



State of
New Hampshire

HOUSE RECORD

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

Web Site Address: <https://gc.nh.gov>

Vol. 48

Concord, N.H.

Thursday, February 12, 2026

No. 4

HOUSE JOURNAL NO. 3 (Cont'd)

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Rep. Osborne moved that the House adjourn.
Motion adopted.

HOUSE JOURNAL NO. 4

Thursday, February 12, 2026

The House assembled at 10:00 a.m., the hour to which it stood adjourned, and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer was offered by House Chaplain, Reverend Kevin Twombly, Pastor at Restoration Foursquare Church in Concord.

Gracious God, we pause to give thanks for the men and women who serve in this House. Thank You for those who have answered the call to public service and bear the responsibility of representing the people of this state. We acknowledge the long hours, difficult decisions, and personal sacrifices made by them and their families. Grant them strength for the work before them and peace when the work feels heavy. We are mindful of the word of Daniel Webster, who reminded us that justice is the great interest of man on earth. May that pursuit guide this House; shaping leadership with wisdom, words with care and decisions with integrity. Where opinions differ, foster respect. Where challenges arise, provide patience and perseverance. May each representative remember that leadership is stewardship, an opportunity to serve with humility and faithfulness. Bless the people of New Hampshire, and may the work of this House contribute to the flourishing of all who call this state home. As today's session begins, may it be guided by wisdom and sustained by grace. Amen.

Rep. Hope Damon, member from Croydon, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The National Anthem was sung by Madison MacNeill of Concord.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Reps. Bean, Bucu, Durkin, England, Foote, Mary Murphy, Richards and Sofikitis, the day, illness.

Reps. Richard Brown, William Dolan, John MacDonald, Tim Mannion, Meuse, Michael Murphy, Tenczar and Varney, the day, important business.

Rep. Gilman, the day, death in the family.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Lucas Baker, student at Fall Mountain High School and Natalie Brooks, student at Bishop Brady High School, our pages for the day.

Bernie Lee, father of the singer, guest of Rep. Damon. Kathryn Brennan, guest of Rep. Tom Cormen. Deirdre McEachern, guest of Rep. David Paige.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Rep. Osborne moved that the Consent Calendar with the relevant amendments as printed in the day's House Record be adopted.

Consent Calendar was adopted.

Rep. Berry declared a Conflict of Interest on HB 1720-FN and did not participate in the vote on the Consent Calendar.

Rep. Taylor declared a Conflict of Interest on HB 1707-FN and did not participate in the vote on the Consent Calendar.

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.

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.

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 mandating a “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.

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.

Amendment (0224h)

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.

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.

Amendment (0337h)

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:

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.

Amendment (0360h)

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.

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.

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.

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.

Amendment (0193h)

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.

The Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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.

The Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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 Kuttab 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 be found 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.

The Speaker referred House Bills numbered 1720, 1763 and 1809 to the Committee on Finance.

REGULAR CALENDAR

MOTION TO SPECIAL ORDER

Rep. Janigian moved that **HB 1409-FN**, modifying the deposit of revenues collected from video lottery terminals, be made a Special Order as the first order of business after lunch recess.

MOTION TO SPECIAL ORDER

Rep. Janigian moved that **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, be made a Special Order as the second item of business after the lunch recess.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass.

Rep. Raymond spoke against.

Rep. Kofalt spoke in favor, yielded to questions and requested a roll call.

YEAS 197 - NAYS 157

YEAS - 197

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

Bogert, Steven
Freeman, Lisa
Terry, Paul

Bordes, Mike
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet

Coker, Matthew
Ploszaj, Tom

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Taylor, Brian

Crawford, Karel

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
Sellers, John

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Leishman, Peter
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Mannion, Tom
Wherry, Robert

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
Mazur, Lisa
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Ulery, Jordan

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
McLean, Mark
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Warden, Mark

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Miles, Julie
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Suiter, John
Wheeler, Jonah

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Potucek, John

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Roy, Terry

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen

Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, David

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

NAYS - 157 BELKNAP

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Berch, Paul
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Harvey, Cathryn
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Aissandra
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Hartnett, Tim
Jeudy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Long, Patrick
Mooney, Maureen
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne

Beauchemin, Paige
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Murray, Megan
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Bergeron, Dan
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Manohar, Sanjeev
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wilhelm, Matthew

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Mehegan, Peter
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
Vallone, Mark

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Ward, Gerald

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie
Weinstein, Toni

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Turer, Eric

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
Spillsbury, Walter

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the majority committee report was adopted, and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance. Rep. Edwards voted Yea and intended to vote Nay.

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.

Rep. Gregg spoke against.

Rep. Mark Pearson spoke in favor and yielded to questions.

Rep. Litchfield requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 214 - NAYS 145**YEAS - 214****BELKNAP**

Aldrich, Glen
Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

Bogert, Steven
Freeman, Lisa
Terry, Paul

Bordes, Mike
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet

Coker, Matthew
Ploszaj, Tom

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Berch, Paul
Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Harvey, Cathryn
Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Rockmore, Ellen

Beaulier, Calvin
Sullivan, Jared
Sellers, John

Berezhny, Lex
Ladd, Rick

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
Louis, Darrell

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Ryan, Linda
Sirois, Shane
Ulery, Jordan

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Corcoran, Travis
Darby, Will
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Long, Patrick
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peebles, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Warden, Mark

Boyd, Bill
Chourasia, Manoj
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
PANEK, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Scully, Kevin
Suiter, John
Wherry, Robert

Barbour, Liz
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sheehan, Vanessa
Mannion, Tom

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriis, Jose
Gonzalez, Ernesto

Aures, Cyril
Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew

Aylward, Deborah
McGuire, Dan
Hill, Gregory

McGuire, Carol
Devoid, Ricky
Leavitt, John

Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yuri
See, Alvin

Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Walsh, Thomas

Pitaro, Matthew
Sargent, Gregory
Thibault, James

Plante, Raymond
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Maggiore, Jim
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Read, Ellen
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Vallone, Mark
MacDonald, Wayne

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Porcelli, Susan
Roy, Terry
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Potucek, John
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Tripp, Richard
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tudor, Paul
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Hall, Robley

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Kaczynski, Thomas
Turcotte, Len

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Gilmore, Gary
Larochelle, John
Walker, David

DeLemus, Susan
Granger, Michael
Potenza, Kelley

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

NAYS - 145

BELKNAP

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rourke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lucas, Janet
Stavis, Laurrel

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Muirhead, Russell
Stringham, Jerry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Oppel, Thomas
Sykes, George

Cormen, Thomas
Lovett, Peter
Spahr, Terry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Budathoki, Suraj
Drew, Matt
Georges, Mary
Hartnett, Tim
Jeudy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wilhelm, Matthew

Beauchemin, Paige
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Bergeron, Dan
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Booras, Efstathia
Dargie, Paul
Foss, Lily
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wheeler, Jonah

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Gallager, Eric
Newsom, James
Snodgrass, Jim

Caplan, Tony
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Soucy, Timothy

Kelly, Eileen
Luneau, David
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Ebel, Karen
Hall, Muriel
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Raynolds, Ned
Dolan, Tom

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Malloy, Dennis
Scherr, Buzz
Turer, Eric

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Manos, Zoe
Simpson, Alexis
Ward, Gerald

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Muns, Chris
Sorensen, Carrie
Weinstein, Toni

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Johnson, Erik
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Bixby, Peter
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

Burton, Wayne
Horrigan, Timothy
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

Butler, Billie
Howland, Allan
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the majority committee report was adopted, and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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 Refer 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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass.

Rep. Petrigno spoke against.

Rep. Markell spoke in favor.

Rep. DeSimone requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 198 - NAYS 161**YEAS - 198****BELKNAP**

Bogert, Steven
Freeman, Lisa
Terry, Paul

Bordes, Mike
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet

Coker, Matthew
Ploszaj, Tom

Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Germana, Nicholas
Thackston, Dick

Hunt, John
Nalevanko, Rich

Karasinski, Sly
Qualey, James

Mattson, Rita
Rhodes, Jennifer

COOS

Davis, Arnold
Tierney, James

Korzen, Lori
Tremblay, Marc

Morency, Pete

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Spahr, Terry

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
Sellers, John

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kenny, Catherine

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kesselring, Steven

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Kofalt, Jim

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Juris, Louis
Labrie, Brian

Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Suiter, John
Wherry, Robert

Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
PANEK, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Mannion, Tom

McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Ulery, Jordan

Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wheeler, Jonah

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriels, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Mehegan, Peter
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
Markell, Jay
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guzowski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McDonnell, Valerie
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Read, Ellen
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
Vose, Michael

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McGrath, Linda
Nelson, Jodi
Porcelli, Susan
Roy, Terry
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vallone, Mark
MacDonald, Wayne

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
McMahon, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Potucek, John
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, David

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

NAYS - 161

BELKNAP

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Faulkner, Barry
Newell, Jodi

Berch, Paul
Gruber, James
O'Rourke, Terri

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
Parshall, Lucius

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Weber, Lucy

COOS

King, Seth

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Oppel, Thomas
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Rockmore, Ellen

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
McFarlane, Donald
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Muirhead, Russell
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Aissandra
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily

Beauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia

Booras, Efsthia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie

Harriott-Gathright, Linda
 Jack, Martin
 Foxx, Loren
 Lloyd, Christal
 McGhee, Kat
 Preece, David
 Rung, Rosemarie
 Seibert, Christine
 Telerski, Laura
 Thomas, Wendy

Hartnett, Tim
 Jeudy, Jean
 Leapley, Nicole
 Long, Patrick
 Murphy, Nancy
 Newman, Ray
 Ryan, Linda
 Spier, Carry
 Tellez, Trinidad
 Warden, Mark

Hegner, Karen
 Kerwin, Erin
 LeClerc, Daniel
 Murray, Megan
 Petrigno, Peter
 Raymond, Heather
 Newman, Sue
 Staub, Kathy
 Vail, Suzanne
 Wilhelm, Matthew

Herbert, Christopher
 Kluger, Lee Ann
 Leishman, Peter
 Manohar, Sanjeev
 Plamondon, Marc
 Rombeau, Catherine
 Salvi, Santosh
 Swanson, Dale
 Veilleux, Daniel

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
 Ebel, Karen
 Leavitt, John
 Payeur, Stephanie
 Snodgrass, Jim

Caplan, Tony
 Gallagher, Eric
 Luneau, David
 Sargent, Gregory
 Soucy, Timothy

Colby, Eleana
 Hicks, Matthew
 Hall, Muriel
 Schamberg, Thomas
 Wallner, Mary Jane

Kelly, Eileen
 Lane, Connie
 Newsom, James
 Schultz, Kris
 Woods, Gary

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
 Edwards, Jess
 Knab, Allison
 Manos, Zoe
 Scherr, Buzz
 Ward, Gerald

Cahill, Michael
 Grote, Jaci
 Paige, Mark
 Melvin, Charles
 Simpson, Alexis
 Weinstein, Toni

de Vries, Erica
 Haskins, Linda
 Maggiore, Jim
 Muns, Chris
 Sorensen, Carrie

Edgar, Michael
 Murray, Kate
 Malloy, Dennis
 Reynolds, Ned
 Turer, Eric

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
 Smith, Geoffrey
 Howland, Allan
 Levesque, Cassandra
 Selig, Loren
 Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
 Gilmore, Gary
 Johnson, Erik
 Smith, Marjorie
 Southworth, Thomas
 Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
 Howard, Heath
 LaMontagne, Jessica
 Miller, Seth
 Stone, John

Butler, Billie
 Horrigan, Timothy
 Larochelle, John
 Schmidt, Peter
 Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
 Palmer, William

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Girard, Dale

and the majority committee report was adopted, and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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 micromanaging 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.

The question being adoption of the committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Roy spoke in favor.

Rep. Scherr spoke against and requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 198 - NAYS 161

YEAS - 198

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, Lisa
Terry, Paul

Bogert, Steven
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet

Bordes, Mike
Ploszaj, Tom

Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

Nalevanko, Rich

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Ulery, Jordan

Ammon, Keith
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Warden, Mark

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Suiter, John
Wherry, Robert

Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Mannion, Tom

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigan, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Potucek, John
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
Vose, Michael

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Roy, Terry
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vallone, Mark
MacDonald, Wayne

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, David

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

**NAYS - 161
BELKNAP**

Coker, Matthew

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Berch, Paul
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Aissandra
Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wilhelm, Matthew

Boyd, Bill
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Beauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Hartnett, Tim
Judy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Long, Patrick
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wheeler, Jonah

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
Ward, Gerald

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Weinstein, Toni

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Turer, Eric

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate was adopted.

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Selig spoke against.

Rep. Roy spoke in favor.

Rep. Harriott-Gathright requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 206 - NAYS 153

YEAS - 206

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

Bogert, Steven
Freeman, Lisa
Terry, Paul

Bordes, Mike
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet

Coker, Matthew
Ploszaj, Tom

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick
Stringham, Jerry

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wheeler, Jonah

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Leishman, Peter
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, Tom
Wherry, Robert

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Sargent, Gregory
Thibault, James

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yuri
See, Alvin

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Walsh, Thomas

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Potucek, John
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Scherr, Buzz
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Roy, Terry
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Turcotte, Len

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Larochelle, John
Walker, David

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Potenza, Kelley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Hall, Robley

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

NAYS - 153 BELKNAP

Nagel, David St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita Paige, David McAleer, Chris Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick Berch, Paul Harvey, Cathryn Fox, Dru
Faulkner, Barry Gruber, James Jacobs, Samantha Jones, Philip
Germana, Nicholas Newell, Jodi O'Rorke, Terri Parshall, Lucius
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan Baldwin, Heather Bolton, Bill Corman, Thomas
Fellows, Sallie Fracht, David Hakken-Phillips, Mary Sullivan, Jared
Lovett, Peter Lucas, Janet Muirhead, Russell Oppel, Thomas
Rockmore, Ellen Spahr, Terry Stavis, Laurel Sykes, George

HILLSBOROUGH

Beauchemin, Paige Bergeron, Dan Booras, Efstathia Budathoki, Suraj
Chourasia, Manoj Chretien, Suzanne Cornell, Patricia Darby, Will
Dargie, Paul Elberger, Susan Davis, Fred Foss, Lily
Georges, Mary Gregg, Alicia Grill, Jessica Grund, Stephanie
Harriott-Gathright, Linda Hartnett, Tim Hegner, Karen Herbert, Christopher
Jack, Martin Jeudy, Jean Juris, Louis Kerwin, Erin
Kluger, Lee Ann Foxx, Loren Leapley, Nicole LeClerc, Daniel
Lloyd, Christal Long, Patrick Murray, Megan Manohar, Sanjeev
McGhee, Kat Murphy, Nancy Petrigno, Peter Plamondon, Marc
Preece, David Newman, Ray Raymond, Heather Rombreau, Catherine
Rung, Rosemarie Ryan, Linda Newman, Sue Salvi, Santosh
Seibert, Christine Spier, Carry Staub, Kathy Swanson, Dale
Tellerski, Laura Tellez, Trinidad Vail, Suzanne Veilleux, Daniel
Thomas, Wendy Wilhelm, Matthew

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy Caplan, Tony Colby, Eleana Kelly, Eileen
Ebel, Karen Gallagher, Eric Hicks, Matthew Lane, Connie
Luneau, David Hall, Muriel Newsom, James Payeur, Stephanie
Schamberg, Thomas Schultz, Kris Snodgrass, Jim Soucy, Timothy
Wallner, Mary Jane Woods, Gary

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy Cahill, Michael de Vries, Erica Edgar, Michael
Grote, Jaci Haskins, Linda Murray, Kate Knab, Allison
Paige, Mark Maggiore, Jim Malloy, Dennis Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Manos, Zoe Muns, Chris Reynolds, Ned Read, Ellen
Simpson, Alexis Sorensen, Carrie Turer, Eric Ward, Gerald
Weinstein, Toni

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz Bixby, Peter Burton, Wayne Butler, Billie
Smith, Geoffrey Gilmore, Gary Howard, Heath Horrigan, Timothy
Howland, Allan Johnson, Erik LaMontagne, Jessica Levesque, Cassandra
Smith, Marjorie Miller, Seth Schmidt, Peter Selig, Loren
Southworth, Thomas Stone, John Pearson, Wayne Wade, Alice
Wall, Janet

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian Cloutier, John Damon, Hope Palmer, William

and the majority committee report was adopted.

MOTION TO PRINT DEBATE

Rep. Wendy Thomas moved that the debate on **HB 1642-FN**, relative to extreme risk protection orders. be printed in the Permanent Journal.

DEBATE ON HB 1642

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Selig.

Representative Selig: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today in opposition to the Inexpedient to Legislate motion for HB 1642. I want to start with a story. It's a story of a woman who had a history of making poor

financial choices in her life. For a time, she seemed to regain her footing, but then everything began to unravel. She was the mother of three young children; two in early elementary school and a toddler, and she was married to a man who had been diagnosed with a particularly brutal form of cancer. My own daughter, now a first-year college student, knew this family well. She knew the father from his work in her middle school. She knew the oldest child from elementary school. During her senior year of high school, she worked every other afternoon, one-on-one with that middle child. She loved that experience so much, she seriously considered pursuing a degree in teaching and early childhood education. But by late summer of 2025, this mother was in a free fall emotionally. She began sharing her distress publicly on social media, posts that showed desperation and crisis. But under the way New Hampshire law is currently written, unless she was placed in an evaluative psychiatric hold and determined that she needed long-term care, even when those warning signs were visible, nothing more would be done, and nothing more can be with our current laws. On my daughter's very first day of college classes, I had to make the most horrific phone call of my life. I had to tell her that that family that she knew and cared so deeply about was gone. Everyone except the toddler. The mother had reached her breaking point, and instead of receiving the help she'd so desperately needed and was crying out for, she used a firearm to take the lives of her two older children, her husband and herself. We will never know her final motivation, but we do know this, if HB 1642 had been law, when those social media posts were visible, someone could have made the call and an intervention could have happened and lives might have been saved. This family and our community were only one of many who were devastated by gun violence in 2025. HB 1642 is about prevention. It's about giving families, communities and law enforcement a chance to act before tragedy strikes. For those who are concerned about misuse, this bill has specific rules written into it so that people who file false reports would themselves be subject to prosecution. I want to be clear. By voting against this bill, the blood of anyone else in New Hampshire who dies by gun violence that could have been prevented will be on your hands. I urge the body to reject the Inexpedient to Legislate and allow another better motion to be made. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I request a Division Vote.

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Roy.

Representative Roy: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we've seen this same bill as long as I've been here, almost a decade, every term, in different forms and to different guises, but at the end of the day, it's what they call a red flag bill. It's where someone has their property taken prior to having due process. It's patently unconstitutional. The Supreme Court has ruled that people can have firearms seized after they have due process under a restraining order or something of that nature. This turns justice on its head. But more than that, this is dangerous. It's dangerous for people in the opposite way that they claim. If they claim that someone is dangerous to themselves or others, what this bill proposes to do is allow law enforcement to break into their home, take all their firearms, and leave with the door swinging on one hinge. There's no mental health provided for them. They're just left there. The dangerous person is offered no help under this bill. The only thing this bill does is seize their property. Now, we already have an involuntary commitment process in New Hampshire. If someone is dangerous to themselves or others, relatives or family can go to the court and ask for them to be committed, where the judge will determine if that's enough. They will send them to be examined by a doctor, and if necessary, they'll get treatment, and that would make them, if they were involuntarily committed, ineligible to have firearms anyway. The point being, right now, this bill proposes no help for someone who they say needs it so desperately. All it does is take their property and leave them alone. I would ask you to support the committee's recommendation of Inexpedient to Legislate. Thank you.

Speaker Packard: Representative Harriott-Gathright has requested a roll call. Is that sufficiently seconded? It is sufficiently seconded. The majority report is Inexpedient to Legislate on House Bill 1642. This is a roll call vote. The Chair recognizes Representative Harriott-Gathright for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Harriott-Gathright: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I know, the 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. And Mr. Speaker, if I know no one gets arrested, no criminal record is created unless the individual violates the order. And finally, Mr. Speaker, 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. Colleagues, please press the red button and save lives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Rhodes for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Rhodes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I know the premise of this bill is to temporarily take away a person's firearms while leaving them in the exact same environment that someone claims is creating the mental health situation, and if I know that New Hampshire has a very clear and robust involuntary commitment law that will address the very situations that were described in our public hearing, and Mr. Speaker, if I know that having a police officer invade somebody's home, seize their firearms, walk out and say, "have a great day," does nothing to help the mental health crisis that the person is having, it just leaves them with an insult, would I now press green? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Packard: The motion before us is the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate on House Bill 1642. This is a roll call vote. If you're in favor, you'll press the green button. If you're opposed, you'll press the red button. Voting stations are open for 30 seconds. Have all members present had the opportunity to vote? The House will attend to the state of the vote. 206 voting Yay; 153 voting Nay, the committee report is adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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 e-filing 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 advocate's 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 in-person 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 e-filing statewide would require significant up front and ongoing investments in technology upgrades, training, public kiosks, and support for victims, costs that fall on underfunded courts without dedicated appropriations. Vote 7-6.

The question being adoption of the committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

The motion was adopted.

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Ladd moved that **HB 1701-FN**, reestablishing the New Hampshire college graduate retention incentive partnership program and making an appropriation therefor, be laid on the table.

On a division vote, with 203 members having voted in the affirmative, and 155 in the negative, the motion was adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Bricchi spoke against.

Rep. Drye spoke in favor.

Rep. Noble requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 194 - NAYS 166

YEAS - 194

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet

Bogert, Steven
Ploszaj, Tom

Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

Freeman, Lisa
Terry, Paul

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Mannion, Tom

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Ulery, Jordan

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Warden, Mark

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Suiter, John
Wherry, Robert

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Thibault, James

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Wood, Clayton

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Bennett, Cindy
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Roy, Terry
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bernardy, JD
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, David

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

Aron, Judy
Spillsbury, Walter

NAYS - 166**BELKNAP**

Bordes, Mike

Coker, Matthew

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita
Woodcock, Stephen

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Taylor, Brian

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Faulkner, Barry
Newell, Jodi

Berch, Paul
Gruber, James
O'Rorke, Terri

Harvey, Cathryn
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Fox, Dru
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wilhelm, Matthew

Beauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hartnett, Tim
Judy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grill, Jessica
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Long, Patrick
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wheeler, Jonah

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Edgar, Michael
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie
Weinstein, Toni

Bridle, Nicholas
Grote, Jaci
Knab, Allison
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Turer, Eric

Cahill, Michael
Guthrie, Joseph
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
Vallone, Mark

de Vries, Erica
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Ward, Gerald

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
Palmer, William

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Girard, Dale

and the majority committee report was adopted.

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.

The question being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass.

The motion was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

The motion was adopted.

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Oppel spoke against.

Rep. Grote spoke in favor.

Rep. Schamberg requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 284 - NAYS 76

YEAS - 284

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, Lisa
Minor, Sheri

Bogert, Steven
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet
St. Clair, Charlie

Coker, Matthew
Nagel, David
Terry, Paul

Comtois, Barbara
Ploszaj, Tom

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Paige, David
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike
Hamblen, Joseph
Taylor, Brian

Burroughs, Anita
Smith, Jonathan

Crawford, Karel
McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Berch, Paul
Jones, Philip
Newell, Jodi

Harvey, Cathryn
Karasinski, Sly
Qualey, James

Murphy, Denis
Mattson, Rita
Rhodes, Jennifer

Hunt, John
Nalevanko, Rich
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Bjelobrck, Marie Louise
Sullivan, Jared
McFarlane, Donald

Barton, Joseph
Fellows, Sallie
Ladd, Rick
Muirhead, Russell

Beaulier, Calvin
Franz, Linda
Louis, Darrell
Sellers, John

Berezhny, Lex
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Lovett, Peter
Stavis, Laurel

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Bergeron, Dan
Budathoki, Suraj
Cornell, Patricia
Darby, Will
Dupont, Pierre
Flanagan, Jack
Giasson, Henry
Grund, Stephanie
Jeudy, Jean
Kluger, Lee Ann
Lascelles, Richard
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Proulx, Mark

Ammon, Keith
Berry, Ross
Colcombe, Riché
Creighton, James
Dargie, Paul
Erf, Keith
Griffin, Gerald
Gorski, Ted
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Juris, Louis
Kofalt, Jim
LeClerc, Daniel
McLean, Mark
Murphy, Nancy
Panek, Sandra
Plamondon, Marc
Prout, Andrew

Boyd, Bill
Boehm, Ralph
Cole, Brian
Kelley, Diane
Drew, Matt
Davis, Fred
Gagne, Larry
Gould, Linda
Herbert, Christopher
Kenny, Catherine
Foxy, Loren
Long, Patrick
Miles, Julie
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri

Barbour, Liz
Booras, Efstathia
Corcoran, Travis
Daniels, Gary
Dumont, Dillon
Fedolfi, Jim
Georges, Mary
Grill, Jessica
Jack, Martin
Kesselring, Steven
Labrie, Brian
Murray, Megan
Mooney, Maureen
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly

Rombeau, Catherine
Scully, Kevin
Spier, Carry
Ulery, Jordan
Wilhelm, Matthew

Rung, Rosemarie
Sheehan, Vanessa
Suiter, John
Veilleux, Daniel

Ryan, Linda
Sirois, Shane
Telerski, Laura
Warden, Mark

Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Mannion, Tom
Wherry, Robert

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Ebel, Karen
Lane, Connie
Moffett, Michael
Polozov, Yuri
See, Alvin
Thibault, James

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Leavitt, John
Payeur, Stephanie
Boyd, Stephen
Snodgrass, Jim
Wallner, Mary Jane

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Hicks, Matthew
Hall, Muriel
Pitaro, Matthew
Schultz, Kris
Soucy, Timothy
Wood, Clayton

McGuire, Carol
Kelly, Eileen
Hill, Gregory
Mehegan, Peter
Plante, Raymond
Seaworth, Brian
Walsh, Thomas
Woods, Gary

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Guzowski, James
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
Maggiore, Jim
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Roy, Terry
Selby, Donald
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Vallone, Mark
MacDonald, Wayne

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Harb, Robert
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
Malloy, Dennis
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Pearson, Stephen
Simpson, Alexis
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Grote, Jaci
Janigian, John
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Paige, Mark
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sorensen, Carrie
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guthrie, Joseph
Murray, Kate
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Pearson, Mark
Manos, Zoe
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Read, Ellen
Scherr, Buzz
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Turer, Eric
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Kaczynski, Thomas
Miller, Seth
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Bay, Luz
DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Larochelle, John
Potenza, Kelley
Stone, John

Burnham, Claudine
DeRoy, Susan
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Hall, Robley
Turcotte, Len

Butler, Billie
Farrington, Samuel
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Schmidt, Peter
Walker, David

Sullivan, Brian
Hemingway, Wayne
Rollins, Skip

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Smith, Steven

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael
Spilsbury, Walter

Grant, George
Palmer, William

SULLIVAN

NAYS - 76

CARROLL

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Germana, Nicholas

Fox, Dru
O'Rorke, Terri

Faulkner, Barry
Parshall, Lucius

Gruber, James
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Baldwin, Heather
Lucas, Janet
Stringham, Jerry

Bolton, Bill
Oppel, Thomas
Sykes, George

Cormen, Thomas
Rockmore, Ellen

Fracht, David
Spahr, Terry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Elberger, Susan
Hegner, Karen
Lloyd, Christal
Preece, David
Salvi, Santosh
Tellez, Trinidad

Beauchemin, Paige
Foss, Lily
Kerwin, Erin
Manohar, Sanjeev
Newman, Ray
Seibert, Christine
Vail, Suzanne

Chourasia, Manoj
Gregg, Alicia
Leapley, Nicole
McGhee, Kat
Raymond, Heather
Staub, Kathy
Thomas, Wendy

Chretien, Suzanne
Hartnett, Tim
Leishman, Peter
Petrigno, Peter
Newman, Sue
Swanson, Dale
Wheeler, Jonah

MERRIMACKBricchi, Tracy
Luneau, DavidCaplan, Tony
Newsom, JamesColby, Eleana
Sargent, GregoryGallager, Eric
Schamberg, Thomas**ROCKINGHAM**Cahill, Michael
Knab, Allison
Weinstein, Tonide Vries, Erica
Muns, ChrisEdgar, Michael
Raynolds, NedHaskins, Linda
Ward, Gerald**STRAFFORD**Bixby, Peter
Howard, Heath
Pearson, WayneBurton, Wayne
Horrigan, Timothy
Wade, AliceSmith, Geoffrey
LaMontagne, JessicaGilmore, Gary
Selig, Loren**SULLIVAN**

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

and the majority committee report was adopted.

Rep. Schultz voted Yea and intended to vote Nay.

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.

Majority Amendment (0324h)

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.
Majority committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Rep. Lucas spoke against.
Rep. Potenza spoke in favor and requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 197 - NAYS 163**YEAS - 197
BELKNAP**

Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, Lisa
Terry, Paul

Bogert, Steven
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet

Bordes, Mike
Ploszaj, Tom

Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Warden, Mark

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Suiter, John
Wheeler, Jonah

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Mannion, Tom
Wherry, Robert

Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Ulery, Jordan

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriis, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yuri
Walsh, Thomas

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Drago, Mike
Guzowski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Roy, Terry
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Turcotte, Len

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Larochelle, John
Walker, David

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Potenza, Kelley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Hall, Robley

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

NAYS - 163**BELKNAP**

Coker, Matthew

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Berch, Paul
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wilhelm, Matthew

Beauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hartnett, Tim
Judy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grill, Jessica
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Long, Patrick
Murphy, Nancy
Proulx, Mark
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Turer, Eric

Cahill, Michael
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
Vallone, Mark

de Vries, Erica
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Ward, Gerald

Donnelly, Tanya
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie
Weinstein, Toni

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
Palmer, William

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Girard, Dale

and the majority committee report was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

The House recessed at 12:00

RECESS

The House reconvened at 1:00

(Speaker Packard in the Chair)

MOTION TO REPRIMAND

Deputy Speaker Steven Smith: Mister Speaker, as conduct of members and their capacity to serve is a privilege of the House, that is to say, a high order motion, we have at this time a member from Nashua, Representative Paige Beauchemin, who has conducted herself in a manner inconsistent with the high ideals of her position, and I therefore move that she be reprimanded by the House of Representatives.

The question being should Representative Paige Beauchemin be reprimanded by the House of Representatives? Rep. Steven Smith spoke in favor.

Rep. Paige Beauchemin spoke against.

On a division vote, with 264 members having voted in the affirmative, and 89 in the negative, the motion was adopted.

Representative Paige Beauchemin was reprimanded by the House of Representatives.

SPECIAL ORDER

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Cole moved that **HB 1409-FN**, modifying the deposit of revenues collected from video lottery terminals, be laid on the table.

The motion was adopted.

SPECIAL ORDER

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Reps. Spahr and Stringham spoke against.

Rep. Cole spoke in favor and requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 200 - NAYS 157

YEAS - 200

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Comtois, Barbara
Terry, Paul

Bogert, Steven
Freeman, Lisa

Bordes, Mike
Ploszaj, Tom

Coker, Matthew
Minor, Sheri

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike
Taylor, Brian

Crawford, Karel

Smith, Jonathan

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich
Thackston, Dick

Hunt, John
Newell, Jodi

Karasinski, Sly
Qualey, James

Mattson, Rita
Rhodes, Jennifer

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Warden, Mark

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Suiter, John
Wherry, Robert

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Mannion, Tom

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Ulery, Jordan

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriis, Jose
Hill, Gregory

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael

Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Thibault, James

Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin
Wood, Clayton

Polozov, Yury
Soucy, Timothy

Boyd, Stephen
Walsh, Thomas

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
Vose, Michael

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Turer, Eric
MacDonald, Wayne

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttat, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Turcotte, Len

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley
Walker, David

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Stone, John

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

NAYS - 157

BELKNAP

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita
Woodcock, Stephen

Paige, David

Hamblen, Joseph

McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas

Berch, Paul
Gruber, James
O'Rorke, Terri

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
Parshall, Lucius

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Aissandra
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Hartnett, Tim
Judy, Jean
Foxx, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Long, Patrick
Murphy, Nancy
Proulx, Mark
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grill, Jessica
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wheeler, Jonah

Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wilhelm, Matthew

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie

Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Wallner, Mary Jane

Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Woods, Gary

Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris

Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
Ward, Gerald

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Weinstein, Toni

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Vallone, Mark

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wall, Janet

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Pearson, Wayne

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Wade, Alice

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the majority committee report was adopted.

MOTION TO PRINT REMARKS

Rep. Weber moved that the remarks made on the motion to reprimand Representative Paige Beauchemin, be printed in the Permanent Journal. Without objection, the Speaker ordered.

REMARKS OF MOTION TO REPRIMAND

Speaker Packard: For what reason does the member rise?

Representative Steven Smith: A motion, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Packard: State your motion.

Representative Steven Smith: Mr. Speaker, as conduct of members in their capacity to serve as a privilege of the House, this is to say a high order motion. We have at this time a member from Nashua, Representative Paige Beauchemin, who has conducted herself in a manner inconsistent with the high ideals of her position, and I therefore move that she be reprimanded by the House of Representatives.

Speaker Packard: Representative Smith has moved to reprimand Representative Beauchemin. The member is recognized to speak to his motion.

Representative Steven Smith: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the State of the State Address, the member from Nashua gave a rude gesture to the Governor. I've served in the minority twice and have never felt the urge to do that. In a video posted later, it wasn't just this one time, freely admits to a pattern of disruptive outbursts in this House. The actions of one disparage us all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Packard: Representative Beauchemin, would you like to respond?

Representative Beauchemin: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the rest of the body. I stand before you to address the formal reprimand regarding the gesture that I made during the State of the State Address last Thursday. First, I would like to sincerely apologize for the vehicle of my frustration. Despite the fact that I have never shied away from speaking up when I see injustice, I truly strive to remain respectful and polite. As a human being, I make mistakes like everybody else, and unfortunately, last week I failed in living my values, and for that lapse in etiquette, I offer my genuine apology to this body. However, I will never apologize for the source of my frustration. I am by far not the only person in New Hampshire who is angry right now. I'm simply one of the few with a microphone. My direct constituents account for a large portion of the Spanish-speaking community in this state. And while we debate decorum in this room, those constituents and so many of all of our constituents are watching a warehouse in Merrimack be measured for a mass detention center. They're watching the news from Minneapolis where U.S. citizens were shot by federal agents during a surge that our own leaders helped authorize. They're feeling the weight of a security agenda that prioritizes cages over health care, housing, education, child care, and so much more that all of our families actually need. When I look at policies that treat our neighbors as targets and our towns as warehouses, it is a struggle to remain polite. I was channeling the raw, unfiltered exhaustion of thousands of Granite Staters who feel ignored by an establishment that is more concerned with the civility of a gesture than the cruelty of a policy. I am, and our constituents are feeling the escalating disrespect from our colleagues across the aisle, and those feelings were validated by one of your own members last week when they confirmed that the intended goal of this party on this side is to demoralize lawmakers and constituents who don't share the same opinions as them in an effort to make constituents so uncomfortable that they want to leave the state.

As someone who is here to represent our constituents and attempt to improve their lives and keep them in this state, this trend is exceedingly frustrating. Many of my colleagues in this room feel the same fire about injustice. We are told to play the game, to wait our turn, and to keep our voices down. But when the machine is moving this fast against the people we serve, silence is not manners. It is complicity. I would like to reiterate that I do sincerely, and I do mean this, apologize for the vehicle with which I express these feelings, and I will mind the protocol moving forward. But I will never, under any circumstances, mind my tongue when it comes to the safety and the dignity of the amazing people of New Hampshire. Thank you.

Speaker Packard: The House will be in order. The motion before us is the reprimand of Representative Beauchemin. This will be a division vote. Members, take your seats. The motion before us is the reprimand of Representative Beauchemin. This is going to be a division vote. If you're in favor, you'll press the green button. If you're opposed, you'll press the red button. Voting stations are open for 30 seconds. Have all members present had an opportunity to vote? The House will attend to the state of the vote; 264 voting Yea; 89 voting Nay. The motion passes.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass.

Reps. Potenza and Drew spoke in favor.

Rep. Palmer spoke against.

Rep. Potenza requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 186 - NAYS 168

YEAS - 186

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Ploszaj, Tom

Bogert, Steven
Minor, Sheri

Comtois, Barbara
Terry, Paul

Nagel, David

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine

Ammon, Keith
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Fedolfi, Jim
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim

Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian

Lascalles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan

Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark

McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, Robert

Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Peebles, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, Tom

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriels, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Mannion, Dennis
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

Bennett, Cindy
Thomas, Douglas
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Bernardy, JD
DeSimone, Debra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, David

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

STRAFFORD

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

SULLIVAN

NAYS - 168 BELKNAP

Bordes, Mike

Coker, Matthew

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita
Woodcock, Stephen

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Taylor, Brian

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas

Berch, Paul
Gruber, James
O'Rorke, Terri

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
Parshall, Lucius

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Flanagan, Jack
Grill, Jessica
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Long, Patrick

Boyd, Bill
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Georges, Mary
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Gregg, Alicia
Hartnett, Tim
Jeudy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat

Murphy, Nancy
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Ohm, Bill
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wilhelm, Matthew

Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne

Plamondon, Marc
Rombreau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Donnelly, Tanya
Murray, Kate
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Vallone, Mark

Bridle, Nicholas
Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie
Ward, Gerald

Cahill, Michael
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Sytek, John
Weinstein, Toni

de Vries, Erica
Haskins, Linda
Pearson, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
Turer, Eric

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
Palmer, William

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Girard, Dale

and the majority committee report was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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. The minority amendment 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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Kesselring moved that **HB 1798-FN**, relative to the coverage of diapers under the state Medicaid plan, be laid on the table.

Rep. Weber requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 197 - NAYS 158**YEAS - 197
BELKNAP**Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, LisaBogert, Steven
Ploszaj, TomBordes, Mike
Minor, SheriCoker, Matthew
Terry, Paul**CARROLL**Avellani, Lino
Smith, JonathanBelcher, Mike
Peternel, KatyCrawford, Karel
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIREMurphy, Denis
Nalevanko, RichHunt, John
Qualey, JamesKarasinski, Sly
Rhodes, JenniferMattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick**COOS**Davis, Arnold
King, SethKorzen, Lori
Tierney, JamesMorency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTONBarton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, JohnBeaulier, Calvin
Ladd, RickBerezhny, Lex
Louis, DarrellBjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald**HILLSBOROUGH**Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, MarkAmmon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, RobertBoyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Erf, Keith
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, TomBarbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Fedolfi, Jim
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan**MERRIMACK**Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, ClaytonAures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, AlvinAylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yuri
Walsh, ThomasMcGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James**ROCKINGHAM**Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Maggiore, Jim
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, VickiBennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, MichaelBernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, WayneBridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth**STRAFFORD**Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, DavidBurnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, KelleyDeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, RobleyDeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

**NAYS - 158
BELKNAP**

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas

Berch, Paul
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne

Beauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hartnett, Tim
Judy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grill, Jessica
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Long, Patrick
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wilhelm, Matthew

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Ward, Gerald

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie
Weinstein, Toni

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Turer, Eric

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
Vallone, Mark

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the motion was adopted.

(Representative Kofalt in the Chair)

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Alexander moved that **HB 1067-FN**, relative to the mental health courts., be laid on the table.

On a division vote, with 182 members having voted in the affirmative, and 171 in the negative, the motion was adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. DeLemus spoke against.

Rep. Marjorie Smith spoke in favor.

On a division vote, with 261 members having voted in the affirmative, and 94 in the negative, the motion was adopted.

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.

Majority Amendment (0233h)

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 [tø] **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 [tø] **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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

The motion was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Rep. Grund spoke against.

Rep. Pauer spoke in favor.

On a division vote, with 180 members having voted in the affirmative, and 171 in the negative, the majority committee report was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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.

Amendment (2026-0497h)

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

The question being adoption of the committee amendment.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Milz moved that **HB 1607-FN**, relative to the use and storage of road salt, be laid on the table.

Rep. Rung requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 188 - NAYS 166**YEAS - 188****BELKNAP**

Aldrich, Glen
Comtois, Barbara
Terry, Paul

Bogert, Steven
Freeman, Lisa

Bordes, Mike
Ploszaj, Tom

Coker, Matthew
Minor, Sheri

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike

Crawford, Karel

Smith, Jonathan

CHESHIRE

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

Nalevanko, Rich

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Cormen, Thomas
McFarlane, Donald

Beaulier, Calvin
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Berezhny, Lex
Ladd, Rick

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
Louis, Darrell

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Jack, Martin
Lascelles, Richard
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark

Ammon, Keith
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kenny, Catherine
Mazur, Lisa
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, Robert

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kesselring, Steven
McLean, Mark
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, Tom

Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

ROCKINGHAM

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Vose, Michael

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttub, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
MacDonald, Wayne

Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Tudor, Paul
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Turcotte, Len

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Larochelle, John
Walker, David

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Potenza, Kelley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Hall, Robley

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

**NAYS - 166
BELKNAP**

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita
Taylor, Brian

Paige, David
Woodcock, Stephen

Hamblen, Joseph

McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Murphy, Denis
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Berch, Paul
Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Harvey, Cathryn
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Fox, Dru
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Baldwin, Heather
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Bolton, Bill
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Aissandra
Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grill, Jessica
Hegner, Karen
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Mooney, Maureen
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Boyd, Bill
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wheeler, Jonah

Beauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jeudy, Jean
Foxx, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wilhelm, Matthew

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hartnett, Tim
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Long, Patrick
Miles, Julie
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Turer, Eric

Ball, Lorie
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
Vallone, Mark

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Ward, Gerald

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie
Weinstein, Toni

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
Palmer, William

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Girard, Dale

and the motion was adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

Amendment (0181h)

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.**

The question being adoption of the committee amendment.

Committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

and the motion was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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.

Amendment (0331h)

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.

The question being adoption of the committee amendment.

Committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Committee report was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

On a division vote, with 189 members having voted in the affirmative, and 156 in the negative, the motion was adopted.

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.

Majority Amendment (0170h)

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:

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

[II.] (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.***

[III.] (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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Granger moved that **HB 1655-FN**, establishing a funding source for maintaining state owned dams, be laid on the table.

On a division vote, with 173 members having voted in the affirmative, and 179 in the negative, the motion failed.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

Majority committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Rep. Granger requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 208 - NAYS 146

YEAS - 208 BELKNAP

Coker, Matthew	Nagel, David	Minor, Sheri	St. Clair, Charlie
----------------	--------------	--------------	--------------------

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita	Paige, David	Hamblen, Joseph	McAleer, Chris
Taylor, Brian	Woodcock, Stephen		

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick	Berch, Paul	Harvey, Cathryn	Fox, Dru
Faulkner, Barry	Gruber, James	Hunt, John	Jacobs, Samantha
Jones, Philip	Germana, Nicholas	Newell, Jodi	O'Rorke, Terri
Parshall, Lucius	Thackston, Dick	Weber, Lucy	

COOS

Morency, Pete	Ouellet, Mike	Tierney, James	Tremblay, Marc
---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan	Baldwin, Heather	Barton, Joseph	Bolton, Bill
Cormen, Thomas	Fellows, Sallie	Fracht, David	Franz, Linda
Hakken-Phillips, Mary	Sullivan, Jared	Lovett, Peter	Lucas, Janet
Muirhead, Russell	Oppel, Thomas	Rockmore, Ellen	Sellers, John
Spahr, Terry	Stavis, Laurel	Stringham, Jerry	Sykes, George

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alistandra	Alexander, Joe	Boyd, Bill	Barbour, Liz
Beauchemin, Paige	Bergeron, Dan	Boehm, Ralph	Booras, Efsthathia

Budathoki, Suraj
 Cornell, Patricia
 Dupont, Pierre
 Gagne, Larry
 Gregg, Alicia
 Hartnett, Tim
 Jeudy, Jean
 Kluger, Lee Ann
 Lloyd, Christal
 Mazur, Lisa
 Murphy, Nancy
 Preece, David
 Reinfurt, Sherri
 Newman, Sue
 Staub, Kathy
 Vail, Suzanne
 Wilhelm, Matthew

Chourasia, Manoj
 Creighton, James
 Elberger, Susan
 Georges, Mary
 Grill, Jessica
 Hegner, Karen
 Juris, Louis
 Foxx, Loren
 Long, Patrick
 McGhee, Kat
 Peeples, Raymond
 Proulx, Mark
 Rombeau, Catherine
 Salvi, Santosh
 Swanson, Dale
 Veilleux, Daniel

Chretien, Suzanne
 Darby, Will
 Davis, Fred
 Giasson, Henry
 Grund, Stephanie
 Herbert, Christopher
 Kerwin, Erin
 Leapley, Nicole
 Murray, Megan
 McLean, Mark
 Petrigno, Peter
 Newman, Ray
 Rung, Rosemarie
 Seibert, Christine
 Telerski, Laura
 Thomas, Wendy

Corcoran, Travis
 Dargie, Paul
 Foss, Lily
 Gould, Linda
 Harriott-Gathright, Linda
 Jack, Martin
 Kesselring, Steven
 LeClerc, Daniel
 Manohar, Sanjeev
 Morton, Jonathan
 Plamondon, Marc
 Raymond, Heather
 Ryan, Linda
 Spier, Cary
 Tellez, Trinidad
 Wheeler, Jonah

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
 Ebel, Karen
 Luneau, David
 Polozov, Yury
 Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
 Gallager, Eric
 Hall, Muriel
 Schamberg, Thomas
 Thibault, James

Colby, Eleana
 Hicks, Matthew
 Newsom, James
 Schultz, Kris
 Wallner, Mary Jane

Kelly, Eileen
 Lane, Connie
 Payeur, Stephanie
 Snodgrass, Jim
 Woods, Gary

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
 Thomas, Douglas
 Grote, Jaci
 Khan, Aboul
 Maggioro, Jim
 McGrath, Linda
 Reynolds, Ned
 Simpson, Alexis
 Vallone, Mark
 Weyler, Kenneth

Bridle, Nicholas
 de Vries, Erica
 Guthrie, Joseph
 Knab, Allison
 Malloy, Dennis
 Milz, David
 Read, Ellen
 Sorensen, Carrie
 MacDonald, Wayne

Bryer, Scott
 DeVito, Sayra
 Haskins, Linda
 Paige, Mark
 Mandelbaum, Jennifer
 Muns, Chris
 Pearson, Stephen
 Tripp, Richard
 Ward, Gerald

Cahill, Michael
 Edgar, Michael
 Murray, Kate
 Pearson, Mark
 Manos, Zoe
 Nelson, Jodi
 Scherr, Buzz
 Turer, Eric
 Weinstein, Toni

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
 Smith, Geoffrey
 Howland, Allan
 Levesque, Cassandra
 Hall, Robley
 Stone, John

Bixby, Peter
 Gilmore, Gary
 Johnson, Erik
 Smith, Marjorie
 Schmidt, Peter
 Pearson, Wayne

Burton, Wayne
 Howard, Heath
 LaMontagne, Jessica
 Miller, Seth
 Selig, Loren
 Wade, Alice

Butler, Billie
 Horrigan, Timothy
 Larochelle, John
 Potenza, Kelley
 Southworth, Thomas
 Wall, Janet

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
 Rollins, Skip

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

NAYS - 146

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
 Freeman, Lisa

Bogert, Steven
 Ploszaj, Tom

Bordes, Mike
 Terry, Paul

Comtois, Barbara

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
 Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike

Crawford, Karel

Smith, Jonathan

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
 Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
 Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita

Nalevanko, Rich

COOS

Davis, Arnold

Korzen, Lori

King, Seth

GRAFTON

Beaulier, Calvin
 Louis, Darrell

Berezhny, Lex
 McFarlane, Donald

Bjelobrck, Marie Louise

Ladd, Rick

HILLSBOROUGH

Ammon, Keith
 Kelley, Diane

Berry, Ross
 Daniels, Gary

Colcombe, Riché
 Drew, Matt

Cole, Brian
 Erf, Keith

Flanagan, Jack
Labrie, Brian
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Prout, Andrew
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan

Griffin, Gerald
Lascelles, Richard
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark

Gorski, Ted
Miles, Julie
Ohm, Bill
Post, Lisa
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, Robert

Kenny, Catherine
Mooney, Maureen
Panek, Sandra
Presa, Adam
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, Tom

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrijs, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Boyd, Stephen
Walsh, Thomas

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Sargent, Gregory
Wood, Clayton

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
DeSimone, Debra
Edwards, Jess
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
Melvin, Charles
Packard, Sherman
Potucek, John
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Wilson, Vicki

Bennett, Cindy
Donnelly, Tanya
Guzofski, James
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Markell, Jay
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Spillane, James
Tudor, Paul

Bernardy, JD
Drago, Mike
Harb, Robert
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Osborne, Jason
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Verville, Kevin

Mannion, Dennis
Dunn, Ron
Janigian, John
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McMahon, Charles
Brown, Pam
Porcelli, Susan
Selby, Donald
Sytek, John
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Turcotte, Len

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Walker, David

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Smith, Steven

Hemingway, Wayne
Spillsbury, Walter

and the majority committee report was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means.

(Speaker Packard in the Chair) REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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 an amendment 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 steward-

ship, 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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Nagel spoke against.

Rep. Donnelly spoke in favor.

Rep. Granger requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 194 - NAYS 156

YEAS - 194

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Comtois, Barbara
Terry, Paul

Bogert, Steven
Freeman, Lisa

Bordes, Mike
Ploszaj, Tom

Coker, Matthew
Minor, Sheri

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Boehm, Ralph
Kelley, Diane
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Herbert, Christopher
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Daniels, Gary
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Jack, Martin
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, Robert

Barbour, Liz
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, Tom

Berry, Ross
Creighton, James
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Schamberg, Thomas
Thibault, James

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yuri
See, Alvin

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Walsh, Thomas

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigan, John

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn

Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul

Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Verville, Kevin

Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Vose, Michael

Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Wilson, Vicki

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, David

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

**NAYS - 156
BELKNAP**

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Berch, Paul
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Juris, Louis
Leapley, Nicole
Long, Patrick
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad

Beauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Hartnett, Tim
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Veilleux, Daniel

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hegner, Karen
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Thomas, Wendy

Booras, Efsthathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grill, Jessica
Judy, Jean
Foss, Loren
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Wilhelm, Matthew

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Wallner, Mary Jane

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Snodgrass, Jim

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Soucy, Timothy

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Grote, Jaci
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Scherr, Buzz
MacDonald, Wayne

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Simpson, Alexis
Ward, Gerald

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie
Weinstein, Toni

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Turer, Eric
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Laroche, John
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the majority committee report was adopted.

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.

Amendment (0358h)

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.

The question being adoption of the committee amendment.
Committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Committee report was adopted, and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means.

MOTION TO PRINT DEBATE

Rep. Damon moved that the debate on **HB 1664-FN**, directing the department of natural and cultural resources to remove the Hannah Duston Memorial in Boscawen. be printed in the Permanent Journal.

DEBATE

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Nagel.

Representative Nagel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I begin, I would like to thank my good friends who last week delivered a moving bipartisan unanimous consent on the subject of genocide. That is what this bill is actually all about. The original bill was meant to be provocative, to redefine a divisive memorial to Hannah Duston in Boscawen and to expose an inconvenient truth. It succeeded beyond my wildest expectations and brought together people of diverse backgrounds and opinions to accomplish a virtuous goal and create a work-group so that a place could be made for all of us. It was my understanding that that made this bill unnecessary. Unfortunately, I found out later for reasons that I will get to that is not true and that's why I'm still here. Both the legend of Duston from 1697 and the creation of the memorial in 1874 have always been divisive. According to the legend told by Cotton Mather, Duston, her child and her midwife were abducted by an unknown Native group during a raid on Haverhill, Massachusetts during King William's War in 1697. The war pitted the French against the English, with the Natives fighting on both sides in a last-ditch effort to regain their lost land. Early on, her child was killed and she was being taken, we think, to Quebec, but we don't know. At some point, she was left in the care of two Native families, partially out of fear and partially out of anger for having been forced to pray like a Catholic. Duston and two others murdered ten of the Natives, six of them children, in their sleep. Then they proceeded to scalp them and return to Boston to collect a scalp bounty. It is not clear how much of this story is true. You can believe as much or as little of it as you want. The question I do offer you or ask of you is, was the protagonist a hero or a villain? And there's no consensus on that. And for me personally, that's not the issue. The issue to me is how the narrative was used subsequently. Mather himself was a cleric, and he basically considered Natives barbaric, uncivilized savages and needed to find a way to justify violation of the Second, Fifth, Eighth and Tenth Commandments in his treatment of the Natives. In 1874, a memorial was created in Boston and dedicated with grand ceremony on the shores of the Merrimack. When the people were done with their party, they trudged over to the State House and said, the monument is now yours, congratulations. The legislature that was there at the time said, no, we don't want it. They eventually did take it, and we've had it ever since. And the state since then has done very little to support it. While the memorial was designed to honor Duston superficially, its purpose was actually more sinister, and that is the issue. The memorial is actually one of two, the other in Haverhill, Massachusetts, and depicts the goddess Columbia, the symbol of the New World in general and manifest destiny in particular. In one hand is a hatchet, and in the other are 10 Native scalps. It is a vision so repulsive to some that one observer was a forced lament. It is shocking to humane, refined sensibilities. We shall have an increase of faith in juvenile human nature if the conquered boys don't stone that monument till not a vestige of it remains to desecrate New England's soil. In reality, the memorial was created to honor and inspire a spirit of patriotism as a means of promoting manifest destiny and solving what was known in the 1800s as the Indian problem by any means necessary. Duston was merely a symbol. The only good Indian is a dead Indian, and that was the motto of the time. The result was so brutally efficient that in a period of 300 years, the Native population of the Americas was reduced by 90%. In New Hampshire, it took only 80 years for the colonists to do what 13,000 years could not do when they basically eliminated the Abenaki from the state. While historians debate whether this constitutes genocide or merely ethnic cleansing, this was considered the greatest demographic disaster in human history. It was driven by a belief in racial superiority, one admired by Adolf Hitler who chose to emulate it in his genocidal campaign against Eastern Europe and all its inhabitants. When I look at the memorial, that is what I see, an outrage image of racism and hatred, and I don't believe the state should be supporting that. What became very important, though, after I submitted the bill was I got a lot of calls, and that led to a lot of discussion, and I quickly became able to see that there's a lot of ways that people look at this memorial, and because of that, we actually created a work group to try to change this memorial site that would leave the memorial there, but at the same time honor all the participants in the process. One of the things that people justified to keep the memorial was history is important, good or bad. I quizzed everybody and I asked, do you know the history, and not one person did, which is all right, but we need to learn the history so we can avoid its mistakes in the future. Some people justified, well, it was a time of violence, and the cheap export of European colonists at that time was to actually export an exponential increase in violence in the area. Some claim that the story empowers women, and this is an amazing story. If it's true, it is an amazing story about a woman's survival, and I think that should be honored. I agree. But the minor little detail was she did, in fact, murder six innocent children in their sleep and then

desecrated their lifeless bodies. One other little minor detail that's often missing was the fate of abducted Native men, women, and children, who often led to a different fate. They were either murdered or sold into slavery. These concerns have been discussed since the mid-1600s. There's virtually nothing I'm bringing up now that has not been brought up before. In 2017, a multi-stakeholder group was created to recreate this site to more accurately honor the history of all involved and acknowledge past sins as a way of creating a better future. That effort unfortunately died in 2021, and the report that was created at that time still has some value but needs to be updated. After I released this bill, we came together as an unusual group, having very little in common on this issue, but unified that something needed to change. And we did come up with a private funding mechanism. I personally have imagined that this site will be for New Hampshire, like the Vietnam Memorial is in D.C., or if any of you have been to Dachau or Auschwitz, a never-again site and how we can do better in the future. The problem is it's an incredibly complicated, very small piece of property with multiple people involved, including you. You only own a small sliver, but it's really important, and because of that, I was informed by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources that we would need to create a legislative body in my amendment that I hope we can hear, with an advisory council to oversee the work group and the work that they're doing. Therefore, I really would hope that you would push the red button on this bill to ITL it, and that way we can talk about the amendment. And I do have one more thing that I really feel obligated to say, because this has been a very challenging six months for me, but I do feel I need to say this. To those who sent me hate mail and threats, I ask you, who are we? I would suggest that we are all we, no matter the color of our skin, and I look forward to the day, as Martin Luther King said, that we will one day live in a nation where we will not be judged by the color of our skin, but by the content of our character, and I would add the words that we make liberty and justice real for all. It is my hope, sincere hope, that we can make this small piece of land be used to make that vision real, and I pray that those who sent me those letters can get past your hatred and join us for a place for all of us. Thank you, and I would ask for a division vote.

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Donnelly.

Representative Donnelly: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is an inspiring story for me, because I learned about Hannah Duston about 30 years ago when I first moved to Massachusetts. I was originally raised in upstate New York, where they had the French and Indian War. So I know the author of the Massacre on the Merrimack, which I encourage everyone to read, because it's a very highly detailed book.

Speaker Packard: Representative, we'll suspend. There's no props at the well.

Representative Donnelly: Lesson learned. I apologize, Mr. Speaker. Let me begin with, this is the first erected woman statue in the United States. That alone should be significant enough for us to never want to take this down as a community. In addition, this is also something, that Hannah Duston had just bore a baby. She was only a week old, Martha. She was captive. Her husband, she didn't even know, her husband ran with the other children to flee. She didn't know if they were alive or dead. Then what happened is they took her. They captured her. It was known that women back then, hundreds of them, colonial women, were taken and they were sold into slavery. She didn't know what was to happen with her. She just had a baby. As much as we want to say that this may be a symbol, this may be not a true story, there's enough evidence out there stating that this is a true story. We have lots of true stories. When we look through the hallways of our state house, are we going to deny all of our state house stories as well? I really encourage people to say yes on the ITL, this is a very important statue. It has been debated enough. As we've heard, back in 2016, there was an improvement to the memorial site to encourage people to become more knowledgeable, to become learned about this brave woman, the first statue of American history. The bill seeks to silence the resiliency of women who've lived in this time. Their voices were unheard and erased, her bravery, and diminished the legacy of the survival that she faced in that oppressive moment. Thank you.

Speaker Packard: Representative Granger requested a roll call. Is that sufficiently seconded? It is sufficiently seconded. This will be a roll call vote. Members, take your seats. The motion before us is the majority report of Inexpedient to Legislate on House Bill 1664. This is a roll call vote. The Chair recognizes Representative Sargent for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I know that instead of removing the Hannah Duston statue, we have an opportunity to finish the work of the prior study committee, and if I also know that a new advisory council with state, local, and Native representation is needed to finish the job and to make the site historically complete and a desirable place to go, would I now press the red button so that a better motion may be made?

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Donnelly for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Donnelly: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I know that the life in the 1600s was a brutal time when hundreds of colonial women were captured, kidnapped, and sold into slavery, King William's War, I can't even imagine the resiliency it took to survive such horrors. If I know that in 1874, Hannah Duston statue became the first publicly funded statue of women in this country, then I know it stands for a symbol of courage, survival, and a testament to women's voices in a time when women had none. This statue should never be removed. If I know in 2016, House Bill 1397 was passed to improve the memorial site so that all could learn about the Hannah Duston bravery, and then I know it was a step towards honoring the strength

of women endured unimaginable trials and the world denied them standing rights and recognition. And yet today a man sponsors a bill to remove the statue. The first statue of a woman in our nation, the bill seeks to silence the strength and resiliency of women who live in a time when their...

Speaker Packard: The Representative will suspend. This is a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Donnelly: Would I press the green button?

Speaker Packard: The motion before us is the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate on House Bill 1664. This is a roll call vote. If you're in favor, you'll press the green button. If you're opposed, you'll press the red button. Voting stations are open for 30 seconds. Have all members present had an opportunity to vote? The House will attend to the state of the vote. 194 voting Yay 156 voting Nay, the committee report is adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

Amendment (0332h)

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.

The question being adoption of the committee amendment.

Committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Committee report was adopted, and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Criminal Justice.

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Guthrie moved that **HB 1002**, repealing the solar energy systems tax exemption., be laid on the table.

Rep. Bernardy requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 187 - NAYS 157**YEAS - 187
BELKNAP**Aldrich, Glen
St. Clair, Charlie

Coker, Matthew

Nagel, David

Minor, Sheri

CARROLLBelcher, Mike
McAleer, ChrisBurroughs, Anita
Woodcock, Stephen

Crawford, Karel

Paige, David

CHESHIREAmes, Dick
Murphy, Denis
Germana, Nicholas
Thackston, DickBerch, Paul
Faulkner, Barry
Newell, Jodi
Weber, LucyHarvey, Cathryn
Gruber, James
O'Rorke, TerriFox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius**COOS**

Morency, Pete

King, Seth

Tierney, James

GRAFTONAlmy, Susan
Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, JerryBaldwin, Heather
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, GeorgeBeaulier, Calvin
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, TerryBolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel**HILLSBOROUGH**Murray, Alissandra
Budathoki, Suraj
Kelley, Diane
Davis, Fred
Grill, Jessica
Hegner, Karen
Kerwin, Erin
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Panek, Sandra
Presa, Adam
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, DanielBeauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Kluger, Lee Ann
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Petrigno, Peter
Prout, Andrew
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, WendyBergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Jack, Martin
Foxy, Loren
Long, Patrick
Morton, Jonathan
Plamondon, Marc
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wheeler, JonahBooras, Efsthathia
Cornell, Patricia
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hartnett, Tim
Judy, Jean
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Murphy, Nancy
Preece, David
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wilhelm, Matthew**MERRIMACK**Bricchi, Tracy
Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Schultz, Kris
Soucy, TimothyCaplan, Tony
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wallner, Mary JaneColby, Eleana
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Sargent, Gregory
See, Alvin
Woods, GaryDevoid, Ricky
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schamberg, Thomas
Snodgrass, Jim**ROCKINGHAM**Balboni, Peggy
Edgar, Michael
Murray, Kate
Maggiore, Jim
Melvin, Charles
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Simpson, Alexis
Vallone, MarkBridle, Nicholas
Grote, Jaci
Knab, Allison
Malloy, Dennis
Muns, Chris
Raynolds, Ned
Sorensen, Carrie
Ward, GeraldCahill, Michael
Guthrie, Joseph
Lundgren, David
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Osborne, Jason
Read, Ellen
Spillane, James
Weinstein, Tonide Vries, Erica
Haskins, Linda
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Porcelli, Susan
Scherr, Buzz
Turer, Eric**STRAFFORD**Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, JanetBixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Stone, JohnBurton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Pearson, WayneButler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Wade, Alice

SULLIVANSullivan, Brian
Girard, DaleCloutier, John
Palmer, William

Damon, Hope

Drye, Margaret

NAYS - 157**BELKNAP**Bogert, Steven
Terry, Paul

Comtois, Barbara

Freeman, Lisa

Ploszaj, Tom

CARROLLAvellani, Lino
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

Smith, Jonathan

Peternel, Katy

CHESHIREKarasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita

Nalevanko, Rich

Qualey, James

COOS

Davis, Arnold

Korzen, Lori

Ouellet, Mike

Tremblay, Marc

GRAFTONBarton, Joseph
Ladd, RickBerezhny, Lex
Louis, DarrellBjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, DonaldFranz, Linda
Sellers, John**HILLSBOROUGH**Alexander, Joe
Boehm, Ralph
Daniels, Gary
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Ohm, Bill
Post, Lisa
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, RobertAmmon, Keith
Colcombe, Riché
Drew, Matt
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Paquette, Kathleen
Proulx, Mark
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, TomBarbour, Liz
Corcoran, Travis
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Mazur, Lisa
Noble, Kristin
Pauer, Diane
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, JordanBerry, Ross
Creighton, James
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
McLean, Mark
Notter, Jeanine
Peeples, Raymond
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark**MERRIMACK**Andrus, Louise
McGuire, Dan
Moffett, Michael
Walsh, ThomasAures, Cyril
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Plante, Raymond
Thibault, JamesAylward, Deborah
Leavitt, John
Polozov, Yury
Wood, ClaytonCambrils, Jose
Mehegan, Peter
Boyd, Stephen**ROCKINGHAM**Ball, Lorie
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Brown, Pam
Pearson, Stephen
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
Weyler, KennethBennett, Cindy
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Markell, Jay
Milz, David
Perez, Kristine
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sytek, John
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, VickiBernardy, JD
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Nadeau, Brian
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Vose, MichaelBryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nelson, Jodi
Potucek, John
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
MacDonald, Wayne**STRAFFORD**Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, DavidBurnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, KelleyDeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, RobleyDeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len**SULLIVAN**Grant, George
Rollins, SkipHemingway, Wayne
Smith, StevenAron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Aron, Michael

and the motion was adopted.

Reps. Aldrich, Bill Boyd, Hill, Hunt and Kofalt declared a conflict of interest and did not participate in the vote.

MOTION TO PRINT DEBATE

Rep. Almy moved that the debate on **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. be printed in the Permanent Journal.

DEBATE

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Spahr.

Representative Spahr: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does anybody know what we spent last year in this state? Our budget was about \$8 billion. 17 years ago, in 2008, our budget was about \$5 billion. So we've seen in 17 years basically an increase of about \$3 billion in our budget, and mostly that's because of inflation. Salaries go up, healthcare costs, technology, construction, building maintenance, office expenses, they all increase every year, just as we do with our own personal budgets at home. The state covers these costs through collecting, basically a percentage, a percentage of business profits, a percentage of meals and rooms, of car rentals, insurance premiums, real estate transfers, casino gaming, and other sources. By collecting a percentage, the revenue keeps pace with that inflation. The tobacco tax doesn't do this. It is a flat fee per pack of cigarettes, and it doesn't adjust for inflation, and it hasn't since 2008 when our annual budget was \$5 billion. Today it's \$8 billion. As a result, the state is now losing tens of millions of dollars annually because of this inflation challenge. This bill would simply adjust for inflation and bring it back to the 2008 levels. That's what this bill does. So why is that a good thing? Well, just like the other 90 flat fees that we increased last year to account for inflation and pass them into law, it's the right thing to do to adjust this one as well. Even adjusting for inflation, our state will still be extremely competitive. We're the lowest cost state in the Northeast as far as the cost per pack of cigarettes, and even with this adjustment, we're still extremely lower than all our other states. We're very competitive with this bill. Excuse me. The additional estimated amount is about \$40 to \$87 million, and right now, our budget is bleeding. This will help staunch that bleeding. Last year, the governor had to basically raid the Rainy Day Fund and deplete it by \$67 million. That's not good, and think about this, the additional money collected would also allow lawmakers more flexibility to look at other important taxes to potentially cut. Taxes that are more impactful to New Hampshire, to New Hampshire's growth and its success. Can you guys think of one? Business profits tax. Two of my colleagues, on a different note, two of my colleagues on our committee, one's a Republican, one's a Democrat, they both shared with us last year that they actually quit smoking, said it was the best decision they have ever made in their lives with regard to their health. This fee increase may even entice a few others, New Hampshire residents, to do the same. Not only will their health be better, but they'll actually save a lot more money because the average is \$3 a year in cigarettes, and they also spend an average of about \$2,000 more in healthcare costs every single year. So it's a win-win for people. And New Hampshire businesses love this bill. Guess why? We lose, the businesses here in this state, lose about a billion and a half dollars a year in lost productivity from workers who are sick and unable to work because of smoking-related causes. A billion and a half dollars. This bill is frankly, in my opinion, a no-brainer. It guarantees our citizens, it guarantees our businesses, and it guarantees our state will be healthier and wealthier. Let's go to New Hampshire.

Speaker Packard: Chair recognizes Representative Stringham.

Representative Stringham: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As my colleague said, HB 1596 changes the per-pack fee on a package of cigarettes for the first time in 18 years to \$2.80 from the current level of \$1.78. And he explained why we have to vote on that. While most taxes that we increase auto-adjust because they're percent taxes, so the fee on a hamburger that you bought at the store, the state fee is now higher than it was 18 years ago. But since the fee on cigarettes is per-pack, we have to do the unenviable process of deciding when and how much to raise this tax or change it. So how did we come up with the \$2.80 number from \$1.78? There's really two things. One is that this is just a COLA-based index increase since the last time it was set at 2008. So it's just an inflation adjuster. Secondly, it was a specific request of the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society who look at this fee as a very important public health matter. And they say it's better to raise the fee all at once, say a dollar per pack at the time. It has more of a cessation impact, creates a little bit of a shock to the system, than inching it up every once in a while. It's like raising the temperature of the boiling water with a frog in it that we've heard before. So that's how we came up with this \$1.02 increase. So the second question is, why now? Well, Maine raised their cigarette tax by \$1.50 per pack last year. The new \$2.80 Granite State rate will be the lowest in the New England region. In addition to having a lower rate, we still do not pay sales tax. All of the other New England states pay a sales tax on top of the entire purchase price, not just the tax, but the whole thing. So that adds up to a dollar more to the purchase price. So, critics of this bill will tell you we'll lose cross-border sales with this increase. I think those who are stocking up while in the Granite State will continue to do so. They will still save a dollar, perhaps even up to \$3 per pack. Just to give you an idea that the rates are \$3.08 in Vermont, \$3.50 in Maine, \$3.51 in Mass, \$3.90 in Connecticut, and Rhode Island, \$4.50. So saving this dollar to \$3 to stock up while visiting the Granite State, and at the same time, while you're here, buying some maple syrup or stocking up on your Live Free or Die bumper stickers is bound to happen. The DOR fiscal note seems to agree, providing about

\$80 million in additional revenues. So we can, there's some benefits to it, but why raise it at all? As my friend and colleague often says, we're a state of unlimited wants and limited means. So why raise it? This bill also addresses what some of the uses of this could be, or will be. The bill removes the income-based premium tax for some Medicaid recipients imposed on Granite Staters by our last budget for the first time. Some Medicaid recipients in the Granite State program and the CHIP programs will pay, for the first time, a premium based on about 5% of their income, just to stay in and be eligible for the program. I can see what's going to happen, with my eyes closed, even though it hasn't taken effect yet. Hardworking Granite Staters in need of health insurance just won't have the funds they need. They know they need it, but the up to \$270 they have to come up with, they just don't have. What'll happen? They'll lose coverage. They'll still, at times, end up to show up at a hospital or a community health center. The facility's uncompensated care ratio will go up. Some of the facilities of this type of care will have to close, just as the Ammonoosuc Health Clinic in Franconia just did, citing Medicaid cuts as the reason. Access will go down, and then insurer rates for everyone else will go up, impacting businesses and beneficiaries alike. So that's why this bill uses a small portion of the added revenue from the change in the cigarette tax to rid of this income-based tax on Medicaid recipients. Finally, the bill restores a portion of the funding cuts to the university system. While the cuts enacted in the current biennium seem doable, and as one of my colleagues said, a favorite cut, they turned out to be implemented at a rate that is hurting our youth and our businesses because of their size and speed. A factor we may not have appreciated is that over 50% of the university system budget comes from cost-based grants. So if you cut any of those in the cost you save, you also cut the revenue. So a smaller and smaller piece of the university budget, which is already ranked 50th in the nation, has to bear the burden. Maybe they could have cut administrative staff, but our examination says it's already thin. Most colleges have presidents, provosts, and deans, but basically, we don't have deans at our state colleges. The president of Plymouth State is a guy named Jonathan Birx. He's a good president of the 3,182 undergraduates and over 500 graduates. So who's the president of Keene State College with another 2,700? It's a guy named Jonathan Birx, it's the same guy. They're sharing the president of two major universities in the state. It sounds like they're pretty efficient and not top-heavy to me. In response to the budget cuts in the university system, which came fast, they removed 45 teaching positions. They canceled classes and put students at risk for achieving their graduation dates. At least some have left the state for their school to attend out-of-state institutions of learning. A university official told me that even with the cuts, they're still running short. They just can't cut enough teaching positions quick enough to meet the budgetary goals. Local businesses in the North Country and elsewhere are affected. The diner I also often frequent is largely staffed with college students on the weekend. And due to a diminished workforce of students, two weeks ago that diner announced they were closing for the winter and would open in late May, hopefully. There's no part of this bill that doesn't help Granite Staters. I don't take raising any fee lightly. As I'm sure none of you were when we raised the auto registration fee as part of this budget. But applying this COLA to cigarettes allows us to undo some of the most egregious harms in the current budget. I'm sure the second committee will further verify the benefits of reduction income based Medicaid taxes that were instituted and the timing of reductions to the university system or make the bill better. And I do deeply appreciate efforts by some across the aisle on this bill. And I'm hopeful that those ideas will be considered as I know they will in the second House committee. So I ask on behalf of Granite Staters that do not want to face postponement as a penalty for smoking cigarettes. For CHIP and Medicaid patients that are working hard and doing what they can to be part of the New Hampshire experience, and for college students that want to be educated and contribute to the New Hampshire advantage for the rest of their lives. Please support this fiscally responsible bill and vote red on the ITL motion so that an alternative motion can be made. Thank you very much.

Speaker Packard: The Chair, recognize Representative Cole.

Representative Cole: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. HB 1596, an act relative to the collection of certain health-care programs funding for the University of New Hampshire and raising the tobacco tax. First, let's address the heart of the bill. A massive increase to the tobacco tax from \$1.78 to \$2.80 per pack. 57% tax increase. It's projected to generate \$84 million in new revenue by singling out smokers. New Hampshire's low tobacco tax has long been a competitive advantage, particularly for our border communities. Our tax rate is nearly half of that of Massachusetts. This draws cross-border shoppers and supports local retailers, convenience stores, and creates jobs. A sharp increase like this will shrink in-state sales and undermine the very revenue that the bill promises to produce, threatening both our low tax identity and the economic vitality of granite-staters who rely on that price differential. The bill also carves out a permanent \$18 million a year appropriation for the University of New Hampshire system. Only a small percentage of the university system budget comes from state funds and is continuing to operate effectively without additional state support. Most concerning, however, is how this bill pays for this new spending. By repealing premiums for the Grant Advantage Medicare Expansion Program and the Children's Health Insurance Program, these premiums were deliberately designed to promote shared responsibility, control costs, and reduce pressure on the general fund. Eliminating them shifts the burden entirely onto taxpayers. By combining these two elements, this bill increases state expenditures by up to \$34 million and new general fund costs starting next year. New Hampshire is already

generous in its healthcare support. There are no free rides, state employees pay premiums for their coverage, and participants in these programs should as well to maintain fairness and fiscal discipline. HB 1596 raises taxes significantly, creates new permanent spending, relies on uncertain and potential declining revenue, and dismantles proven mechanisms for cost sharing. It places long-term pressure on an already strained budget and chips away at what makes New Hampshire attractive, low taxes and fiscal restraint. I urge the body to press green button and support the ITL motion, and Mr. Speaker, I call for roll call.

Speaker Packard: Representative Cole has asked for roll call. Is that sufficiently seconded? It is sufficiently seconded. This will be a roll call vote. Members, take your seats. The motion before us, the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate on House Bill 1596. This is a roll call vote. The Chair recognizes Representative Spahr for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Spahr: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I know that this bill will make our residents, our businesses, and our great state so much stronger, then I would push the red button?

Speaker Packard: Chair recognizes Representative Janigian for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Janigian: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I know that the funding source of this bill is a huge dollar, over a dollar tax on a pack of cigarettes, and if I know that our low tobacco tax compared to surrounding states is what creates a lot of cross-border traffic from places as far away as Rhode Island and beyond, and finally, if I know that a large increase in this tax would substantially slow those cross-border sales, then would I now press the green button and support the majority of the committee and the ITL motion?

Speaker Packard: The motion before us is the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate in House Bill 1596. This is a roll call vote. If you're in favor, you'll press the green button. If you're opposed, you'll press the red button. Voting stations are open for 30 seconds. Have all members present had an opportunity to vote? The House will attend to the state of the vote; 200 voting Yay, 157 voting Nay, the committee report is adopted.

REFERRAL DECLINED

Rep. Weyler, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, under the provisions of House Rule 47 (f), declined the referral of **HB 1323-FN**, relative to parental alienation, **HB 1460-FN**, prohibiting the sale of location and other sensitive data regarding children, **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, **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, **HB 1719-FN**, removing Hepatitis B from the list of diseases for which immunization is required under state law, **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, **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.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

Amendment (0241h)

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. McGhee moved that **HB 1542-FN**, allowing alternative compliance payments to the renewable energy fund to be refunded to ratepayers on a per kilowatt hour basis., be laid on the table.

Rep. Giasson requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 160 - NAYS 188

YEAS - 160 BELKNAP

Coker, Matthew

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita
Taylor, Brian

Paige, David
Woodcock, Stephen

Hamblen, Joseph

McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
O'Rorke, Terri

Berch, Paul
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Harvey, Cathryn
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Faulkner, Barry
Newell, Jodi

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
 Fellows, Sallie
 Lovett, Peter
 Rockmore, Ellen
 Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
 Fracht, David
 Lucas, Janet
 Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
 Hakken-Phillips, Mary
 Muirhead, Russell
 Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
 Sullivan, Jared
 Oppel, Thomas
 Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
 Budathoki, Suraj
 Darby, Will
 Foss, Lily
 Harriott-Gathright, Linda
 Jack, Martin
 Foxx, Loren
 Long, Patrick
 Murphy, Nancy
 Newman, Ray
 Ryan, Linda
 Spier, Carry
 Tellez, Trinidad
 Wheeler, Jonah

Beauchemin, Paige
 Chourasia, Manoj
 Dargie, Paul
 Georges, Mary
 Hartnett, Tim
 Judy, Jean
 LeClerc, Daniel
 Murray, Megan
 Petrigno, Peter
 Raymond, Heather
 Newman, Sue
 Staub, Kathy
 Vail, Suzanne
 Wilhelm, Matthew

Bergeron, Dan
 Chretien, Suzanne
 Elberger, Susan
 Gregg, Alicia
 Hegner, Karen
 Kerwin, Erin
 Leishman, Peter
 Manohar, Sanjeev
 Plamondon, Marc
 Rombeau, Catherine
 Salvi, Santosh
 Swanson, Dale
 Veilleux, Daniel

Booras, Efstathia
 Cornell, Patricia
 Davis, Fred
 Grund, Stephanie
 Herbert, Christopher
 Kluger, Lee Ann
 Lloyd, Christal
 McGhee, Kat
 Preece, David
 Rung, Rosemarie
 Seibert, Christine
 Telerski, Laura
 Thomas, Wendy

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
 Ebel, Karen
 Luneau, David
 Sargent, Gregory
 Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
 Gallager, Eric
 Hall, Muriel
 Schamberg, Thomas
 Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
 Hicks, Matthew
 Newsom, James
 Schultz, Kris
 Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
 Lane, Connie
 Payeur, Stephanie
 Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
 Grote, Jaci
 Paige, Mark
 Manos, Zoe
 Scherr, Buzz
 Vallone, Mark

Bridle, Nicholas
 Haskins, Linda
 Maggiore, Jim
 Muns, Chris
 Simpson, Alexis
 Ward, Gerald

de Vries, Erica
 Murray, Kate
 Malloy, Dennis
 Reynolds, Ned
 Sorensen, Carrie
 Weinstein, Toni

Edgar, Michael
 Knab, Allison
 Mandelbaum, Jennifer
 Read, Ellen
 Turer, Eric

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
 Smith, Geoffrey
 Howland, Allan
 Levesque, Cassandra
 Selig, Loren
 Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
 Gilmore, Gary
 Johnson, Erik
 Smith, Marjorie
 Southworth, Thomas
 Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
 Howard, Heath
 LaMontagne, Jessica
 Miller, Seth
 Stone, John

Butler, Billie
 Horrigan, Timothy
 LaChelle, John
 Schmidt, Peter
 Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
 Palmer, William

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Girard, Dale

NAYS - 188**BELKNAP**

Aldrich, Glen
 Ploszaj, Tom

Bogert, Steven
 Minor, Sheri

Comtois, Barbara
 Terry, Paul

Freeman, Lisa

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
 Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike

Crawford, Karel

Smith, Jonathan

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
 Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
 Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
 Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
 Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
 King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
 Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
 Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
 Franz, Linda
 Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
 Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
 Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
 McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Creighton, James
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, Tom

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Kelley, Diane
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
PANEK, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Daniels, Gary
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark

Barbour, Liz
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, Robert

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Cahill, Michael
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
Weyler, Kenneth

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Guzowski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Vose, Michael

Bryer, Scott
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
MacDonald, Wayne

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, David

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

and the motion failed.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee amendment.
majority committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ough to Pass with Amendment.
Rep. Notter spoke in favor and yielded to questions.

Rep. Caplan spoke against and requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 189 - NAYS 157**YEAS - 189****BELKNAP**

Aldrich, Glen
Ploszaj, Tom

Bogert, Steven
Minor, Sheri

Comtois, Barbara
Terry, Paul

Freeman, Lisa

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Crawford, Karel
Taylor, Brian

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Creighton, James
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, Tom

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Kelley, Diane
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Daniels, Gary
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark

Barbour, Liz
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, Robert

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriels, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
Donnelly, Tanya
Guthrie, Joseph
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Drago, Mike
Guzofski, James
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Vose, Michael

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Dunn, Ron
Harb, Robert
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
MacDonald, Wayne

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Edwards, Jess
Janigian, John
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas
Walker, David

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Turcotte, Len

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

**NAYS - 157
BELKNAP**

Nagel, David

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
O'Rorke, Terri

Berch, Paul
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Harvey, Cathryn
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Faulkner, Barry
Newell, Jodi

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
 Fellows, Sallie
 Lovett, Peter
 Rockmore, Ellen
 Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
 Fracht, David
 Lucas, Janet
 Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
 Hakken-Phillips, Mary
 Muirhead, Russell
 Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
 Sullivan, Jared
 Oppel, Thomas
 Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
 Budathoki, Suraj
 Darby, Will
 Foss, Lily
 Harriott-Gathright, Linda
 Jack, Martin
 Foxx, Loren
 Long, Patrick
 Murphy, Nancy
 Newman, Ray
 Ryan, Linda
 Spier, Carry
 Tellez, Trinidad
 Wheeler, Jonah

Beauchemin, Paige
 Chourasia, Manoj
 Dargie, Paul
 Georges, Mary
 Hartnett, Tim
 Judy, Jean
 LeClerc, Daniel
 Murray, Megan
 Petrigno, Peter
 Raymond, Heather
 Newman, Sue
 Staub, Kathy
 Vail, Suzanne
 Wilhelm, Matthew

Bergeron, Dan
 Chretien, Suzanne
 Elberger, Susan
 Gregg, Alicia
 Hegner, Karen
 Kerwin, Erin
 Leishman, Peter
 Manohar, Sanjeev
 Plamondon, Marc
 Rombeau, Catherine
 Salvi, Santosh
 Swanson, Dale
 Veilleux, Daniel

Booras, Efstathia
 Cornell, Patricia
 Davis, Fred
 Grund, Stephanie
 Herbert, Christopher
 Kluger, Lee Ann
 Lloyd, Christal
 McGhee, Kat
 Preece, David
 Rung, Rosemarie
 Seibert, Christine
 Telerski, Laura
 Thomas, Wendy

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
 Ebel, Karen
 Luneau, David
 Sargent, Gregory
 Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
 Gallagher, Eric
 Hall, Muriel
 Schamberg, Thomas
 Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
 Hicks, Matthew
 Newsom, James
 Schultz, Kris
 Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
 Lane, Connie
 Payeur, Stephanie
 Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
 Grote, Jaci
 Paige, Mark
 Manos, Zoe
 Scherr, Buzz
 Vallone, Mark

Cahill, Michael
 Haskins, Linda
 Maggiore, Jim
 Muns, Chris
 Simpson, Alexis
 Ward, Gerald

de Vries, Erica
 Murray, Kate
 Malloy, Dennis
 Reynolds, Ned
 Sorensen, Carrie
 Weinstein, Toni

Edgar, Michael
 Knab, Allison
 Mandelbaum, Jennifer
 Read, Ellen
 Turer, Eric

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
 Smith, Geoffrey
 Howland, Allan
 Levesque, Cassandra
 Selig, Loren
 Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
 Gilmore, Gary
 Johnson, Erik
 Smith, Marjorie
 Southworth, Thomas
 Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
 Howard, Heath
 LaMontagne, Jessica
 Miller, Seth
 Stone, John

Butler, Billie
 Horrigan, Timothy
 Laroche, John
 Schmidt, Peter
 Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
 Palmer, William

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Girard, Dale

and the majority committee report was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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.

The question being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass.
 Motion was adopted.

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.

Majority Amendment (0197h)

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

Majority committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Rep. Veilleux spoke against.

Rep. Gorski spoke in favor.

On a division vote, with 159 members having voted in the affirmative, and 188 in the negative, and the motion failed.

Rep. Veilleux moved Inexpedient to Legislate.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Steven Smith moved that **HB 1176-FN**, relative to the display of license plates on vehicles., be laid on the table.

Rep. Rice requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 321 - NAYS 27

YEAS - 321

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, Lisa
Terry, Paul

Bogert, Steven
Nagel, David

Coker, Matthew
Minor, Sheri

Comtois, Barbara
St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Paige, David
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike
Hamblen, Joseph
Taylor, Brian

Burroughs, Anita
Smith, Jonathan
Woodcock, Stephen

Crawford, Karel
McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
Karasinski, Sly
Newell, Jodi
Rhodes, Jennifer

Berch, Paul
Hunt, John
Mattson, Rita
O'Rorke, Terri
Thackston, Dick

Murphy, Denis
Jacobs, Samantha
Germana, Nicholas
Parshall, Lucius
Weber, Lucy

Faulkner, Barry
Jones, Philip
Nalevanko, Rich
Qualey, James

COOS

Davis, Arnold
Tierney, James

Korzen, Lori
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

King, Seth

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Berezhny, Lex
Fellows, Sallie
Ladd, Rick
McFarlane, Donald
Sellers, John

Baldwin, Heather
Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
Franz, Linda
Louis, Darrell
Muirhead, Russell
Spahr, Terry

Barton, Joseph
Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Lovett, Peter
Oppel, Thomas
Stavis, Laurel

Beaulier, Calvin
Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Lucas, Janet
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alistandra
Barbour, Liz
Booras, Efsthathia
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Drew, Matt
Davis, Fred
Gagne, Larry
Gregg, Alicia
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
Labrie, Brian
Long, Patrick
McGhee, Kat
Morton, Jonathan
Pauer, Diane
Preece, David
Reinfurt, Sherri
Ryan, Linda
Scully, Kevin
Slottje, Jeremy
Telerski, Laura
Vail, Suzanne
Wherry, Robert

Alexander, Joe
Beauchemin, Paige
Budathoki, Suraj
Corcoran, Travis
Daniels, Gary
Dupont, Pierre
Flanagan, Jack
Georges, Mary
Grund, Stephanie
Jack, Martin
Kesselring, Steven
Lascelles, Richard
Murray, Megan
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Peeples, Raymond
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Newman, Sue
Seibert, Christine
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Veilleux, Daniel

Ammon, Keith
Berry, Ross
Chourasia, Manoj
Cornell, Patricia
Darby, Will
Elberger, Susan
Foss, Lily
Giasson, Henry
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Judy, Jean
Kluger, Lee Ann
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Petrigno, Peter
Prout, Andrew
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Sheehan, Vanessa
Staub, Kathy
Mannion, Tom
Warden, Mark

Boyd, Bill
Boehm, Ralph
Chretien, Suzanne
Creighton, James
Dargie, Paul
Erf, Keith
Griffin, Gerald
Gorski, Ted
Hegner, Karen
Kenny, Catherine
Kofalt, Jim
Lloyd, Christal
Mazur, Lisa
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Post, Lisa
Newman, Ray
Rung, Rosemarie
Schneller, John
Sirois, Shane
Swanson, Dale
Ulery, Jordan
Wheeler, Jonah

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
McGuire, Carol
McGuire, Dan
Gallager, Eric
Lane, Connie
Mehegan, Peter
Pitaro, Matthew
Sargent, Gregory
See, Alvin
Thibault, James

Aures, Cyril
Cambrils, Jose
Devoid, Ricky
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Leavitt, John
Moffett, Michael
Plante, Raymond
Schamberg, Thomas
Snodgrass, Jim
Wallner, Mary Jane

Aylward, Deborah
Caplan, Tony
Kelly, Eileen
Hicks, Matthew
Luneau, David
Newsom, James
Polozov, Yury
Schultz, Kris
Soucy, Timothy
Wood, Clayton

Bricchi, Tracy
Colby, Eleana
Ebel, Karen
Hill, Gregory
Hall, Muriel
Payeur, Stephanie
Boyd, Stephen
Seaworth, Brian
Walsh, Thomas
Woods, Gary

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Bridle, Nicholas
de Vries, Erica
Dunn, Ron
Guthrie, Joseph
Janigian, John
Knab, Allison
Layon, Erica
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Melvin, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeSimone, Debra
Edgar, Michael
Guzowski, James
Murray, Kate
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Osborne, Jason
Potucek, John

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Edwards, Jess
Harb, Robert
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Maggiore, Jim
McGrath, Linda
Muns, Chris
Brown, Pam
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Grote, Jaci
Haskins, Linda
Khan, Aboul
Walsh, Lilli
Lynn, Bob
Malloy, Dennis
McMahon, Charles
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Raynolds, Ned

Read, Ellen
Simpson, Alexis
Summers, James
Tripp, Richard
Verville, Kevin
Weinstein, Toni

Pearson, Stephen
Sorensen, Carrie
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
Vose, Michael
Weyler, Kenneth

Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
Turer, Eric
MacDonald, Wayne
Wilson, Vicki

Selby, Donald
Spillane, James
Dolan, Tom
Vallone, Mark
Ward, Gerald

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
Burton, Wayne
DeRoy, Susan
Granger, Michael
Kaczynski, Thomas
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wade, Alice

Bay, Luz
Butler, Billie
Farrington, Samuel
Horrigan, Timothy
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Stone, John
Walker, David

Bixby, Peter
DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Laroche, John
Hall, Robley
Turcotte, Len
Wall, Janet

Burnham, Claudine
DeLemus, Susan
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Levesque, Cassandra
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael
Spilsbury, Walter

Cloutier, John
Grant, George
Palmer, William

Damon, Hope
Hemingway, Wayne
Rollins, Skip

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Smith, Steven

NAYS - 27 BELKNAP

Ploszaj, Tom

CHESHIRE

Harvey, Cathryn

COOS

Morency, Pete

GRAFTON

Fracht, David

Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Bergeron, Dan
LeClerc, Daniel
Plamondon, Marc
Wilhelm, Matthew

Gould, Linda
Murphy, Nancy
Proulx, Mark

Hartnett, Tim
Panek, Sandra
Raymond, Heather

Foxx, Loren
Paquette, Kathleen
Thomas, Wendy

ROCKINGHAM

Cahill, Michael
Porcelli, Susan

Lundgren, David
Scherr, Buzz

Mandelbaum, Jennifer

Markell, Jay

STRAFFORD

Howard, Heath

Harrington, Michael

Selig, Loren

and the motion was adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONT'D

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.

Majority Amendment (0445h)

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

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

Majority committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Rep. Miller spoke against.

Rep. Giasson spoke in favor.

Majority committee report was adopted and the Speaker referred the bill to the Committee on Finance.

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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Tierney spoke in favor.

Rep. Wheeler spoke against, yielded to questions, and requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 284 - NAYS 55

YEAS - 284

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Nagel, David
Terry, Paul

Bogert, Steven
Ploszaj, Tom

Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

Freeman, Lisa
St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Paige, David
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike
Hamblen, Joseph
Woodcock, Stephen

Burroughs, Anita
Smith, Jonathan

Crawford, Karel
McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
Mattson, Rita
Rhodes, Jennifer

Berch, Paul
Hunt, John
Germana, Nicholas
Thackston, Dick

Murphy, Denis
Jones, Philip
Nalevanko, Rich

Faulkner, Barry
Karasinski, Sly
Qualey, James

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Berezhny, Lex
Fellows, Sallie
Louis, Darrell
Rockmore, Ellen
Stringham, Jerry

Baldwin, Heather
Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
Franz, Linda
Lucas, Janet
Sellers, John

Barton, Joseph
Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
McFarlane, Donald
Spahr, Terry

Beaulier, Calvin
Cormen, Thomas
Ladd, Rick
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Drew, Matt
Flanagan, Jack
Giasson, Henry
Grill, Jessica
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Lascelles, Richard
McGhee, Kat
Morton, Jonathan
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Proulx, Mark
Reinfurt, Sherri
Newman, Sue
Sirois, Shane
Tellez, Trinidad
Warden, Mark

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Corcoran, Travis
Daniels, Gary
Dupont, Pierre
Griffin, Gerald
Gorski, Ted
Grund, Stephanie
Judy, Jean
Kofalt, Jim
LeClerc, Daniel
McLean, Mark
Murphy, Nancy
Pank, Sandra
Petrigno, Peter
Prout, Andrew
Rice, Kimberly
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Mannion, Tom
Wherry, Robert

Boyd, Bill
Budathoki, Suraj
Cornell, Patricia
Darby, Will
Elberger, Susan
Gagne, Larry
Gould, Linda
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Kenny, Catherine
Foxy, Loren
Murray, Megan
Miles, Julie
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Post, Lisa
Newman, Ray
Rombeau, Catherine
Scully, Kevin
Swanson, Dale
Ulery, Jordan
Wilhelm, Matthew

Barbour, Liz
Chretien, Suzanne
Creighton, James
Dargie, Paul
Erf, Keith
Georges, Mary
Gregg, Alicia
Hartnett, Tim
Kesselring, Steven
Labrie, Brian
Mazur, Lisa
Mooney, Maureen
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Presa, Adam
Raymond, Heather
Ryan, Linda
Sheehan, Vanessa
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
McGuire, Dan
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Luneau, David
Payeur, Stephanie
Boyd, Stephen
Snodgrass, Jim
Wallner, Mary Jane

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Hicks, Matthew
Mehegan, Peter
Pitaro, Matthew
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy
Wood, Clayton

McGuire, Carol
Kelly, Eileen
Hill, Gregory
Moffett, Michael
Plante, Raymond
Seaworth, Brian
Walsh, Thomas

Cambrils, Jose
Ebel, Karen
Leavitt, John
Newsom, James
Polozov, Yury
See, Alvin
Thibault, James

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Bridle, Nicholas
Thomas, Douglas
Dunn, Ron
Guthrie, Joseph
Janigian, John
Kuttab, Katelyn
Love, David
Malloy, Dennis
McGrath, Linda
Muns, Chris
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Vose, Michael
Weyler, Kenneth

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
DeSimone, Debra
Edgar, Michael
Guzofski, James
Murray, Kate
Miner, Laurence
Lynn, Bob
Manos, Zoe
McMahon, Charles
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Scherr, Buzz
Spillane, James
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne
Wilson, Vicki

Bennett, Cindy
Cahill, Michael
Donnelly, Tanya
Edwards, Jess
Harb, Robert
Khan, Aboul
Walsh, Lilli
Pearson, Mark
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Raynolds, Ned
Selby, Donald
Summers, James
Turer, Eric
Ward, Gerald

Bernardy, JD
Mannion, Dennis
Drago, Mike
Grote, Jaci
Haskins, Linda
Knab, Allison
Litchfield, Melissa
Maggiore, Jim
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Simpson, Alexis
Sweeney, Joe
Verville, Kevin
Weinstein, Toni

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Johnson, Erik

Bixby, Peter
DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Kaczynski, Thomas

Burnham, Claudine
DeRoy, Susan
Horriggan, Timothy
LaMontagne, Jessica

Butler, Billie
Farrington, Samuel
Howland, Allan
Larochelle, John

Levesque, Cassandra
Schmidt, Peter
Turcotte, Len

Miller, Seth
Selig, Loren
Pearson, Wayne

Potenza, Kelley
Southworth, Thomas
Walker, David

Hall, Robley
Stone, John
Wall, Janet

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
Grant, George
Palmer, William

Damon, Hope
Hemingway, Wayne
Rollins, Skip

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Smith, Steven

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael
Spilsbury, Walter

NAYS - 55 BELKNAP

Coker, Matthew

CHESHIRE

Harvey, Cathryn
Weber, Lucy

Jacobs, Samantha

Newell, Jodi

O'Rourke, Terri

GRAFTON

Fracht, David
Sykes, George

Sullivan, Jared

Lovett, Peter

Oppel, Thomas

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Chourasia, Manoj
Kerwin, Erin
Manohar, Sanjeev
Seibert, Christine
Veilleux, Daniel

Beauchemin, Paige
Foss, Lily
Leishman, Peter
Plamondon, Marc
Spier, Carry
Wheeler, Jonah

Bergeron, Dan
Hegner, Karen
Lloyd, Christal
Preece, David
Staub, Kathy

Booras, Efstathia
Herbert, Christopher
Long, Patrick
Salvi, Santosh
Vail, Suzanne

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Lane, Connie
Woods, Gary

Caplan, Tony
Hall, Muriel

Colby, Eleana
Schamberg, Thomas

Gallager, Eric
Schultz, Kris

ROCKINGHAM

de Vries, Erica
Sytek, John

Mandelbaum, Jennifer

Read, Ellen

Sorensen, Carrie

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Howard, Heath

Burton, Wayne
Smith, Marjorie

Smith, Geoffrey
Wade, Alice

Gilmore, Gary

SULLIVAN

Cloutier, John

and the majority committee report was adopted.

Reps. Rung and Taylor declared a conflict of interest and did not participate.

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 sup-

plies. 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.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Ulery spoke in favor.

Rep. Rung spoke against and requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 177 - NAYS 156

YEAS - 177

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, Lisa

Bogert, Steven
Minor, Sheri

Coker, Matthew
Terry, Paul

Comtois, Barbara

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino

Belcher, Mike

Smith, Jonathan

Petermel, Katy

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita

COOS

Davis, Arnold
King, Seth

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Sellers, John

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
McFarlane, Donald

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Colcombe, Riché
Daniels, Gary
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Paquette, Kathleen
Presa, Adam
Rice, Kimberly
Sirois, Shane
Warden, Mark

Ammon, Keith
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Gagne, Larry
Jack, Martin
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Pauer, Diane
Proulx, Mark
Schneller, John
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, Robert

Barbour, Liz
Creighton, James
Dupont, Pierre
Giasson, Henry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Peeples, Raymond
Prout, Andrew
Scully, Kevin
Mannion, Tom

Berry, Ross
Kelley, Diane
Erf, Keith
Gorski, Ted
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Panek, Sandra
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Sheehan, Vanessa
Ulery, Jordan

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
McGuire, Dan
Leavitt, John
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

Aures, Cyril
Devoid, Ricky
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

McGuire, Carol
Gonzalez, Ernesto
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

Cambrils, Jose
Hill, Gregory
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Bryer, Scott
Donnelly, Tanya
Guzofski, James
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Summers, James
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bennett, Cindy
Mannion, Dennis
Drago, Mike
Harb, Robert
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Selby, Donald
Sweeney, Joe
Vose, Michael

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Dunn, Ron
Janigian, John
Walsh, Lilli
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Soti, Julius
Sytek, John
MacDonald, Wayne

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Edwards, Jess
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Tudor, Paul
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Hall, Robley

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Walker, David

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Michael

Girard, Dale
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

NAYS - 156**BELKNAP**

Nagel, David

Ploszaj, Tom

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Burroughs, Anita
Woodcock, Stephen

Paige, David

Hamblen, Joseph

Taylor, Brian

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Berch, Paul
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Harvey, Cathryn
Jones, Philip
Weber, Lucy

Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lovett, Peter
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grill, Jessica
Hegner, Karen
Kluger, Lee Ann
Lloyd, Christal
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Thomas, Wendy

Boyd, Bill
Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grund, Stephanie
Herbert, Christopher
Foss, Loren
Long, Patrick
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Wheeler, Jonah

Beauchemin, Paige
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Harriott-Gathright, Linda
Judy, Jean
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wilhelm, Matthew

Bergeron, Dan
Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Gregg, Alicia
Hartnett, Tim
Kerwin, Erin
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Grote, Jaci
Malloy, Dennis
Raynolds, Ned
Turer, Eric

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Read, Ellen
Ward, Gerald

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Manos, Zoe
Simpson, Alexis
Weinstein, Toni

Edgar, Michael
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Sorensen, Carrie

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Stone, John

Butler, Billie
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian
Palmer, William

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Grant, George

and the majority committee report was adopted.

RESOLUTION

Rep. Osborne offered the following: RESOLVED, that the House now adjourn from the early session, that the business of the late session be in order at the present time, that the reading of bills be by title only and resolutions by caption only and that all bills ordered to third reading be read a third time by this resolution, and that all titles of bills be the same as adopted, and that they be passed at the present time, and when the House adjourns today it be to meet, Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.. Motion was adopted.

LATE SESSION**Third Reading and Final Passage**

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

HB 1030, relative to licensed practical nurse scope of practice.

HB 1110, relative to the New Hampshire real estate practice act.

HB 1119, relative to the regulation of funeral directors.

HB 1159, relative to updating the state building code.

HB 1259, relative to the issuance of certificates as a certified public accountant.

HB 1472, relative to the suspension period in cases involving the administrative appeals unit relative to licensure or certification concerning lead paint poisoning prevention.

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.

HB 1323-FN, relative to parental alienation.

HB 1460-FN, prohibiting the sale of location and other sensitive data regarding children.

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.

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.

HB 1719-FN, removing Hepatitis B from the list of diseases for which immunization is required under state law.

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.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Rep. Freeman requested Unanimous Consent of the House regarding Veterans and the Military and addressed the House.

MOTION TO PRINT REMARKS

Rep. Weber moved that the remarks made by Rep. Freeman during Unanimous Consent be printed in the Permanent Journal.

Without objection, the Speaker ordered.

REMARKS

Rep. Freeman: Thank you, Mister Speaker. Good afternoon and thank you for staying. I know Unanimous Consent sometimes can be a little tedious after a long day. Again, good afternoon and happy new year even though we are just a mere six weeks into 2026. Today I would like to begin the new year with an attitude of gratitude and to honor a group of individuals whose courage and commitment have shaped the very foundation of our nation; our volunteer service members and veterans, they stand as living proof that the strength of the United States has never come from its weapons or its wealth but from the character of its people. You chose to serve not because you were compelled to, not because it was easy, but because you believed in something larger than yourselves. You believed in protecting the freedoms that millions enjoy every day. You believed in defending the ideals that define us, liberty, justice, and the enduring promise of a democratic republic. Your service has taken you to places far from home, often into uncertainty, hardship, and danger, yet you carried our flag with dignity. You carried our hopes with determination, and you carried one another with loyalty that only those who have worn the uniform can truly understand. To our veterans and especially my beloved late husband whose airborne wings I will wear for the rest of my life, your service does not end when the uniform comes off. You continue to strengthen our communities as leaders, mentors, neighbors, and cherished friends. You remind us through your resilience, your humility, and your quiet strength what it means to live a life of purpose. To our active duty service members and reservists, you represent the best of who we are. You stand watch so others may sleep in peace without hesitation. You answer the call at any hour, in any season. Your dedication inspires us and your sacrifice humbles us. And to the families, those who wait, worry, who hold

everything together while your loved ones serve, you too are part of this legacy of courage. Your strength is woven into every victory and homecoming. Today and every day we say thank you, not just with words but with our commitment to honor your service, support your well-being and ensure that the nation you defended stands worthy of your sacrifice. May we never take for granted the freedoms you protect. May we never forget the cost of that freedom, and may we always strive to live in a way that honors the example you set. To all who have served and all who continue to serve, we are grateful, we are proud and we are forever in your debt. Thank you. God bless our veterans, our service members, and the United States of America.

RECESS MOTION

Rep. Osborne moved that the House stand in recess for the purposes of the introduction of bills, enrolled bill amendments, enrolled bill reports and receiving messages.
Motion was adopted.

The House recessed at 4:25 p.m.

RECESS

(Speaker Packard in the Chair)

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The Speaker made the following changes to committee assignments:

Rep. Aures was removed from the Committee on Ways and Means and appointed to the committee on Election Law.

RECESS

(Representative Osborn in the Chair)

SENATE MESSAGE

HB 751-FN, 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. (Amendment printed SJ 1/29/26)

Rep. Osborne moved that the House nonconcur and request a Committee of Conference.

Motion was adopted.

The Speaker appointed Reps. Noble, Peternel, Erf and Balboni.

RECESS