 1233**, relative to the minutes of non-public sessions; **HB 1260-FN**, relative to marriage registration forms and delayed certificates of marriage; **HB 1276**, relative to the liability for death of a companion animal; **HB 1283-FN**, relative to the use of face recognition technology; **HB 1292-FN**, expanding the right to try act to include certain qualifying severe illness and permitting certain regenerative stem cell therapies under the act; **HB 1297**, relative to property owned pursuant to the public trust doctrine; **HB 1313-FN**, repealing buffer zones for reproductive health care facilities; **HB 1356-FN**, relative to the statute of limitations for bringing a private right of action for violation of the statute prohibiting medical procedures and treatments intended to alter a minor's gender; **HB 1631-FN**, relative to the contents of the attorney general's annual report detailing state forfeiture information for the preceding fiscal year; **HB 1634**, establishing state court remedies for violations of state and federal law by federal employees; **HB 1665**, relative to the issuance of subpoenas in administrative proceedings; **HB 1684**, establishing a free speech advisory commission; **HB 1702-FN**, relative to notice requirements and enforcement for pharmacies dispensing medications intended to induce chemical abortions; **HB 1769-FN**, relative to certain prohibitions on abortion referrals by publicly funded medical facilities; **HB 1801-FN**, relative to causes of action

for wrongful detention, drug forfeiture proceedings, the regulation of law enforcement officers, and the offense of unsworn falsification; **HR 28**, requesting the opinion of the justices clarifying the scope of the state's constitutional obligations concerning education; **HR 29**, requesting an opinion of the justices on the scope of part II, article 4 of the New Hampshire constitution, as well as other related articles; **HR 38**, authorizing and directing the house judiciary committee to investigate whether cause exists for the impeachment of any justice of the New Hampshire supreme court; **HB 1032**, creating an exception to physical attendance and quorum requirements under the right-to-know law for individuals with disabilities and individuals caring for a household member with disabilities; **HB 1115**, adding a definition of citizen of New Hampshire; **HB 1384**, relative to reporting requirements for persons or entities financing lawsuits. Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

MOUNT WASHINGTON COMMISSION (RSA 227-B:3), Appalachian Mountain Club, Highland House, White Mountain Trail, Bretton Woods

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ADDICTION, TREATMENT AND PREVENTION (RSA 12-J:1), NH State House 107 N Main St, Concord, NH Executive Council Chambers – Room 208

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 154, GP

9:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1181-FN**, relative to public hearing notice requirements for zoning board of adjustment appeals.

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

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

1:00 p.m. Subcommittee meeting.

COMMISSION ON THE INTERDISCIPLINARY PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE (RSA 126-T), NH Hospital Association, Conference Room 1, 125 Airport Road, Concord

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting. Join Microsoft Teams:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/26094978428630?p=MZG4ob2lggWeUN4teP>

Meeting ID: 260 949 784 286 30 Passcode: 4NF3iF3F

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (RSA 541-A:2), Room 100, SH

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FISCAL COMMITTEE (RSA 14:30-a), Room 230, GP

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 126-A:13), Room 158, GP

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 154, GP

9:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 1151**, relative to conservation commission appropriations.

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

OVERSIGHT COMMISSION ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES (RSA 21-V:10), Room 103, SH

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

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

9:30 a.m. Subcommittee meeting.

MONDAY, MARCH 2

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.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

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

5:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

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

9:30 a.m. Subcommittee meeting.

FISH AND GAME AND MARINE RESOURCES, Room 153, GP

10:00 a.m. Executive session on **CACR 15**, relating to the right to hunt, fish, and harvest game and fish. Providing that citizens of New Hampshire shall have the constitutional right to hunt, fish, and harvest game and fish, subject to restrictions existing in law; **HB 1045**, relative to hunting with lights at night; **HB 1140**, enabling certain disabled persons to hunt from a motor vehicle; **HB 1833-FN**, creating a special license for non-resident vessel operators participating in tuna tournaments.

MONDAY, MARCH 9

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, MARCH 16

CAPITAL PROJECT OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (RSA 17-J:2), Room 228, GP

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

COMMISSION TO STUDY COSTS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION (RSA 186-C:1-a), Room 231, GP

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

EDUCATION FREEDOM SAVINGS ACCOUNT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 194-F:12), Room 231, GP

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

LONG RANGE CAPITAL PLANNING AND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE (RSA 17-M:1), Room 228, GP

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

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

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting. Join Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115>

Meeting ID: 874 3017 3115

REVISED FISCAL NOTES

The following bills have a revised fiscal note: HB 112, HB 215, HB 219, HB 224, HB 241, HB 518, HB 547, HB 563, HB 570, HB 572, HB 595, HB 607, HB 609, HB 611, HB 619, HB 621, HB 624, HB 629, HB 630, HB 635, HB 648, HB 651, HB 652, HB 665, HB 671, HB 675, HB 686, HB 716, HB 721, HB 725, HB 727, HB 729, HB 734, HB 751, HB 767, HB 772, HB 773, HB 1029, HB 1170, HB 1420, HB 1433, HB 1471, HB 1727, HB 1739, HB 1740, HB 1747, HB 1748, HB 1751, HB 1752, HB 1753, HB 1761, HB 1764, HB 1765, HB 1767, HB 1768, HB 1770, HB 1776, HB 1777, HB 1778, HB 1783, HB 1784, HB 1786, HB 1787, HB 1788, HB 1790, HB 1793, HB 1796, HB 1798, HB 1799, HB 1802, HB 1803, HB 1808, HB 1807, HB 1810, HB 1812, HB 1818, HB 1819, HB 1822, HB 1823, HB 1825, HB 1826, HB 1827, HB 1830, HB 1831, HB 1832, HB 1833, HB 1834, SB 36, SB 49, SB 71, SB 103, SB 112, SB 134, SB 247.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

A meeting of the **Strafford County Riverside Rest Home Subcommittee** has been scheduled for **FRIDAY, February 6, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Commissioners' Conference Room. Public Access Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86457636130?pwd=348wOpbNtfs9ttLqAgm1NVf4asG5u0.1>
Meeting ID: 864 5763 6130 Passcode: 697749

Rep. Janet Wall, Chair

A meeting of the **Strafford County Revenues and Capital Expenditures Subcommittee** has been scheduled for **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners' Conference Room Public Access Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82086106943?pwd=XeeBaCZDUozMKLDOH1iFEgFss8hmMP.1>
Meeting ID: 820 8610 6943 Passcode: 467619

Rep. Thomas Southworth, Chair

A meeting of the **Strafford County Pease Development Authority Subcommittee** has been scheduled for, **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Commissioners' Conference Room. Public Access Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84154853161?pwd=INoyEGL0DBIGSqBFUJGZiEWot99cHd.1>
Meeting ID: 841 5485 3161 Passcode: 660946

Rep. Allen Howland, Chair

A meeting of the **Strafford County SPECIAL COMMITTEE LTC** has been scheduled for **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Cafeteria Conference Room. Public Access Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83444233251?pwd=Netu7cYCp0NntdBe5GLqTSgbVISz0U.1>
Meeting ID: 834 4423 3251 Passcode: 197069

Rep. Jessica LaMontagne

A meeting of the **Strafford County P & P – Elected Officials Salaries subcommittee** has been scheduled for **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.** in the Cafeteria Conference Room.
Public Access Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86497749014?pwd=WUbiXO0z6dIZDSA0yNCZt0tZPrwSb5.1>
Meeting ID: 864 9774 9014 Passcode: 659335

Rep. Allen Howland, Chair

The **Strafford County Executive committee public meeting** will be held Friday, **February 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.** (SNOW DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026, 9:00 AM). The Executive Committee meets to receive reports and review the Subcommittees' recommendations and any other business that may legally come before the Committee at that time. Location: Cafeteria Conference Room, Lower Level, Justice and Administration Building. Public access via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81161661825?pwd=8VieJtBBLFPQsVFQpQbZUX4W6qCeeu.1>
Meeting ID: 811 6166 1825 Passcode: 570252

Rep. Allan Howland

The **Strafford County Delegation** will meet on **Wednesday, March 4th, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** (SNOW DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026, 7:00 PM) The Delegation meets to review Executive Committee recommendations and to adopt final budget for 2026, and to discuss any other business which may legally come before the Delegation. Location: Jury Assembly Room, Upper Level, Justice and Administration Building. The budget must be approved by April 1st, or the Commissioners' Proposed Budget will be in effect. Public access via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89441119630?pwd=l0U6iAtilMrD6kMevZdErYqtNpP7Ts.1>
Meeting ID: 894 4111 9630 Passcode: 892522

Rep. Allan Howland

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 Day. 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

Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire cordially invites all House Members to their Twenty-Fifth Annual Northeast Delta Dental Legislative Reception on **Tuesday, February 10th, 2026 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** at their corporate headquarters at One Delta Drive, Concord, New Hampshire. Please RSVP to Heather Mckenna at 603-223-1054 or e-mail.

Reps. Jason Osborne and Alexis Simpson

NAMI NH (The National Alliance on Mental Illness, New Hampshire) cordially invites all representatives to a hearty hot breakfast on **February 11th, from 8:00-9:00 a.m.** in the 4th floor cafeteria at 1 Granite Place. RSVP is requested but not required, please RSVP by 2/9 to advocacy@NAMINH.org. There will be a short program outlining NAMI NH's legislative priorities on mental health and suicide prevention and an opportunity for questions and discussion.

Rep. Mark Pearson

All legislators are invited to join some of NH's disability organizations on **Thursday, February 12th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.** at the State House Cafeteria to learn about and discuss how policy impacts the lives of people with disabilities in our state. We believe that amplifying the voices of those who experience disabilities can empower decision-makers to develop policies that benefit all Granite Staters.

Reps. Jim Kofault and Timothy Horrigan

Stay Work Play New Hampshire will hold a [Legislative Reception](#) from **4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, February 12th**, at the Hotel Concord (NH Room) 11 S Main St, Concord, NH 03301.

Bringing together legislators, young Granite Staters, and those who employ them, this casual networking event will give you the opportunity to meet younger constituents and learn more about the issues affecting whether they might stay in, or leave, New Hampshire. Stay Work Play will present the high-level findings from the recently released Quality of Life Survey and Policy & Pints series which captures the attitudes and perceptions of life in the 603 for young Granite Staters. Please RSVP to Corinne Benfield, Executive Director, at corinne@stayworkplay.org or online at stayworkplay.org/legislative-reception.

This event is free and food and beverage are provided.

Reps. Joe Alexander and Alexis Simpson

NH Life Sciences will offer a free lunch at their inaugural Legislative Day on **Thursday, February 19th at noon in the State House Cafeteria**. Meet the NHLS members, your constituents, and hear about their impressive economic impact in communities throughout New Hampshire. They will showcase their range and reach of life sciences companies across the Granite State through our state's life sciences association.

Rep. Joe Sweeney

All members and staff are cordially invited to attend the New Hampshire Association of Counties Annual Legislative Conference, to be held on **Tuesday, February 24th**, at the Grappone Center in Concord from **8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Guests are welcome to join NHAC for the breakfast reception or for the full program. The breakfast reception will take place from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. In addition to networking with elected

and appointed county officials from all ten of New Hampshire's counties, the conference will feature panel presentations focused on federal updates from the Congressional Offices, the role of county government in New Hampshire, and other timely topics. The event is complimentary; however, advance registration is requested. Please RSVP to Kate Horgan at khorgan@dupontgroup.com.

Rep. Mary Jane Wallner

AMENDMENTS

(LISTED IN NUMERICAL ORDER)

Amendment to HB 1030 (2026-0224h)

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration—c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Scope of Practice; Licensed Practical Nurse. Amend RSA 326-B:13, I(a)-(c) to read as follows:

(a) Collecting data and conducting ~~[focused]~~ nursing assessments of the health status of clients.

(b) Planning nursing care for clients with stable conditions.

(c) ***Contributing to*** ~~[Participating in]~~ the development and modification of the comprehensive plan of care for all types of clients.

Amendment to HB 1119 (2026-0337h)

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration—c

Amend RSA 325:14-a as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

325:14-a Associate Funeral Directors.

No person shall engage or hold himself or herself out as engaged in being an associate funeral director, unless the person:

I. Holds an associate funeral director's license from the office of professional licensure and certification;

II. Has passed such examinations approved by the board to ascertain efficiency and qualifications to engage in being an associate funeral director;

III. Has completed a funeral director certificate program approved by the board; and

IV. Has completed a one-year course in apprenticeship under the supervision of a duly licensed or registered funeral director or embalmer.

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

3 Embalmers and Funeral Directors; Rulemaking Authority. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 325:9, II to read as follows:

II. The qualifications of applicants in addition to those requirements set by RSA 325:13 ~~[and 14]~~, ***RSA 325:14, and RSA 325:14-a***, and including the qualifications for satisfactory evidence of:

Amendment to HB 1176-FN (2026-0197h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Transportation —r

Amend RSA 261:75, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Every vehicle driven in or on any way in this state, if required to be registered hereunder, shall have displayed conspicuously ~~[thereon]~~ ***on the rear of the vehicle a single*** number plate ~~[or plates]~~ to be furnished by the department, together with any current validation sticker issued by the department and which has a changeable designation of their effective period, ***unless excluded by paragraphs II-a and II-b***. The director may make special rules relative to ~~[the number of plates;]~~ the location of said plate ~~[or plates]~~ on the vehicle, and the material and design thereof, provided, however, that number plates for passenger vehicles shall have the state motto "Live Free or Die" written thereon. The plate shall be kept clean.

II-a. All vehicles used for commercial activities or registered to a business shall display both front and rear license plates.

II-b. All vehicles with a trailer or apparatus in tow shall display both front and rear license plates.

III. The director shall issue 2 license plates, which shall be maintained throughout the registration period to enable the operator to display both and which may be transferred upon trade or purchase of a vehicle.

2026-0197h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill removes the requirement that a motor vehicle display a front license plate unless the vehicle is used for commercial purposes or is towing a trailer or other apparatus.

**Amendment to HB 1259
(2026-0360h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration—c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Hampshire Accountancy Act; Definitions. Amend RSA 309-B:3, XVIII and XIX to read as follows:

XVIII. ~~["Substantial equivalency" is a determination by the office or its designee that the education, examination, and experience requirements contained in the statutes and administrative rules of another jurisdiction are comparable to or exceed the education, examination, and experience requirements contained in the Uniform Accountancy Act, or that the individual certified public accountant's education, examination, and experience qualifications are comparable to or exceed the education, examination, and experience requirements contained in the Uniform Accountancy Act. In ascertaining substantial equivalency as used in this statute, the office shall take into account the qualifications without regard to the sequence in which experience, education, or examination requirements were attained.~~

XIX. ~~"Uniform Accountancy Act" means the [May 2014] *ninth* edition of the model legislation developed jointly by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy, published in July 2025.~~

Amend the bill by replacing section 6 with the following:

6 Repeal. RSA 309-B:7, VI and VII, relative to substantial equivalent foreign designation applicants, is repealed.

**Amendment to HB 1301-FN
(2026-0181h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development—r

Amend RSA 270:62, V as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

V. A fee of \$125 shall be charged for each initial decal issued pursuant to this subdivision which shall be deposited in the navigation safety fund established under RSA 270-E:6-a. An annual mooring fee of ~~[\$50]~~ **\$75** for each mooring in a congregate mooring field, **\$75 for each mooring in a public mooring field**, and ~~[\$25]~~ **\$50** for each mooring not in a congregate ~~or public~~ mooring field shall be charged for each decal renewed or replaced pursuant to this subdivision. ~~[which] \$50 of the annual fee for each mooring in a public or congregate mooring field shall be deposited in the navigation safety fund established under RSA 270-E:6-a, and \$25 shall be deposited into the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund established under RSA 485-A:61. \$25 of the annual fee for each mooring not in a public or congregate mooring field shall be deposited in the navigation safety fund established under RSA 270-E:6-a and \$25 shall be deposited into the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund established under RSA 485-A:61.~~

**Amendment to HB 1409-FN
(2026-0414h)**

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Ways and Means —r

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2027.

**Amendment to HB 1421-FN
(2026-0445h)**

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Transportation —r

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

1 Certificates of Title and Registration of Vehicles; Exempted Vehicles. Amend RSA 261:3, I(k) to read as follows:

(k) Any motor vehicle whose manufacturer's model year is **older than 20 years** ~~[before the year 2000]~~, except heavy trucks and truck-tractors whose gross vehicle weight exceeds 18,000 pounds.

2 New Paragraph; Certificate of Title; Exempted Vehicle; Voluntary Certificate of Title. Amend RSA 261:3 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. For any vehicle where a certificate of title need not be obtained pursuant to this section, a person may obtain a voluntary title for such vehicle by submitting to the department a previously issued, current or expired New Hampshire certificate of registration, a valid out-of-state certificate of title, an application for a certificate of title, or a current New Hampshire vehicle identification number verification form as prescribed by the director. For the purposes of this section, a temporary registration issued pursuant to RSA 261:57 shall not meet the requirement of a previously issued New Hampshire certificate of registration.

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

2026-0445h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill exempts any motor vehicle that is at least 20 years old from the requirement to obtain a certificate of title, except for heavy trucks and truck-tractors with a gross vehicle weight over 18,000 pounds. This exemption applies on a rolling basis as vehicles reach 20 years of age. This bill also allows a person who owns a title-exempt vehicle the ability to voluntarily request a title.

**Amendment to HB 1426-FN
(2026-0331h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development-r

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Department of Environmental Services; Establishment; General Functions. Amend RSA 21-O:1 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. The department of environmental services shall seek, through recruitment and retention efforts, training, or state contracting to ensure that each of its program areas that have licenses or certifications have at least one certified individual, either as a direct employee or through a contracted arrangement, to address program-related matters and any issues that may arise in the course of its operations. The department may use existing appropriations, federal grants, or program fees for costs associated with training and certification under this section. A certified individual shall be an employee who holds a current, valid certification or license in and from the program area they serve. Certified individuals employed by or contracted with a department of environmental services program area shall not be required to comply with certification maintenance requirements that present a conflict of interest, including but not limited to submitting work product to the department to maintain hours of work experience. Certified individuals employed by the department of environmental services shall not be responsible for paying licensing or certification fees to a department of environmental services program while so employed. No certified individual shall be liable for damages arising from their duties to carry out the statutory duty and regulatory requirements of their respective program at the department of environmental services.

**Amendment to HB 1505-FN
(2026-0233h)**

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Municipal and County Government-r

Amend RSA 32:5-e, I as inserted by section 4 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. In a school district that has adopted this section, the total amount raised and appropriated for the fiscal year, including the operating budget and all other warrant articles with a tax impact, as shown on the budget certified by the school board or the budget committee and posted with the warrant for the annual meeting pursuant to RSA 32:5, shall not exceed the current per pupil cost, as defined herein, times the average daily membership in residence (ADMR), pursuant to RSA 198:38, I-a, of the school district as of October 1 of the year immediately preceding the proposed budget year as reported ~~[to]~~ **by** the department of education ~~[times (1+ IF), where IF is an amount for an annual increase for inflation]~~. The first year after the budget cap is adopted, the current per pupil cost shall be the per pupil cost adopted in the warrant article per RSA 32:5-f, IV. In subsequent years, the current per pupil cost shall be the previous year's current per pupil cost times ~~[(1+IFP)]~~ **(1+IF)**, where ~~[IFP]~~ **IF** is the ~~[previous]~~ **current** year's ~~[IF]~~ **annual increase for inflation**.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 8 with the following:

9 Municipal Budget Law; Preparation of Budgets; Local Tax Cap. Amend RSA 32:5-b, I-b(b)(1) to read as follows:

(1) "Attendance" shall mean the average daily membership in residence (ADMR) of the school district, pursuant to RSA 198:38, I-a. "This year's attendance" shall be the annual ADMR reported ~~[to]~~ **by** the department of education as of October 1 preceding the date of the budget hearing held pursuant to RSA 32:5, I. "Last year's attendance" shall be the annual ADMR reported ~~[to]~~ **by** the department of education as of October 1 of the year prior to the annual ADMR reported for "This year's attendance".

10 Municipal Budget Law; Application. Amend RSA 32:2 to read as follows:

32:2 Application. RSA 32:1-13, shall apply to all towns, school districts, cooperative school districts, village districts, municipal economic development and revitalization districts created under RSA 162-K, and any other municipal entities, including those created pursuant to RSA 53-A or 53-B, which adopt their budgets at an annual meeting of their voters, except RSA 32:5-b[,] which shall apply only in those towns or districts adopting that section pursuant to RSA 32:5-c, **except RSA 32:5-e which shall apply only in those school districts adopting that section pursuant to RSA 32:5-f, and except RSA 32:5-g which shall apply only in those towns adopting that section pursuant to RSA 32:5-h**. RSA 32:14-23, concerning budget committees, shall apply only in those towns or districts adopting that subdivision pursuant to RSA 32:14, I, and shall apply automatically in school districts or village districts located wholly within towns adopting that subdivision.

11 Municipal Budget Law; Preparation of Budgets; Adoption of School District Budget Cap. Amend RSA 32:5-f, IV to read as follows:

IV. If, under RSA 32:5-e, II, a fixed percentage is used for the annual increase for inflation, the wording of the question shall be:

“Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-e, and implement a budget cap whereby the school board (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that is higher than _____ dollars per pupil cost times the average daily membership in residence of the school district as of October 1 of the year immediately preceding the proposed budget year, plus *with* a _____ percent annual increase *on the per pupil cost* for inflation. Requires a 3/5ths majority [~~of the school district~~] *to adopt.*”

Alternatively, if an annual inflation index is used, the wording of the question shall be:

“Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-e, and implement a budget cap whereby the school board (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that is higher than _____ dollars per pupil cost times the average daily membership in residence of the school district as of October 1 of the year immediately preceding the proposed budget year, [~~plus~~] *with* an annual increase *on the per pupil cost* for inflation using (the index) published by (the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics or American City and County) as of October 1. Requires a 3/5ths majority [~~of the school district~~] *to adopt.*”

12 Municipal Budget Law; Preparation of Budgets; Adoption of Town Budget Cap. Amend RSA 32:5-h, IV to read as follows:

IV. If, under RSA 32:5-g, II, a fixed percentage is used for the annual increase for inflation, the wording of the question shall be:

“Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-g, and implement a budget cap whereby the select board (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that is higher than _____ dollars per resident expenditure times the current town population, [~~plus~~] *with* a _____ percent annual increase *on the per resident expenditure* for inflation. Requires a 3/5ths majority [~~of the town~~] *to adopt.*”

Alternatively, if an annual inflation index is used, the wording of the question shall be:

“Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-g, and implement a budget cap whereby the select board (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that is higher than _____ dollars per resident expenditure times the current town population, [~~plus~~] *with* an annual increase *on the per resident expenditure* for inflation using (the index) published by (the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics or American City and County) as of October 1. Requires a 3/5ths majority [~~of the town~~] *to adopt.*”

13 Applicability. RSA 21-J:34, RSA 32:5-b, RSA 32:5-e, RSA 32:5-g, and RSA 32:2, as amended by this act, shall apply to the local tax caps, school district budget caps, and town budget caps adopted prior to the effective date of this act and shall not require local amendment or re-adoption by towns or districts.

14 Effective Date.

I. Section 8 of this act shall take effect on April 1, 2027.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Amendment to HB 1530-FN (2026-0172h)

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development –r

Amend RSA 210:9, II-V as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Notwithstanding paragraph I or any other provision of law or rule, a landowner, the landowner's agent, or any town or municipal or state official or employee, may destroy beaver, *completely or partially* remove beaver dams, or install one or more flow devices on property under their control to protect property, public highways, *public trails*, or bridges from damage or submersion. The landowner, [~~or~~] property owner, *or landowner's agent* shall be responsible for maintaining the flow device. Complete or partial dam removal or the installation or removal of a flow device shall be allowed without a permit under RSA 482-A if machinery does not enter the water and filling or dredging in or adjacent to surface water, wetlands, or their banks does not occur and shall be done in a gradual manner that does not allow a sudden release of impounded water so as to cause erosion, siltation, or a safety hazard downstream.

II-a.(a) Except in the case of an immediate threat to life or property, no landowner shall completely or partially remove any beaver dam in a shared beaver impoundment without first notifying the conservation commission or local governing body if the municipality does not have a conservation commission in the municipality where such dam or beaver impoundment is located, as well as all abutters at least 30 days prior to any action specified above.

(b) The conservation commission or governing body if the municipality does not have a conservation commission shall hold a public informational meeting at least 15 days prior to the complete or partial dam removal. The municipality shall publish a notice of the public informational meeting in 2 public places, and on the municipality's website or by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality at least 7 days before the time set for the meeting.

(c) Such notice and public informational meeting are not required when installing a flow device.

(d) Such notice and public informational meeting are not required when the conservation commission or governing body if the municipality does not have a conservation commission receives written notification of agreement for all abutters of the complete or partial dam removal.

II-b. For purposes of ~~[paragraph II]~~ **paragraphs II and II-a**, the term “flow device” means one or more fence structures or other combination of fencing and piping used to discourage beaver damming, maintain water flow through an existing beaver dam, or minimize the risk of flooding by preventing the further impoundment of water behind a beaver dam. ***The term “beaver impoundment” means a pond or wetland created by beavers building a dam across a stream or waterway. The term “shared beaver impoundment” means a beaver impoundment that adjoins the property of two or more landowners, as judged by a reasonable person or a beaver impoundment on public property not owned or managed by the state or federal government. The term “abutter” means a person whose property is located in New Hampshire and adjoins a shared beaver impoundment.***

III. The executive director may require the reporting of beaver taken pursuant to paragraph II by rules made in accordance with RSA 541-A.

IV. Skins or unskinned carcasses taken under this section shall be sealed pursuant to RSA 210:8 before such skins or unskinned carcasses are sold or given away.

V. The executive director or his ***or her*** agents shall provide advice relative to beaver control techniques when requested.

VI. Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict the responsibilities to maintain culverts as specified in RSA 236:13.

**Amendment to HB 1542-FN
(2026-0241h)**

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy –r

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

AN ACT allowing alternative compliance payments to the renewable energy fund to be refunded to ratepayers on a per kilowatt hour basis.

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

1 Renewable Energy Fund; Effective until July 1, 2027. Amend RSA 362-F:10, I to read as follows:

I. There is hereby established a renewable energy fund. This nonlapsing special fund shall be continually appropriated to the department of energy to be expended in accordance with this section; provided that at the start of the period in which there is no adopted state operating budget, the department of energy shall in a timely manner seek the approval of the fiscal committee of the general court to continue using moneys from the renewable energy fund to support renewable energy rebate and grant programs in order to ensure there are no interruptions to the programs. The state treasurer shall invest the moneys deposited therein as provided by law. Income received on investments made by the state treasurer shall also be credited to the fund. All payments to be made under this section shall be deposited in the fund. Any remaining moneys paid into the fund under paragraph II of this section~~[-excluding class II moneys, shall be used by the department of energy to support thermal and electrical renewable energy initiatives, including the office of energy innovation. Class II moneys shall primarily be used to support solar energy technologies in New Hampshire]~~ ***shall be rebated to ratepayers in the state on a per-kilowatt-hour basis.*** All initiatives supported out of these funds shall be subject to audit by the department of energy as deemed necessary. All fund moneys including those from class II may be used to administer this chapter, but all new employee positions shall be approved by the fiscal committee of the general court. No new employees shall be hired by the department of energy due to the inclusion of useful thermal energy in class I production.

2 Renewable Energy Fund; Effective July 1, 2027. Amend RSA 362-F:10, I to read as follows:

I. There is hereby established a renewable energy fund. This nonlapsing special fund shall be continually appropriated to the department of energy to be expended in accordance with this section; provided that at the start of the period in which there is no adopted state operating budget, the department of energy shall in a timely manner seek the approval of the fiscal committee of the general court to continue using moneys from the renewable energy fund to support renewable energy rebate and grant programs in order to ensure there are no interruptions to the programs. The state treasurer shall invest the moneys deposited therein as provided by law. Income received on investments made by the state treasurer shall also be credited to the fund. All payments to be made under this section shall be deposited in the fund. Any remaining moneys paid into the fund under paragraph II of this section~~[-excluding class II moneys, shall be used by the department of energy to support thermal and electrical renewable energy initiatives and offshore wind initiatives, including the office of offshore wind industry development and energy innovation. Class II moneys shall primarily be used to support solar energy technologies in New Hampshire]~~ ***shall be rebated to ratepayers in the***

state on a per-kilowatt-hour basis. All initiatives supported out of these funds shall be subject to audit by the department of energy as deemed necessary. All fund moneys including those from class II may be used to administer this chapter, but all new employee positions shall be approved by the fiscal committee of the general court. No new employees shall be hired by the department of energy due to the inclusion of useful thermal energy in class I production.

3 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2027 at 12:01 a.m.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

2026-0241h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that alternative compliance payments to the renewable energy fund under RSA 362-F:10, II shall be refunded to ratepayers on a per kilowatt hour basis.

Amendment to HB 1580-FN-LOCAL (2026-0278h)

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Ways and Means –r

Amend RSA 72:6-b, III(a) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(a) The surcharge under paragraph II shall not apply to:

(1) Properties used as the owner's principal place of abode.

(2) Rental properties that are occupied by tenants, regardless of the duration of the lease or rental period.

(3) Properties with an assessed market value below \$500,000.

(4) Properties owned by individuals qualifying for exemptions under RSA 72:28, RSA 72:35, or RSA 72:39-b.

(5) Properties that are not habitable during the winter months due to lack of winterization, such as the absence of adequate heating, insulation, or plumbing designed for sub-freezing temperatures, as certified by the owner or a qualified inspector.

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

2 Applicability. This act shall apply to all taxable periods ending on or after April 1, 2027.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Amendment to HB 1584-FN (2026-0324h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs –r

Amend RSA 141-C:21, II as inserted by section 3 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Any officer, employee, or agent of the department of health and human services who authorizes, approves, or distributes promotional material regarding vaccination or immunization in violation of RSA 141-C:20-g shall be reported to the commissioner of the department of health and human services, who shall ensure appropriate disciplinary or corrective action under RSA 21-I and any applicable personnel rules.

Amend the bill by deleting section 4 and renumbering the original section 5 to read as 4.

2026-0324h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill directs the department of health and human services to provide notice of medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements and provides that any written signed statement attesting to the religious objection shall be sufficient.

Amendment to HB 1607-FN (2026-0497h)

Proposed by the Committee on Public Works and Highways–r

Amend RSA 485:C-8-a, I as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. Sodium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, or salt-treated abrasives or other chemicals used on road parking lots and sidewalks for snow and ice management shall not be stored in such a manner or place as to subject groundwater or surface water to the risk of contamination. Compliance with this section by municipal and county entities shall be contingent on available funding from grants, gifts, and municipal revenues.

Amendment to HB 1655-FN (2026-0170h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development –r

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

1 New Subdivision; Shorefront Property Fee for State-Owned Dams. Amend RSA 76 by inserting after section 21 the following new subdivision:

Shorefront Property Fee for State-Owned Dams

76:22 Fee for Waterfront Property on Waterbody Impounded by State-Owned Dam.

I. The department of revenue administration shall identify the properties and landowners with waterfront access and deeded water rights to waterbodies impounded by state-owned dams. The department shall provide each municipality with a list of such properties. The department may contract with an outside organization to collect this information. Following a conveyance of real estate with waterfront access or deeded water rights to a waterbody impounded by a state-owned dam, the grantee shall inform the municipality of the grantee mailing address.

II. The municipality shall assess a fee of \$100 per year on real estate with waterfront access to a waterbody impounded by a state-owned dam. The moneys collected from such fee shall be deposited in the dam maintenance fund established in RSA 482:55 to be used for the operation, maintenance, and repair of state-owned dams.

III. The municipality shall assess a fee of \$50 per year on real estate with deeded water access to a waterbody impounded by a state-owned dam. The moneys collected from such fee shall be deposited in the dam maintenance fund established in RSA 482:55 to be used for the operation, maintenance, and repair of state-owned dams.

IV. Real estate with waterfront access or deeded water rights to a waterbody impounded by a state-owned dam in current use or a working farm shall not be assessed the fee listed in paragraphs II and III.

V. In addition to the fees required by paragraphs II and III, the municipality may collect \$5 to be retained by the municipality as compensation for management, collection and disbursement of moneys collected. Each year, when submitting collected fees to the dam maintenance fund, the municipality shall provide a list of properties, owners, owner addresses, fees remitted and fee owed by not remitted to the department. The department shall seek payment for unpaid fees for properties with waterfront or deeded water rights to a waterbody impounded by a state-owned dam. Repayments received shall be deposited in the dam maintenance fund.

VI. Interest at 8 percent per annum shall be charged upon all taxes except resident taxes, except as otherwise provided by statute, not paid on or before December 1. Interest payments received shall be deposited in the dam maintenance fund. The department may acquire a lien against land and buildings for unpaid fees owed for waterfront access or deeded water rights to a waterbody impounded by a state-owned dams. Tax liens placed according to RSA 80 shall have priority over department of environmental services liens. The department of revenue services shall administer the collection of fees, interests and liens for waterfront access or deeded water rights to a waterbody impounded by a state-owned dams.

VII. The department shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A in order to execute and enforce this chapter.

2 Dam Maintenance Fund; Expenditure. Amend RSA 482:57 to read as follows:

482:57 Expenditure.

I. Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the commissioner of environmental services shall expend such sums from the dam maintenance fund as are necessary for performance of work on state-owned dams and property associated with and contiguous to state-owned dam sites, as well as noncontiguous property, such as rainfall and stream gages, that is essential to the safe operation of the dam only in the following categories:

[F.] (a) Minor projects and emergency repairs, including emergency action plans, which may be completed by force account methods by the department.

[H.] (b) Repair projects, which may be completed by force account methods by the department on dams and property associated with and contiguous to state-owned dam sites, as well as noncontiguous property, such as rainfall and stream gages, that is essential to the safe operation of the dam~~[-approved for acquisition by the legislature with the approval of governor and council]~~ **shall only be performed on dams and associated properties that have been acquired by the state, provided such acquisition has been approved by the legislature and the governor and council.**

[H.] (c) Reconstruction projects, which shall be completed by contract construction or force account on dams and property associated with and contiguous to state-owned dam sites, as well as noncontiguous property, such as rainfall and stream gages, that is essential to the safe operation of the dam~~[-approved for acquisition by the legislature with the approval of governor and council]~~ **shall only be performed on dams and associated properties that have been acquired by the state, provided such acquisition has been approved by the legislature and the governor and council.**

II. Administration of collection of fees, interests, and liens for waterfront access or deeded water rights to a waterbody impounded by a state-owned dam shall be enforced by the department of revenue administration.

**Amendment to HB 1664-FN
(2026-0174h)**

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development –r

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

AN ACT establishing a Hannah Duston memorial site advisory council.

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

1 Statement of Findings. There general court hereby finds that:

I. Both the story of Hannah Duston and the creation of the Hannah Duston memorial have been controversial and divisive from their beginnings.

II. While Duston is a largely forgotten historical figure regionally and nationally, her story, and the events surrounding both her abduction in 1697, and her historical resurrection in the mid to late 1800's, are important historically. The site provides an important opportunity to relate the history of relations between European colonists, the Native population, and ramifications for what became known as Manifest Destiny and its own ramifications for Native populations throughout the Americas.

III. It is desirable to relate the story from a broad perspective so that viewers can be given an opportunity to learn from history so that we can avoid mistakes previously made, and find a way to celebrate the cultures involved.

IV. The site of the memorial is geographically complicated, with multiple land overseers including the town of Boscawen, the New Hampshire department of transportation, and the New Hampshire legislature as the overseer of the Duston family trust.

2 New Section; Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; Hannah Duston Memorial Site Advisory Council. Amend RSA 12-A by inserting after section 14-a the following new section:

12-A:14-b Hannah Duston Memorial Site Advisory Council.

I. There is established a Hannah Duston memorial site advisory council. The council shall represent the state in the restoration of the Hannah Duston memorial site.

II.(a) The members of the council shall be as follows:

(a) One member of the majority party of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, who serves on the committee on recreation and development.

(b) One member of the minority party of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, who serves on the committee on recreation and development.

(c) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

(d) One member representing the local Native population appointed by the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources.

(e) One member of the Duston-Dustin Family Association, appointed by that organization.

(f) One local historian with expertise in local Native history, appointed by the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources.

(g) One local historian with expertise in local colonial history, appointed by the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources.

(h) One national historian with knowledge of the national implications of the Hannah Duston story, appointed by the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources.

(i) The commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources, or designee.

(j) The commissioner of the department of transportation, or designee.

(k) A representative of the northern rail trail, appointed by the governor.

III. Legislative members of the council shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the council.

IV. The council shall:

(a) Advise the Hannah Duston memorial work group on issues relating to the state that are pertinent to the state.

(b) Advise on any legislative or other changes that may need to be made in the process.

(c) Solicit information from any person or entity the advisory council deems relevant to its quest.

V. The members of the council shall annually elect a chairperson from among the members, and such other officers as they deem necessary. The first meeting of the council shall be called by the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources, or their designee. The first meeting of the council shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Six members of the council shall constitute a quorum.

VI. The council shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation annually to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources, and the state library on or before November 1.

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

2026-0174h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a Hannah Duston memorial site advisory council.

**Amendment to HB 1701-FN
(2026-0217h)**

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Education Funding –r

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

1 New Hampshire College Graduate Retention Incentive Partnership. RSA 12-O:46 to 12-O:50 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

12-O:46 Definitions. In this subdivision:

I. “Commissioner” means the commissioner of the department of business and economic affairs (DBEA).

II. “Department” means the department of business and economic affairs.

III. “Eligible institution of higher education” means any public or private institution of higher education authorized to grant 2-year or 4-year degrees in this state by the higher education commission pursuant to RSA 21-N:8-a.

IV. “Graduate” means a student who graduates from an eligible institution of higher education in May 2019 or thereafter.

V. “Incentive” means a monetary award given each year for not more than 4 years by a participating employer to a graduate which the graduate may elect to be paid to the graduate or to an entity servicing the graduate’s student loans.

VI. “Participating employer” means any person, firm, corporation, partnership, association, the state or political subdivision of the state, or any other entity which enters into a participating employer agreement to provide an incentive to a graduate.

VII. “Participating employer agreement” or “agreement” means an agreement prepared jointly by the department of business and economic affairs in consultation with the New Hampshire College and University Council and the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire.

12-O:47 New Hampshire College Graduate Retention Incentive Partnership Established. There is established the New Hampshire college graduate retention incentive partnership (NH GRIP) which shall be administered by the department. The purpose of NH GRIP is to recruit and retain graduates from eligible institutions of higher education and provide incentives to those graduates to work in New Hampshire. Any partnership reached or agreed upon as a result of this subdivision shall be limited to informational outreach and collaboration. No new administrative infrastructure shall be required as a result of the establishment of this partnership.

12-O:47-a Implementation.

I. The department shall relaunch and administer NH GRIP in accordance with this subdivision.

II. The department may develop and publish application procedures and eligibility guidelines for participating employers, including but not limited to:

(a) Criteria for employer participation;

(b) Terms of graduate employment and retention;

(c) Documentation and reporting requirements; and

(d) Any other rules necessary to carry out the purposes of the program.

III. The department shall take steps to minimize its administrative burden and rely primarily on employer self certification in its implementation of NH GRIP.

12-O:47-b Prioritization. In administering NH GRIP, the department shall give priority to employers headquartered or principally located in New Hampshire that qualify as small businesses under federal or state definitions; and employers in sectors experiencing documented workforce shortages, including but not limited to health care, skilled trades, and technology.

12-O:48 Requirements and Procedure.

I. Each participating employer shall compile a list of positions which qualify for an incentive under NH GRIP. The participating employer shall publish the list of qualifying positions on the employer’s public Internet site and on any Internet employment search site used by the participating employer. A graduate who obtains employment in a qualifying position with a participating employer and who executes an agreement, shall receive an incentive of not less than \$1,000 each year for the first 4 years of the graduate’s employment with the participating employer. The agreement shall be signed by an authorized agent of the participating employer. The participating employer shall retain a copy of each signed agreement in its files.

II. The DBEA may accept employer attestations and shall not be required to independently verify individual agreements.

III. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any agreement executed pursuant to this subdivision shall not constitute a state or DBEA contract and shall not require the approval of the governor or executive council.

12-O:49 Advertising. The department may, in cooperation with the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire College and University Council, the New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Fund, the New Hampshire Coalition for Business and Education, and Stay, Work, Play NH, advertise to New Hampshire employers and New Hampshire college students the details of NH GRIP, through print and electronic media.

12-O:50 Funding. For the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and each biennium thereafter, the commissioner shall include any requests for appropriations related to NH GRIP in the biennial agency budget requests pursuant to RSA 9:4.

12-O:50-a Reporting.

I. The department shall publish an annual report detailing program participation, costs, and outcomes. Department reports shall be based on information submitted by participating employers.

II. On or before November 1 of each year in which NH GRIP is active, the department shall submit a report to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house and senate finance committees, and the house and senate commerce committees. The report shall include:

- (a) The number of participating employers and graduates;
- (b) Retention outcomes and geographic distribution of participants;
- (c) Program expenditures and administrative costs; and
- (d) Recommendations for program continuation, expansion, or modification.

III. A comprehensive review of program efficacy shall be conducted every 5 years by the department.

12-O:50-b Rulemaking. The department of business and economic affairs shall have the authority to adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, as necessary pursuant to the implementation of this subdivision.

2 Appropriations. The sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 and the sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, are hereby appropriated to the department of business and economic affairs for the purpose of advertising and disseminating information to New Hampshire college students and graduates regarding the New Hampshire college graduate retention and incentive partnership (NH GRIP) established in RSA 12-O:47 through 50-b. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

**Amendment to HB 1763-FN
(2026-0193h)**

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

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

AN ACT establishing a committee to study siting and maintenance rules regarding certain intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) and acquired brain disorder (ABD) community residences.

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

1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study siting and maintenance rules applicable to intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) and acquired brain disorder (ABD) community residences, including group homes, that are funded, certified, or overseen by the department of health and human services.

2 Membership and Compensation.

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

- (a) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.
- (b) One members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

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

3 Duties. The committee shall:

I. Study issues associated with the creation of administrative rules and regulations for the siting, operation, and maintenance of community residences within the state. Such study shall include, but not be limited to, building codes, fire codes, conflicts with local land use ordinances and regulations, maintaining the character of a neighborhood, good-neighbor and nuisance rules, and other related codes, rules, and laws. The committee may seek the testimony of any individual or organization it deems appropriate.

II. Solicit information, testimony, and input from the public, as well as from relevant state agencies, organizations, municipal representatives, providers, advocates, and subject-matter experts, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) The bureau chief of the bureau of developmental services, or a designated representative;
- (b) A designated representative of the disability rights center of New Hampshire;
- (c) A designated representative of the New Hampshire developmental services quality council;
- (d) A representative of the area agency system;
- (e) A representative of residential service providers;

- (f) An individual with expertise in building or fire safety; and
- (g) A municipal planning or zoning official.

III. Identify and evaluate potential statutory changes and administrative or regulatory actions, including recommendations for department of health and human services rulemaking that may be necessary to address the siting and maintenance issues studied.

4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named house member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. The committee shall meet monthly until a report is submitted pursuant to section 5 of this act, or a quorum of the committee modifies the schedule at its discretion. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

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

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

2026-0193h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study siting and maintenance rules regarding certain intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) and acquired brain disorder (ABD) community residences.

Amendment to HB 1768-FN (2026-0358h)

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development –r

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

AN ACT exempting honorably discharged New Hampshire veterans from metered parking fees at state parks upon presenting acceptable proof of status and raising the value of individual gifts and donations that may be received by the division of parks and recreation without the approval of the governor or the executive council.

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

1 New Paragraphs; Fees for Park System. Amend RSA 216-A:3-g by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraphs:

V-a. No metered parking fee shall be charged at any state park lot, including but not limited to Hampton Beach South and Wallis Sands, for any vehicle displaying a veteran license plate issued by the New Hampshire division of motor vehicles.

V-b.(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the department of natural and cultural resources, through the division of parks and recreation, may solicit, receive, and procure monetary or in-kind donations for the purpose of offsetting revenue losses resulting from statutory exemptions from day-use admission or parking fees, including, but not limited to, exemptions for persons with disabilities and honorably discharged veterans.

(b) Donations received under this paragraph may be acknowledged through limited sponsor recognition, including the display of a name, logo, or identifying mark, as determined by the department, provided that such recognition is incidental to the donation, non-promotional in nature, and does not imply endorsement by the state.

(c) All monetary donations received under this paragraph shall be deposited in the state parks gifts and donations account established under RSA 216-A:3-o and expended in accordance with that section.

2 Expansion of State Park System; State Park Gifts and Donations; Account Established. Amend RSA 216-A:3-o, I to read as follows:

I. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, individual gifts and donations not exceeding ~~[\$2,500]~~ **\$50,000** in value in a fiscal year may be received by the division of parks and recreation without the approval of the governor or ~~[the governor and]~~ council. Individual gifts and donations exceeding ~~[\$2,500]~~ **\$50,000** in value in a fiscal year may be received by the division of parks and recreation with the approval of the governor and council.

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

2026-0358h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill exempts honorably discharged New Hampshire veterans from metered parking fees at state parks upon presenting acceptable proof of status and raises the value of individual gifts and donations that may be received by the division of parks and recreation without the approval of the governor or the executive council.

**Amendment to HB 1798-FN
(2026-0249h)**

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs –r
Amend RSA 126-A:4-j as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

126-A:4-j State Medicaid Plan; Diapers.

I. On or before November 1, 2026, the commissioner of the department of health and human services shall submit a Section 1115 demonstration waiver to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the purpose of providing Medicaid coverage for the cost of 100 diapers a month for the first 12 months of a child's life.

II. Eligibility for the benefit in paragraph I shall be limited to those individuals eligible for postpartum medical assistance in accordance with RSA 167:68, IV and the applicable CMS approved State Plan Amendment.

III. Beginning November 1, 2026, the department shall submit biennial reports to the oversight committee on health and human services, established in RSA 126-A:13, regarding the status of the waiver application. Subject to approval by CMS, the department shall make best efforts to implement the benefit on or before May 1, 2027.

**Amendment to HB 1837-FN
(2026-0332h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development –r

Amend the bill by replacing sections 3 and 4 with the following:

3 Public and Congregate Mooring Fields, Permit Required. Amend RSA 270:67, I(c) to read as follows:

(c) Each public mooring field applicant shall be assessed [a] an annual mooring fee [of \$25 which shall be deposited in the navigation safety fund established under RSA 270-E:6-a] **as specified in RSA 270:62.**

4 Public and Congregate Mooring Fields; Permit Required. Amend RSA 270:67, II(c) to read as follows:

(c) Each congregate mooring field **applicant** permitted by the director shall be assessed an annual mooring fee [of \$25 for each mooring installed in the congregate mooring field which shall be deposited in the navigation safety fund established under RSA 270-E:6-a] **as specified in RSA 270:62.**

Amend the bill by replacing section 7 with the following:

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