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HOUSE RECORD

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Calendar and Journal of the 2025 Session

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Wednesday, December 4, 2024

No. 1

HOUSE JOURNAL NO. 1

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

On the first Wednesday in December in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty-four, it being the day designated by the New Hampshire Constitution for assembling for organizational purposes, the one hundred and sixty-ninth General Court of the State of New Hampshire convened at the Capitol in the City of Concord. The Representatives-elect were called to order by Paul C. Smith, Clerk of the New Hampshire House of Representatives for the preceding session.

Prayer was offered by Guest Chaplain, Reverend Jean Beniste, Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Concord.

Almighty Creator, Source of all wisdom and understanding, we gather today as representatives of the people, bound by our shared responsibility to serve, guide, and uplift this state. We seek Your blessing as we begin this work. To the Divine of all faiths, be You called God, the Almighty, the Great Spirit, or by another name, we ask for Your guidance in our deliberations. Grant us wisdom to make decisions that reflect unity, justice, compassion, and peace. Fill our hearts with humility so we may listen deeply and respect the diverse voices and perspectives surrounding us. Help us act with integrity and courage as we seek the common good of all. May we be reminded in these moments of reflection that we are all interconnected, part of the same human family, and that every action we take has a ripple effect upon our communities, our children, and the generations to come. Bless our work today and every day, so that we may govern with fairness, empathy, and love for all people regardless of race, gender, creed, or circumstance. May the peace be upon you all. Amen. Representative-elect James Thibault, member from Franklin, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The National Anthem was sung by members of the Goffstown High School Honors Chorus.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Reps. Coker, Dylan Germana, Molly Howard, Panek and Scully, the day, illness.

Reps. Flanagan, Kofalt and Taylor, the day, important business.

Reps. Beauchemin and Jeudy, the day, death in the family.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Colonel Eric Pauer, U.S. Air Force retired, Ryan Pauer and Deborah Brissette, husband, son and sister of Rep-Elect Pauer. Rosemary Aures, wife of Rep-Elect Aures. Suzy and Gary Miller, and Linnea Hartsuyker, parents and wife of Rep-Elect Miller. Anne Pearson, wife of Rep-Elect Wayne Pearson. Joy and Alex Nalevanko, and Mark Mastrocinque, wife, son, and guest of Rep-Elect Nalevanko. Catherine Turer and Liz McConnell, wife and guest of Rep-Elect Turer. Mary Ann Janigian, wife of Rep-Elect Janigian. Madeleine Mandelbaum, mother of Rep-Elect Mandelbaum. Ted and Jack Barbour, Haley and Baker Brown, husband, son, daughter and grandson of Rep-Elect Barbour. Kimberly and Hannah Kesselring, wife and daughter of Rep-Elect Kesselring. Louise Boucher, Marie Wallace and Richard Chretien, siblings of Rep-Elect Chretien. Amanda Wibby, guest of Rep-Elect Dupont. Joseph Reinfurt, and Cassie Lavalliere, husband and daughter of Rep-Elect Reinfurt. Michael and Cecilia Pitaro, guests of Rep-Elect Pitaro. Linda Peeples, Linda Jacobson, and Jacob McQuestin, wife and guests of Rep-Elect Peeples. Michael Murphy, Susan Arscott, and Kenneth Steiner, husband and guests of Rep-Elect Mary Murphy. Kimberly Hartnett, wife of Rep-Elect Hartnett. Dana, Donna, and Crystal Miles, guests of Rep-Elect Miles. Nelson Long, father of Rep-Elect Patrick Long. Steven Korzen, and Dorothea Abbott, husband and mother of Rep-Elect Korzen. Gerry Mitchell, wife of Rep-Elect Snodgrass. Shanna O'Rorke, Gabriel Beckwith, Kirk and Ellenore Callender, Erin and Brianna Damren, guests of Rep-Elect O'Rorke. Ginger Heald, and Angela Houlihan, guests of Rep-Elect Notter. Brian Mazur, Joan Lanoie, Wendy and Larkyn Sandford, Katy Myers, Jennifer Vallee, and Shannon Carey, guests of Rep-Elect Mazur. Sarah Healey and Hannah Parker, guests of Rep-Elect Read. Steve, Sandy, Ayden, and Annabelle Morse,

parents and children of Rep-Elect Morse. Jerry, Josh, and Becca DeLemus, and Rosie Allaire, husband and children of Rep-Elect DeLemus. Billie Presa, mother of Rep-Elect Presa. Aaron Fracht-Monroe, and Mary Feix, guests of Rep-Elect Fracht. Kayla, Charles, Jameson, Don and Sarah Dumont, Brenda Witalis, and Geri Pellegrini, guests of Rep-Elect Dumont. James Ravan, guest of Rep-Elect Elberger. Marybeth Wadlinger, Steve and Gail Johnson, Steve and Christie Bravo, and Page Brenner, guests of Rep-Elect Peternel. Helene Wherry, wife of Rep-Elect Wherry. Jack Boyle, guest of Rep-Elect Simpson. Matthew and John Henry DeVito, and Russell Green, husband and sons of Rep-Elect DeVito. Jacob, Sarah, and Tirzah Georges, Jordan and Ethan Kadima, Glory Mukendi, Angel Kapinga, Crispin Milele, Victorine Munzimi, and Shirley Tomilson, guests of Rep-Elect Georges. Brandy Swanson, wife of Rep-Elect Swanson. Aletta Brown, and Destiny Davis, guests of Rep-Elect Fred Davis. Cara Dunn, wife of Rep-Elect Dunn. John Perez, husband of Rep-Elect Perez. Nelly Palmer, wife of Rep-Elect Palmer. Norma Sutcliffe, Josh Blake, Liam Drake, James Howard, and Max Ringelstein, grandmother and guests of Rep-Elect Thibault. Jason, Benjamin, and Alanya Telerski, husband and children of Rep-Elect Telerski. Dennis, Deborah, Jozef and Ava Tenczar, guests of Rep-Elect Tenczar. Jeanne Saffan, and Steve Grill, guests of Rep-Elect Grill. Lynda Hunt, wife of Rep-Elect Hunt. Chris Manos, and Julia Golomb, brother and daughter of Rep-Elect Manos. Anna Kingston, and Mark Millet, mother and husband of Rep-Elect Paquette. Jamila Gathright-Scales, Gina Spleen guests of Rep-Elect Harriott-Gathright. Elizabeth Thomas, and Michelle Barrette, wife and guest of Rep-Elect Doug Thomas. Anthony Henry, Shawn Morency, and Connor Donovan, guests of Rep-Elect Layon. Verdy Packard, sister of Rep-Elect Packard. The Honorable Maria Perez, former member from Milford, guest of Rep-Elect Alexander. The Honorable Corinne Morse, former member from Canaan, guest of Rep-Elect Oppel. The Honorable Emily Phillips, former member from Fremont, guest of Rep-Elect Noble. The Honorable Sherry Gould, former member from Bradford, guest of Rep-Elect Panek. Brian and Pauline McDonnell, parents of Rep-Elect McDonnell. Hollee Litchfield, daughter of Rep-Elect Litchfield.

COMMUNICATION

VIA EMAIL

December 2, 2024

Hello Mister Clerk Smith,

I am writing to let you know that I am going to forgo my position as state representative for District 12 in New Hampshire, because I am moving out of my district as of December 31, 2024. I will not come over to be sworn in and I will not be serving as the Representative that I was elected to be for this district. I do hope to help out in other ways in my new district down the road. Thank you for your help, if anyone has any questions please call me.

Dawn Evans

CALL OF THE ROLL BELKNAP COUNTY (18)

Dist. No. 1 (1)	Tom Ploszaj, r
Dist. No. 2 (2)	Matthew Lunney, r
Dist. No. 3 (1)	Juliet Harvey-Bolia, r
Dist. No. 4 (1)	Travis Toner, r
Dist. No. 5 (4)	Steven T Bogert, r; Mike Bordes, r; Sherri Minor, r; Charlie St. Clair, d
Dist. No. 6 (4)	Glen Aldrich, r; Harry H Bean, r; Russell Dumais, r; David Nagel, r
Dist. No. 7 (3)	Barbara Comtois, r; Paul A Terry, r; Peter R Varney, r
Dist. No. 8 (2)	Lisa Freeman, r; Douglas R Trottier, r

CARROL COUNTY (15)

Dist. No. 1 (3)	Tom Buco, d; David Paige, d; Stephen L Woodcock, d
Dist. No. 2 (2)	Anita Burroughs, d; Chris McAleer, d
Dist. No. 3 (2)	Karel A Crawford, r; Joseph Hamblen, r
Dist. No. 4 (2)	Lino M Avellani, r; Mike Belcher, r
Dist. No. 5 (1)	Jonathan H Smith, r
Dist. No. 6 (2)	John T MacDonald, r; Katy Peternel, r
Dist. No. 7 (1)	Glenn Cordelli, r
Dist. No. 8 (2)	Richard R Brown, r

CHESHIRE COUNTY (22)

Dist. No. 1 (1)	
Dist. No. 2 (1)	Dru Fox, d
Dist. No. 3 (1)	Philip Jones, d
Dist. No. 4 (1)	Jodi Newell, d

Dist. No. 5 (1) Lucy McVitty Weber, d
Dist. No. 6 (2) Paul Berch, d; Cathryn A Harvey, d
Dist. No. 7 (1) Terri O'Rorke, d
Dist. No. 8 (1) Lucius Parshall, d
Dist. No. 9 (1) Rich Nalevanko, r
Dist. No. 10 (2) Barry Faulkner, d; Sly Karasinski, r
Dist. No. 11 (1) Denis V Murphy, r
Dist. No. 12 (1) Dick H Thackston, r
Dist. No. 13 (1) Richard Ames, d
Dist. No. 14 (1) John B Hunt, r
Dist. No. 15 (2) Nicholas Germana, d; Samantha Jacobs, d
Dist. No. 16 (1) James Gruber, d
Dist. No. 17 (1) Jennifer Rhodes, r
Dist. No. 18 (2) Rita Mattson, r; Jim Qualey, r

COOS (9)

Dist. No. 1 (2) Sean C Durkin, r; James W Tierney, r
Dist. No. 2 (1) Arnold G Davis, r
Dist. No. 3 (1) Mike Ouellet, r
Dist. No. 4 (1) Seth King, r
Dist. No. 5 (2) Peter Morency, r; Brian L Valerino, r
Dist. No. 6 (1) Michael P Murphy, r
Dist. No. 7 (1) Lori Korzen, r

GRAFTON (26)

Dist. No. 1 (3) Joseph Barton, r; Calvin Beaulier, r; Darrell A Louis, r
Dist. No. 2 (1) Jared Sullivan, d
Dist. No. 3 (1) Jerry M Stringham, d
Dist. No. 4 (1) Heather P Baldwin, d
Dist. No. 5 (2) Marie L Bjelobrk, r; Rick Ladd, r
Dist. No. 6 (1) Linda Franz, r
Dist. No. 7 (1) Janet Marie Lucas, d
Dist. No. 8 (3) Bill Bolton, d; Sallie Fellows, d; Peter Lovett, d
Dist. No. 9 (1) Thomas Oppel, d
Dist. No. 10 (1) John Sellers, r
Dist. No. 11 (1) Lex Berezhny, r
Dist. No. 12 (4) Mary Hakken-Phillips, d; Russell Muirhead, d; Ellen Rockmore, d; Terry Spahr, d
Dist. No. 13 (1) Laurel Stavis, d
Dist. No. 14 (1) George Sykes, d
Dist. No. 15 (1) Thomas Cormen, d
Dist. No. 16 (1) David Fracht, d
Dist. No. 17 (1) Susan W Almy, d
Dist. No. 18 (1) Donald McFarlane, r

HILLSBOROUGH (123)

Dist. No. 1 (4) Tim Mannion, r; Tom Mannion, r; Jeffrey Tenczar, r
Dist. No. 2 (7) Loren Foxx, d; Ted Gorski, r; Linda Gould, r; Brian Labrie, r; Kristin Noble, r; Catherine A Rombeau, d; John Schneller, r
Dist. No. 3 (3) Fred Davis, d; Marc W Plamondon, d
Dist. No. 4 (3) Raymond Newman, d; Sue Newman, d; Linda V Ryan, d
Dist. No. 5 (3) Susan A Elberger, d; Heather Raymond, d; Dale Swanson, d
Dist. No. 6 (3) Lee Ann Kluger, d; Carry Spier, d; Suzanne E Vail, d
Dist. No. 7 (3) Alicia Gregg, d; Louis C Juris, d; Catherine M Sofikitis, d
Dist. No. 8 (3) Efstathia C Booras, d; Christal Lloyd, d
Dist. No. 9 (3) William Dolan, d; Sanjeev K Manohar, d; Santosh Salvi, d
Dist. No. 10 (3) Linda Harriott-Gathright, d; Marty Jack, d; Bill Ohm, r
Dist. No. 11 (3) Manoj Chourasia, d; Will Darby, d; Laura D Telerski, d
Dist. No. 12 (8) Bill Boyd, r; Julie Miles, r; Maureen Mooney, r; Nancy A Murphy, d; Jeanine Notter, r; Adam Presa, r; Rosemarie Rung, d; Wendy EN Thomas, d
Dist. No. 13 (6) Dillon Dumont, r; Cathy Kenny, r; Andrew Prout, r; Jeremy Slottje, r; Jordan G Ulery, r; Robert Wherry, r

Dist. No. 14 (2) Rich Lascelles, r; Raymond C Peeples, r
Dist. No. 15 (2) Mark McLean, r; Mark Proulx, r
Dist. No. 16 (2) Dan Bergeron, d; Larry Gagne, r
Dist. No. 17 (2) Linda DiSilvestro, d; David J Preece, d
Dist. No. 18 (2) Jessica Grill, d; Steven Kesselring, r
Dist. No. 19 (2) Suzanne L Chretien, d; Matt Drew, r
Dist. No. 20 (2) Alissandra Murray, d; Pierre Dupont, r
Dist. No. 21 (2) Christine Seibert, d; Matthew B Wilhelm, d
Dist. No. 22 (2) Patricia Cornell, d; Nicole Leapley, d
Dist. No. 23 (2) Mary N Georges, d
Dist. No. 24 (2) Donald J Bouchard, d; Chris Herbert, d
Dist. No. 25 (2) Kathy Staub, d; Kathleen Paquette, r
Dist. No. 26 (2) Brian D Cole, r; Patrick N Long, d
Dist. No. 27 (1) Mary Murphy, r
Dist. No. 28 (2) Travis Corcoran, r; Keith Erf, r
Dist. No. 29 (4) Joe Alexander, r; Henry R Giasson, r; Sherri Reinfurt, r; Sheila Seidel, r
Dist. No. 30 (3) Riche Colcombe, r; Jim Creighton, r; James L Fedolfi, r
Dist. No. 31 (1)
Dist. No. 32 (3) Diane Kelley, r; Shane Sirois, r
Dist. No. 33 (2) Peter R Leishman, d; Jonah O Wheeler, d
Dist. No. 34 (3) Stephanie Grund, d; Daniel LeClerc, d; Daniel T Veilleux, d
Dist. No. 35 (2) Liz Barbour, r; Kat McGhee, d
Dist. No. 36 (2) Diane Pauer, r; John W Suiter, r
Dist. No. 37 (1) Megan A Murray, d
Dist. No. 38 (2) Ralph G Boehm, r; Kim Rice, r
Dist. No. 39 (2) Jonathan Morton, r; Mark Warden, r
Dist. No. 40 (4) Suraj Budathoki, d; Erin Kerwin, d; Mark S Mackenzie, d; Trinidad Tellez, d
Dist. No. 41 (3) Lily M Foss, d; Tim Hartnett, d; Karen Hegner, d
Dist. No. 42 (3) Keith Ammon, r; Gerald Griffin, r; Lisa CM Post, r
Dist. No. 43 (4) Gary L Daniels, r; Paul Dargie, d; Peter Petrigno, d; Vanessa L Sheehan, r
Dist. No. 44 (2) Lisa Mazur, r; Ross Berry, r
Dist. No. 45 (1)

MERRIMACK (45)

Dist. No. 1 (1) Rick Devoid, r
Dist. No. 2 (1) Greg Hill, r
Dist. No. 3 (2) Ernesto L Gonzalez, r; Bryan Morse, r
Dist. No. 4 (2) Jose E Cambrils, r; Michael Moffett, r
Dist. No. 5 (2) Louise Andrus, r; Deborah Aylward, r
Dist. No. 6 (1) Tom Schamberg, d
Dist. No. 7 (2) Karen E Ebel, d; Gregory M Sargent, d
Dist. No. 8 (3) Tony Caplan, d; Eileen Kelly, d; Stephanie R Payeur, d
Dist. No. 9 (4) Eleana M Colby, d; Muriel Hall, d; David Luneau, d; James Newsom, d
Dist. No. 10 (4) Stephen E Boyd, r; John A Leavitt, r; Yury Polozov, r; Thomas C Walsh, r
Dist. No. 11 (1) Matthew Pitaro, r
Dist. No. 12 (2) Peter L Mehegan, r; Brian Seaworth, r
Dist. No. 13 (2) Cyril Aures, r; Clayton Wood, r
Dist. No. 14 (1) Dan McGuire, r
Dist. No. 15 (1) Tracy A Bricchi, d
Dist. No. 16 (1) Connie B Lane, d
Dist. No. 17 (1) Beth Richards, d
Dist. No. 18 (1) Jim MacKay, d
Dist. No. 19 (1) Mary Jane Wallner, d
Dist. No. 20 (1) Eric Gallager, d
Dist. No. 21 (1) Timothy Soucy, d
Dist. No. 22 (1) James L Roesener, d
Dist. No. 23 (1) Merryl Gibbs, d
Dist. No. 24 (1) Matthew Hicks, d
Dist. No. 25 (1) James Thibault, r
Dist. No. 26 (1) Alvin B See, r
Dist. No. 27 (2) Carol McGuire, r; Ray Plante, r

Dist. No. 28 (1) Jim Snodgrass, d
Dist. No. 29 (1) Kris Schultz, d
Dist. No. 30 (1) Gary L Woods, d

ROCKINGHAM (91)

Dist. No. 1 (3) Scott R Bryer, r; James Guzofski, r; Paul D Tudor, r
Dist. No. 2 (3) Jason Osborne, r; James Spillane, r; Kevin Verville, r
Dist. No. 3 (1) Mary J Ford, r
Dist. No. 4 (3) Cindy L Bennett, r; Mike Drago, r; Brian Nadeau, r
Dist. No. 5 (2) Mark Vallone, d; Michael Vose, r
Dist. No. 6 (1) Eric S Turer, d
Dist. No. 7 (1) Laurence A Miner, r
Dist. No. 8 (1) Sayra L DeVito, r
Dist. No. 9 (2) Donald E Selby, r; Vicki Wilson, r
Dist. No. 10 (3) Michael Cahill, d; Ellen Read, d; Toni Weinstein, d
Dist. No. 11 (4) Julie D Gilman, d; Gaby Grossman, d; Linda J Haskins, d; Mark Paige, d
Dist. No. 12 (2) Allison Knab, d; Zoe R Manos, d
Dist. No. 13 (10) Charles Foote, r; Phyllis Katsakiores, r; Erica Layon, r; David C Love, r; David E Milz, r; Jodi Nelson, r; Katherine Prudhomme O'Brien, r; Stephen Pearson, r; John Potucek, r; Richard Tripp, r
Dist. No. 14 (2) Pam Brown, r; Kenneth L Weyler, r
Dist. No. 15 (2) Joe Guthrie, r; Lilli Walsh, r
Dist. No. 16 (7) Tom Dolan, r; Ron Dunn, r; David C Lundgren, r; Wayne D MacDonald, r; Sherman Packard, r; Kristine Perez, r; Doug Thomas, r
Dist. No. 17 (4) Katelyn Kuttub, r; Bob Lynn, r; Charles E McMahon, r; Daniel Popovici-Muller, r
Dist. No. 18 (2) Debra L DeSimone, r; Jay Markell, r
Dist. No. 19 (1) Susan M Porcelli, r
Dist. No. 20 (3) Robert D Harb, r; Charles R Melvin, Sr., r; James Summers, r
Dist. No. 21 (1) Jennifer Mandelbaum, d
Dist. No. 22 (1) Kate Murray, d
Dist. No. 23 (1) Jim Maggiore, d
Dist. No. 24 (2) Jaci Grote, d; Dennis Malloy, d
Dist. No. 25 (9) Lorie Ball, r; Tanya Donnelly, r; Fred Doucette, r; John Janigian, r; Dennis Mannion, r; Valerie McDonnell, r; Joe Sweeney, r; John Sytek, r; Susan J Vandecasteele, r
Dist. No. 26 (1) Buzz Scherr, d
Dist. No. 27 (1) Gerald WR Ward, d
Dist. No. 28 (1) Carrie Sorensen, d
Dist. No. 29 (4) Nicholas D Bridle, r; Erica deVries, d; Mike Edgar, d; Chris Muns, d
Dist. No. 30 (2) Aboul B Khan, r; Matt Sabourin dit Choiniere, r
Dist. No. 31 (2) Jess Edwards, r; Terry W Roy, r
Dist. No. 32 (1) Melissa A Litchfield, r
Dist. No. 33 (1) Alexis Simpson, d
Dist. No. 34 (1) Mark Pearson, r
Dist. No. 35 (1) Julius F Soti, r
Dist. No. 36 (1) JD Bernardy, r
Dist. No. 37 (1) David D Meuse, d
Dist. No. 38 (1) Peggy Balboni, d
Dist. No. 39 (1) Ned Raynolds, d
Dist. No. 40 (1) Linda McGrath, r

STRAFFORD (38)

Dist. No. 1 (2) Susan DeLemus, r; Robley Hall, r
Dist. No. 2 (3) Glenn Bailey, r; Claudine R Burnham, r; Michael Granger, r
Dist. No. 3 (1) Susan DeRoy, r
Dist. No. 4 (3) Heath Howard, d; Cassandra Levesque, d; Len Turcotte, r
Dist. No. 5 (1) Thomas L Kaczynski, Jr., r
Dist. No. 6 (1) Denise DeDe Poulin
Dist. No. 7 (1) Aidan Ankarberg, i
Dist. No. 8 (1) Samuel Farrington, r
Dist. No. 9 (1) Amy Malone, d
Dist. No. 10 (4) Wayne M Burton, d; Timothy Horrigan, d; Loren Selig, d; Marjorie Smith, d

Dist. No. 11 (3) Erik Johnson, d; Thomas Southworth, d; Janet G Wall, d
Dist. No. 12 (4) Myles England, d; Wayne Pearson, d; John J Stone, d
Dist. No. 13 (1) Peter Bixby, d
Dist. No. 14 (1) Peter B Schmidt, d
Dist. No. 15 (1) Alice Wade, d
Dist. No. 16 (1) Gary R Gilmore, d
Dist. No. 17 (1) Jessica F LaMontagne, d
Dist. No. 18 (1) Michael Harrington, r
Dist. No. 19 (3) John Larochelle, d; Kelley L Potenza, r; David Walker, r
Dist. No. 20 (1) Allan Howland, d
Dist. No. 21 (3) Luz Bay, d; Seth Miller, d; Geoffrey Smith, d

SULLIVAN (13)

Dist. No. 1 (1) Brian M Sullivan, d
Dist. No. 2 (1) William Palmer, d
Dist. No. 3 (3) Skip Rollins, r; Steven Smith, r; Walter Spilsbury, r
Dist. No. 4 (1) Judy Aron, r
Dist. No. 5 (1) George C Grant, r
Dist. No. 6 (3) John R Cloutier, d; Dale Girard, d; Wayne J Hemingway, r
Dist. No. 7 (1) Margaret M Drye, r
Dist. No. 8 (2) Hope Damon, d; Michael Aron, r

With 389 members having answered the call, a quorum was declared present.

The Chair, on behalf of the House, appointed a committee to wait upon the Governor and the Honorable Executive Council to inform them that a quorum of the House was assembled and requested their attendance. The Chair appointed the following: Reps-elect Mary Jane Wallner, serving her 23rd term; John Hunt, serving his 20th term; Phyllis Katsakiores, serving her 20th term; and Janet Wall, serving her 20th term.

OATH OF OFFICE

His excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu, having been informed that a quorum of the House was assembled, appeared, accompanied by the Honorable Executive Council, and was announced and escorted by the Acting Sergeant-at-Arms. The members-elect, having presented their credentials, were duly qualified by the Governor as members of the House of Representatives by taking and subscribing the oath of office agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution of the State of New Hampshire. The Governor and Executive Councilors retired.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED GROUND RULES FOR ELECTION

Reps. Packard and Simpson offered the following proposed Ground Rules for Election:

The rules of these elections shall be the rules of the 2024 New Hampshire House of Representatives, subject to the following ground rules:

Only members certified by the Secretary of State shall be eligible to participate and vote. Access to the floor shall be limited to members, and such other officers and assistants as may be required by the Clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms. The Clerk will prepare a checklist of those present and qualified to vote. Election of candidates will be by majority vote of those present and voting. If more than two candidates are standing for an office, and if there is no majority vote, there will be no elimination of the low candidate after any ballot. All candidates will remain in the running unless they withdraw of their own volition. Balloting shall continue until an officer is elected. If there is no candidate with a majority of votes, there shall be a 30-minute recess after the announcement of the results. On each ballot, the Clerk will have printed, in alphabetical order, the name of any candidates, who prior to the opening of the session, informed the Clerk of their candidacies. There will be one blank line for write-in candidates. Each candidate will name two tellers to count the ballots. First ballot nominating and seconding speeches will be limited to 15 minutes for each candidate. Subsequent speeches shall be limited to 3 minutes per candidate. Candidates who desire to concede or withdraw shall speak first. No other limitations will apply to these speeches.

Ground Rules were adopted.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Chair declared that nominations for Speaker were in order.

Rep. Weber placed the name of Rep. Alexis Simpson in nomination for Speaker and addressed the House.

Rep. Pettrigno seconded the nomination and addressed the House.

Rep. Simpson accepted the nomination and addressed the House.

The Chair declared that further nominations for Speaker were in order.

Rep. Mazur placed the name of Rep. Sherman Packard in nomination for Speaker and addressed the House.
Rep. Rice seconded the nomination and addressed the House.
Rep. Gorski seconded the nomination and addressed the House.
Rep. Packard accepted the nomination and addressed the House.

The Chair, at the request of the candidates, named Reps. Hakken-Phillips and Nicholas Germana as tellers for Rep. Simpson; Reps. Doucette and Sweeney for Rep. Packard and the Chair appointed Reps. McDonnell and Wheeler as tellers for the House.

The Chair declared nominations closed.

Of the 388 votes cast, 195 were needed for election. Rep. Simpson received 162 votes and Rep. Packard received 202 votes. There were 7 blank votes and 17 scatter votes. The Chair declared Rep. Sherman Packard the duly elected Speaker of the House for the 2025-2026 biennium.

The Acting Sergeant-at-Arms escorted Speaker Packard to the rostrum. The Speaker addressed the House.

ELECTION OF HOUSE OFFICERS (Speaker Packard in the Chair)

The Speaker declared nominations were in order for Clerk of the House.

Rep. Rhodes placed the name of Paul C. Smith in nomination for Clerk of the House and Rep. Nicholas Germana seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Rep. Marjorie Smith moved that nominations be closed, one ballot cast for Paul C. Smith and declare him the duly elected Clerk of the House for the 2025-2026 biennium.

Motion was adopted and Paul C. Smith was declared the duly elected Clerk of the House for the 2025-2026 biennium.

The Speaker declared nominations were in order for Sergeant-at-Arms of the House.

Rep. Weyler placed the name of JB Cullen for Sergeant-at-Arms of the House and Rep. Soucy seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Rep. Grossman moved that nominations be closed, one ballot cast for JB Cullen and declare him the duly elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the House for the 2025-2026 biennium.

Motion was adopted and JB Cullen was declared the duly elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the House for the 2025-2026 biennium.

The Speaker administered the oath of office to Paul C. Smith.

RESOLUTION

Reps. Steven Smith and Simpson offered the following: RESOLVED, that the House inform the Honorable Senate it has organized and is ready to meet in Joint Convention for the purposes of electing a Secretary of State and a State Treasurer.

Motion was adopted.

SENATE MESSAGE

The Senate has organized, has elected its officers and is ready to meet with the House of Representatives in Joint Convention for the purpose of electing a Secretary of State and a State Treasurer.

President of the Senate: Senator Sharon M. Carson

Clerk of the Senate: Tammy Wright

The Clerk introduced and escorted the Senate and Senate President.

JOINT CONVENTION (Speaker Packard in the Chair)

The Speaker called the Joint Convention to order.

The Chair declared that nominations were in order for Secretary of State.

Sen. Birdsell placed the name of David Scanlan in nomination for Secretary of State and addressed the Joint Convention.

Reps. Leishman and McDonnell seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Sen. Birdsell moved that nominations be closed, one ballot cast for David M. Scanlan and declare him the duly elected Secretary of State for the 2025-2026 biennium.

Motion was adopted and David M. Scanlan was declared the duly elected Secretary of State for the 2025-2026 biennium.

The Secretary of State addressed the House.

The Chair declared that nominations were in order for State Treasurer.

Rep. Weyler placed the name of Monica Mezzapelle in nomination for State Treasurer and addressed the Joint Convention.

Sen. Rosenwald seconded the nomination and addressed the Joint Convention.

There being no further nominations, Rep. Weyler moved that nominations be closed, one ballot cast for Monica Mezzapelle and declare her the duly elected State Treasurer for the 2025-2026 biennium.

Motion was adopted and Monica Mezzapelle was declared the duly elected State Treasurer for the 2025-2026 biennium.

The State Treasurer addressed the House.

The Chair administered the oath of office to David M. Scanlan and Monica Mezzapelle.

Sen. Birdsell and Rep. Steven Smith moved that the Joint Convention arise.

Motion was adopted.

The Joint Convention adjourned.

HOUSE SESSION

The Speaker reconvened the House Session.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1

Reps. Steven Smith and Simpson offered the following:

RESOLVED, that the House adopt the Rules of the 2024 session for the 2025-2026 biennium.

Rep. Steven Smith offered a floor amendment to House Resolution No. 1.

FLOOR AMENDMENT

Proposed by Rep. Steven Smith

RESOLVED, that the House adopt the Rules of the 2024 session for the 2025-2026 biennium, with the following change: Amend House Rule 31 by adding to the introductory paragraph, replacing the current subparagraph (d), adding a new subparagraph (e), adding a new subparagraph (l), re-lettering the remaining subparagraphs, and deleting a task from Judiciary.

31. Committee names and duties. The following standing policy committees shall be appointed at the commencement of any session and will consist of not more than 24 members, with the exception of the House Finance Committee, which will have no more than 26 members: Children and Family Law; Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Criminal Justice and Public Safety; **Education Policy and Administration; Education Funding;** Election Law; Environment and Agriculture; Executive Departments and Administration; Finance; Fish and Game and Marine Resources; Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs; **Housing;** Judiciary; Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; Legislative Administration; Municipal and County Government; Public Works and Highways; Resources, Recreation and Development; Rules; Science, Technology and Energy; State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; Transportation; and Ways and Means. The Speaker may designate divisions within committees.

(d) It shall be the duty of the Committee on Education Policy and Administration to consider subjects relating to the regulation, organization, and administration of local school districts and schools, including support services, learning opportunities, and pupils; and such other matters as may be referred to it.

(e) It shall be the duty of the Committee on Education Funding to consider subjects relating to the funding of schools and educational programs, including the administration of higher and career technical education; special education aid costing and adequacy formulas; and such other matters as may be referred to it.

(l) It shall be duty of the Committee on Housing to consider subjects relating to housing; condominiums; landlord/tenant rights; residential zoning and planning; and such other matters as may be referred to it.

(m) It shall be the duty of the Committee on Judiciary to consider all matters relating to the judicial system, right-to-know law, guardianships, life and death (such as abortion or assisted death), ~~landlord/tenant rights~~, civil proceedings, tort law, forfeiture, immunity, and probate; and such other matters as may be referred to it.

The question being adoption of the floor amendment to House Resolution No. 1.

Rep. Steven Smith spoke in favor.

Floor amendment to House Resolution No. 1 was adopted.

The question now being adoption of House Resolution No. 1, as amended.

House Resolution No. 1 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Reps. Steven Smith and Simpson offered the following: RESOLVED, that all action taken at all sessions of the House of Representatives be recorded through the public address system, and that the recording be used by the Clerk to confirm and correct the Permanent Journal. The Permanent Journal, as prepared by the Clerk, and as may be corrected by the House, shall be the official record of the House.

The question being adoption of House Resolution No. 2.

House Resolution No. 2 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

Reps. Steven Smith and Simpson offered the following: RESOLVED, that the following policy be established for the distribution of House calendars and journals, bills and resolutions to members of the General Court and state departments:

1. Every citizen is entitled, free of charge, to one copy of any publication at the legislative counter or to have the publication mailed to that person upon individual request for one such copy.
2. Persons requesting copies for the entire session will be charged a fee sufficient to cover postage, envelopes and handling. Such fees may be prorated when service is received for portions of the session only. All fees are payable in advance. The subscriber list may be submitted for legislative accounting and auditing purposes, but is not for publication or sale.
3. All fees charged for publications in accordance with this resolution shall be fixed with the approval of the Speaker, paid into the state treasury and credited to the legislative appropriation.

The question being adoption of House Resolution No. 3.

House Resolution No. 3 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

Reps. Steven Smith and Simpson offered the following: RESOLVED, that the Speaker may employ such personnel as he may deem necessary and, with the approval of the House subcommittee of the Committee on Legislative Facilities, may fix their compensation in accordance with RSA 17-E:5.

The question being adoption of House Resolution No. 4.

House Resolution No. 4 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

Reps. Steven Smith and Simpson offered the following: RESOLVED, that the members will be paid their legislative salary, as provided in the Constitution, in the month of January 2025, and that mileage of members of the House of Representatives be paid every two weeks during the session.

The question being adoption of House Resolution No. 5.

House Resolution No. 5 was adopted.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ETHICS GUIDELINES

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on November 18, 2024, voted 5-0 to propose the following amendment to the Ethics Guidelines. In accordance with RSA 14-B:3, II, the Committee respectfully requests that the Senate and House vote to approve the proposed amendment.

Legislative Ethics Committee

Explanation: Matter added to the current guidelines appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from the current guidelines appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough~~.]

ETHICS GUIDELINES**1 PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC SERVICE.****I. Public Office as a Public Trust**

Legislators shall treat their office as a public trust, only using the powers and resources of public office to advance public interests, and not to attain personal benefits or pursue any other private interest incompatible with the public good.

II. Principle of Independent Objective Judgment

Legislators shall employ independent objective judgment in performing their duties, deciding all matters on the merits free from conflicts of interest and both real and apparent improper influences.

III. Principle of Accountability

Legislators shall ensure that government is conducted openly, equitably and honorably in a manner that permits the citizenry to make informed judgments, have confidence in the integrity of the legislature, and hold government officials accountable.

IV. Principle of Conduct

Legislators shall treat each other, legislative employees, and the public with dignity and respect.

2 DEFINITIONS.

- I. “Anything of Value” includes but is not limited to the following:
 - (a) A pecuniary item, including money, or a bank bill or note;
 - (b) A promissory note, bill of exchange, order, draft, warrant, check, or bond given for the payment of money;
 - (c) A contract, agreement, promise, or other obligation for an advance, conveyance, forgiveness of indebtedness, deposit, distribution, loan, payment, gift, pledge, or transfer of money;
 - (d) A stock, bond, note, or other investment interest in an entity;
 - (e) A receipt given for the payment of money or other property;
 - (f) A cause of action;
 - (g) A gift, tangible good, chattel, or an interest in a gift, tangible good, or chattel;
 - (h) A loan or forgiveness of indebtedness;
 - (i) A work of art, antique, or collectible;
 - (j) An automobile or other means of personal transportation;
 - (k) Real property or an interest in real property, including title to realty, a fee simple or partial interest, present or future, contingent or vested within realty, a leasehold interest, or other beneficial interest in realty;
 - (l) A promise of employment or continued employment; and
 - (m) A rebate or discount in the price of anything of value unless the rebate or discount is made in the ordinary course of business to a member of the public without regard to that person’s status as a public official or public employee, or the sale or trade of something for reasonable compensation that would ordinarily not be available to a member of the public.
- II. “Conflict of Interest” is the condition in which a legislator has a special interest in any matter which could directly or indirectly affect or influence the performance of the legislator’s official activities.
- III. “Expense Reimbursement” shall mean any price, charge, fee, expense, or other cost which is waived, forgiven, reduced, prepaid, or reimbursed in any form for the reasonable expenses of attendance, registration, travel, meals, or lodging related to a bona fide conference, meeting, seminar, or educational, cultural, or informational program. “Expense reimbursement” shall not include any expense reimbursement made by the general court to a legislator, legislative officer, or legislative employee.
- IV. “Gift” shall mean:
 - (a) Money in any amount, whether in the form of cash, check, or any other negotiable or non-negotiable instrumentality for the transfer of money.
 - (b) Any other tangible thing, intangible thing, service, or the use thereof having an individual value of greater than \$50. For purposes of this section, “service” shall not include acceptance of legal services on an individual basis when the legislator enters into an attorney-client relationship with the attorney for the purposes of addressing a complaint or petition if the attorney is not a registered lobbyist.
 - (c) Multiple tangible things, intangible things, services, or the use thereof having an individual value \$50 or less with an aggregate value greater than \$250 from any single source during any calendar year.
- V. “Honorarium” means a payment in any form to a legislator, legislative officer, or legislative employee for an appearance, speech, written article or other document, service as a consultant or advisor, or participation in a discussion group or similar activities. Honorarium does not include a payment for such activities for which the person is being compensated by the state, a county, the United States of America, or any other employer or client, where the activity giving rise to the honorarium is not related to or associated with any public office or government employment.
- VI. “Household Member” shall mean any person living in the same domicile as a legislator, legislative officer, or legislative employee who shares a common economic interest in the expenses of daily living, including, but not limited to, a spouse, child, or parent.
- VII. “Immediate Family” includes a spouse, guardian, parent, sibling, child, or dependent.
- VIII. “Legislation” is a bill, resolution, or constitutional amendment.
- IX. “Legislative Employee” includes all house, senate, and joint staff whether employed on a part-time, full-time, permanent, or temporary basis.
- X. “Legislative Officer” includes those employees of the House and Senate who are elected by members of the General Court.
- XI. “Official Activities” are activities which relate to official responsibilities including the introduction of legislation, testifying before any legislative committee or state agency, voting in committee or in house or senate session or otherwise participating in, influencing, or attempting to influence any decision of the legislature, county delegation or any state agency.
- XII. “Official Business” means, for legislators, legislative officers, and legislative employees, the discussion or transaction of legislative business, namely, any official action or non-action with regard to

any potential pending or existing bill, resolution, amendment, report, or study, any other matter pending or proposed in a committee or in either house of the general court, or an issue of public policy which is or may be the subject of legislative attention, or any other matter which is within the official jurisdiction or cognizance of the general court.

XII-a. “Organization” shall be construed broadly to mean any business, corporation, whether for profit, non-profit, not-for-profit, social welfare organization, or natural person. “Organization” shall not include the United States of America, the state of New Hampshire, a county within the state of New Hampshire, or any political subdivision within the state of New Hampshire.

XIII. “Special Interest” means any financial or non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter that is the subject of official activity, distinct from and greater than the interests of the public at large.

- (a) A financial interest exists where a legislator or household member, **or a person or organization, whether nonprofit or for profit, by which the legislator is employed, or from which the legislator receives compensation, to act as the person’s or organization’s agent or advocate**, could stand to gain or lose anything of material value as a result of the official activity.
- (b) A non-financial personal interest exists where a legislator or household member has a responsibility for the welfare of an organization, **whether nonprofit or for profit**, by virtue of holding a position with a fiduciary responsibility, such as a board member, trustee, or director.
- (c) **A legislator’s or household member’s ownership of securities of a publicly traded corporation shall not be construed to constitute a “special interest” in matters that may affect the corporation unless the legislator or household member serves as an officer, board member, trustee or director of the corporation or owns more than one percent of the outstanding securities of the corporation.**

XIV. “Verbal Advocacy” means an attempt by a legislator to influence his or her colleagues on a matter that is the subject of official activity in a meeting of the general court or county delegation through public verbal communication. “Verbal advocacy” does not include casting a vote in executive session of a committee or in a full session of the House or Senate.

3 PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.

I. The activities listed in this section are prohibited. Filing a declaration in compliance with section 6 of these Guidelines does not excuse or absolve legislators from compliance with the provisions of this section or the provisions of RSA 14-C:3 prohibiting certain activities.

II. Legislators shall not solicit, accept, or agree to accept anything of value from another for themselves or other persons, if the legislator receives such thing of value:

- (a) Knowing or believing the other’s purpose to be the influencing of an action, decision, opinion, recommendation, or other official activity.
- (b) Knowing or believing that the giver is or is likely to become subject to or interested in any matter or action pending before or contemplated by the legislator or the General Court.
- (c) In return for advice or other assistance relating to a legislator’s official activities.
- (d) In return for introducing legislation, testifying before any legislative committee or state agency, voting in committee or in House or Senate session, or otherwise participating in, influencing, or attempting to influence any decision of the legislature, county delegation, or any state agency.
- (e) In return for an endorsement, nomination, appointment, approval or disapproval of any person for a position as, or advancement of, a public servant.
- (f) In return for having given a decision, opinion, recommendation, nomination, vote, or other official activity.
- (g) In violation of RSA 14-C.

III. Legislators shall not:

- (a) Reveal information which the legislator has obtained confidentially in the course of his or her official activities.
- (b) Reveal information about state agency operations or decisions which the legislator would not reveal to any member of the general public requesting such information.
- (c) Threaten reprisals or promise inducements of any kind to influence another so as to obtain special personal benefits for the legislator, the legislator’s immediate family or household member, or for certain constituents which would not be available to others under similar conditions.
- (d) Conduct private negotiations with any governmental agency in an attempt to obtain a decision on a pending matter which would result in special personal benefit to the legislator, to the legislator’s immediate family or household member, or to certain constituents which would not be available to others under similar conditions.

- (e) Use their public position or office to obtain anything of value for the private benefit of the legislator, a member of the legislator's immediate family, or a household member.
- (f) Use state-provided services or facilities for private gain.
- (g) Engage in conduct that constitutes sexual harassment as defined in RSA 14-B:1, IV.
- (h) *Engage in conduct in violation of the Policy Against Sexual and Other Unlawful Harassment and Discrimination.***
- ~~(h)~~ (i) Violate any policy or rule adopted by the House or Senate relating to the conduct of individuals in the performance of their duties as members of the legislature. "Rule" means any rule adopted pursuant to RSA 14-B and shall not include any rule of proceeding adopted by the house of representatives or the senate.

4 PERMITTED ACTIVITIES; PERMITTED GIFTS.

- I. Nothing in section 3, Prohibited Activities, shall be construed to prohibit the following:
 - (a) Giving or receiving campaign contributions made for the purpose of defraying the costs of a political campaign in compliance with RSA 664 or the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.
 - (b) Assistance to constituents in their dealings with state agencies.
 - (c) Advocacy of a particular outcome on matters pending before a state agency when the legislator believes such a decision would benefit the general public or the legislator's constituents generally.
 - (d) Submission by a legislator of recommendations or references on behalf of a candidate for state employment when the legislator believes the candidate is qualified and suitable for such employment.
 - (e) Acceptance of expense reimbursement for the reasonable expenses for attendance, registration, travel, meals, and lodging related to a bona fide conference, meeting, seminar, or educational, cultural, or informational program related to the legislator's office so long as disclosure of any such reimbursement is made no later than the last day of the month following the month during which the expense reimbursement was received. This disclosure shall be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and shall be in the form prescribed in RSA 14-C. This provision shall not be construed to require reporting of an expense reimbursement made by the general court to a legislator.
 - (f) Acceptance of an honorarium so long as disclosure is made no later than the last day of the month following the month during which the honorarium was received. This disclosure shall be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and shall be in the form prescribed in RSA 14-C.
 - (g) Acceptance of meals or beverages with a value of greater than \$50 consumed at a meeting or event, the purpose of which is to discuss official business so long as disclosure is made no later than 10 days following the meeting or event at which the meals or beverages were consumed. Meals or beverages accepted under this subparagraph shall be limited to \$250 in the aggregate from any single source during any calendar year. Disclosure shall be filed in a report in the Office of the Secretary of State and shall be in the form prescribed in RSA 14-C.
 - (h) Acceptance of anything permitted to be accepted pursuant to RSA 14-C.
- II. The following shall not be considered gifts for the purposes of these Guidelines:
 - (a) A political contribution as defined in RSA 664.
 - (b) A commercially reasonable loan made in the ordinary course of business.
 - (c) Repayment to an elected official, public official, public employee, constitutional official, or legislative employee of a bona fide loan made by such a person.
 - (d) A ceremonial plaque, award, or other commemorative object, which is personally inscribed to the recipient, and which has a value of \$150 or less.
 - (e) Objects which primarily serve an informational purpose provided in the ordinary course of business, such as reports, books, maps, or charts.
 - (f) Money in any form, an object, or any tangible or intangible thing of economic value, where the donor's act of giving is purely private and personal in nature and the money, object, or thing of economic value would have been given and received even if the person were not an elected official, public official, public employee, constitutional official, or legislative employee.
 - (g) Wages, salary, benefits, mileage, or payment for expenses received by the person in his or her regular course of employment or business which is unrelated to the government position held.
 - (h) Wages, salary, benefits, mileage, or payment for expenses paid to the person by the state, a political subdivision of the state, or the United States of America related to performance of official duties.
 - (i) Tickets or free admission from any source to a political, charitable, or ceremonial event provided that acceptance of any tickets or free admission as permitted by this subparagraph shall be limited to \$250 in the aggregate from any single source during any calendar year and:

- (1) The proceeds of the event are subject to the political contributions and expenditure reporting law, RSA 664, or the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 as amended, provided that the recipient reports the source of the tickets or free admission pursuant to RSA 14-C:4; or
- (2) The event is sponsored by a charitable organization that is registered with the division of charitable trusts, department of justice, or which is a charitable organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the federal tax code, provided that the recipient reports the source of the tickets or free admission pursuant to RSA 14-C:4; or
- (3) The event is primarily ceremonial or celebratory in nature and is public or, if by invitation only, is planned to have an attendance greater than 50 people, provided that the recipient reports the source of the tickets or free admission pursuant to RSA 14-C:4; or
- (4) The event is published as an event open for attendance by any member or employee of the general court in the calendar of the senate or the house.
- (j) An expense reimbursement, including any expense reimbursement made by the general court to a legislator, legislative officer, or legislative employee.
- (k) An honorarium.
- (l) Meals and beverages having a value of more than \$50 consumed at a meeting or event, the purpose of which is to discuss official business, provided that acceptance of such meals and beverages as permitted by this subparagraph shall be reported pursuant to RSA 14-C:4 and limited to \$250 in the aggregate from any single source during any calendar year.

5 DISCLOSURE FORMS.

I. LEGISLATOR'S FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM.

Every representative, senator, and officer of the House and Senate shall file with the Legislative Ethics Committee a financial interest disclosure form pursuant to RSA 14-B:8 [annually] no later than the third Friday in January *in the first legislative session of the biennium*. If the legislator's or officer's financial circumstances change, he or she shall file a new financial interest disclosure form prior to participation in any official activity which would have been affected by the change.

The form shall read substantially as follows:

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM FOR STATE SENATORS, STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL COURT

As prescribed by RSA 14-B:8

Name of Legislator/Officer _____
(CIRCLE ONE) (PRINT NAME)

Address _____
(STREET) (TOWN/CITY) (ZIP CODE)

Office held _____ County/District _____

Telephone Number _____

I. Sources of Income

Identify below the name, address, and type of any business, profession, or other organization (including any unit of government) in which you or a household member served as an employee, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or proprietor, or in any other professional or advisory capacity, from which you or a household member derived any income in excess of \$10,000 during the preceding calendar year. Sources of retirement benefits from any business, professional, or other organization must be included. Social Security, federal retirement and/or federal disability benefits do not need to be included.

For purposes of this form a "household member" means any person living in the same domicile as you and who shares a common economic interest in the expenses of daily living, including, but not limited to, a spouse, child, or parent.

- 1) a) Name of business, profession, or other organization _____
b) Address of organization _____
c) Type of organization _____
- 2) a) Name of business, profession, or other organization _____
b) Address of organization _____
c) Type of organization _____
- 3) a) Name of business, profession, or other organization _____
b) Address of organization _____
c) Type of organization _____

(attach additional sheets if necessary)

If you or a household member had no qualifying income, indicate by INSERTING YOUR INITIALS after the following statement.

My or my household member's income does not qualify _____

II. Disclosure of Financial Interests

Identify and describe below any financial interest you or a household member may have. For the purposes of this form, you have a "financial interest" in a business, profession, occupation, group, or matter listed in this section if a change in law, administrative rule, or other official action by the General Court affecting the listed business, profession, occupation, group, or matter would potentially have a financial effect on you or a household member that is distinct from and greater than the interests of the public at large. Please note: If your participation in an official activity creates a conflict of interest not disclosed by the information on this form, you must complete and file a Declaration of Intent Form in accordance with section 6 of the Ethics Guidelines. [Also,] If such activity could reasonably have a greater benefit or detriment to you or a household member than other members of a group identified in this form, a Declaration of Intent Form is required. Furthermore, if such activity requires recusal as provided in section 6-a of the Ethics Guidelines, a Declaration of Intent Form is required. See sections 6 and 6-a of the Ethics Guidelines for information regarding particular conflicts of interest you may have.

Do you or a household member have a financial interest, as defined above, in any of the following businesses, professions, occupations, groups, or matters? Check any of the following which apply and describe the nature of your or your household member's financial interest:

(a) Any profession, occupation, or business licensed or certified by the State of New Hampshire. List each such profession, occupation, or category of business: _____

(b) Health Care

Describe: _____

(c) Insurance

Describe: _____

(d) Real estate, including brokers, agents, developers, and landlords

Describe: _____

(e) Banking or financial services

Describe: _____

(f) State of New Hampshire, county or municipal employment

Describe: _____

(g) New Hampshire Retirement System

Describe: _____

(h) Current use land assessment program

Describe: _____

(i) Restaurants and lodging

Describe: _____

(j) Sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages

Describe: _____

(k) Practice of law

Describe: _____

(l) Any business regulated by the Public Utilities Commission

Describe: _____

(m) Legal forms of gambling or charitable gaming

Describe: _____

(n) Education

Describe: _____

(o) Water resources

Describe: _____

(p) Agriculture

Describe: _____

(q) New Hampshire taxes: Business Profits Tax, Business Enterprise Tax [~~Interest and Dividends Tax~~]

(r) Other

Describe: _____

I hereby swear or affirm that the foregoing information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Notice to electronic filers: Typing your first and last name states your intent to sign this form electronically, in accordance with RSA 294-E:2, VIII.

SIGNATURE OR TYPED FIRST AND LAST NAME OF LEGISLATOR/OFFICER

DATE

RSA 14-B:10 Penalty. Any representative, senator, or officer of the House of Representatives or Senate who knowingly fails to file the form required under RSA 14-B:8 or who knowingly files a false statement on such form shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. (This penalty applies whether the form is signed personally or electronically.)

Complete and return to the Legislative Ethics Committee, State House Room 112, no later than the third Friday in January.

II. LEGISLATOR'S NON-FINANCIAL PERSONAL INTERESTS DISCLOSURE FORM.

A legislator who has a non-financial personal interest may file with the Legislative Ethics Committee a general disclosure of non-financial personal interests form. If participation in an official activity creates a conflict of interest not disclosed by the information on the general disclosure of non-financial personal interests form, a legislator must complete and file a Declaration of Intent Form in accordance with section 6 of the Ethics Guidelines.

The form shall read substantially as follows:

GENERAL DISCLOSURE OF NON-FINANCIAL PERSONAL INTERESTS FORM

A “non-financial personal interest” exists where a legislator or household member has a responsibility for the welfare of an organization, ***whether nonprofit or for profit***, by virtue of holding a position with a fiduciary responsibility, such as a board member, trustee, or director.

Description of Non-Financial Personal Interest

Identify and describe below the non-financial personal interest you or a household member may have. A “household member” is any person living in the same domicile as you who shares a common economic interest in the expenses of daily living, including, but not limited to, a spouse, child, or parent.

Please identify each “non-financial personal interest.”

NAME OF LEGISLATOR:

LIST ORGANIZATIONS AND YOUR POSITION:

NAME OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AND RELATIONSHIP TO YOU:

LIST ORGANIZATIONS AND POSITION:

Signature

Date

Printed Name of Legislator

6 CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROCEDURE.

- I. No legislator having a conflict of interest shall participate in any official activity associated with the matter without complying with the procedure set forth in this section.
- II. No declaration of intent form shall be required if no benefit or detriment could reasonably be expected to accrue to the legislator or the legislator’s household member as a member of a business, profession, occupation, or other group, to any greater extent than to any other member of such business, profession, occupation, or other group, provided that disclosure of the legislator’s or household member’s membership is made in the Financial Disclosure Form pursuant to section 5 of the Ethics Guidelines. For purposes of these guidelines, groups shall be limited to those generally recognized and of a substantial size.
- III. No declaration of intent form shall be required if a legislator discloses a non-financial personal interest of the legislator or legislator’s household member on the General Disclosure of Non-Financial Personal Interests Form.
- IV. When a legislator becomes aware that a conflict of interest exists or may exist and the conditions set forth in paragraphs II and III are not met, the legislator shall proceed in accordance with either subparagraph (a) or (b):

- (a) Declare that the legislator will not participate in any official activity associated with the issue; or
- (b) Declare that the legislator intends to participate in the official activity and provide a description of the conflict of interest.

V. The declaration required in subparagraphs IV (a) and (b) of this procedure shall be publicly announced prior to any participation by the legislator in the official activity in accordance with section 7 of these Guidelines. The declaration of intent form shall be filed with the clerk of the member's respective body prior to the time of the official activity and be made available for public inspection during normal business hours.

6-a RECUSAL FOR CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

I. A legislator shall recuse from participation in any official legislative activity pertaining to legislation when:

- (a) *The legislator has a conflict of interest with the subject of the legislation as defined in RSA 14-B:1, I; and*
- (b) *The legislator or a member of the legislator's household could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment as a result of the outcome of the legislative activity.*

II. A legislator shall recuse from participation in any official legislative activity pertaining to the specific legislation that causes a conflict when the legislator or a member of the legislator's household satisfies all of the following:

- (a) *Receives financial remuneration from an organization;*
- (b) *Holds a position to exercise substantial influence over the affairs of the organization; and*
- (c) *The organization has lobbied, testified, or otherwise attempted to influence the outcome of the official legislative activity.*

III. Exceptions to Recusal for Conflicts of Interest.

A legislator shall not be required to recuse themselves from participation in any official legislative activity regarding preparation, review, or approval or disapproval of the state budget or general revenue bills.

IV. Persons Having Substantial Influence. *Those persons who hold any of the following powers, responsibilities, or interest having substantial influence over the affairs of the organization may include, but are not limited to, the following:*

- (a) *Voting members of the governing body;*
- (b) *Presidents, chief executive officers, or chief operating officers; and*
- (c) *Treasurers and chief financial officers.*

V. Facts and Circumstances Tending to Show Substantial Influence. *Whether a person holds a position to exercise substantial influence over the affairs of the organization shall be determined based on the totality of the circumstances. Facts and circumstances tending to show that a person has substantial influence over the affairs of an organization include, but are not limited to, the following:*

- (a) *The person founded the organization;*
- (b) *The person is a substantial contributor to the organization;*
- (c) *The person's compensation is primarily based on revenues derived from activities of the organization, or of a particular department or function of the organization, that the person controls;*
- (d) *The person has or shares authority to control or determine a substantial portion of the organization's capital expenditures, operating budget, or compensation for employees;*
- (e) *The person manages a discrete segment or activity of the organization that represents a substantial portion of the activities, assets, income, or expenses of the organization, as compared to the organization as a whole; or*
- (f) *The person owns a controlling interest (measured by either vote or value) in a corporation, partnership, or trust or other entity.*

VI. Facts and Circumstances Tending to Show No Substantial Influence. *Facts and circumstances tending to show that a person does not have substantial influence over the affairs of an organization include, but are not limited to, the following:*

- (a) *The person has taken a bona fide vow of poverty as an employee, agent, or on behalf, of a religious organization;*
- (b) *The person is a contractor (such as an attorney, accountant, or investment manager or advisor) whose sole relationship to the organization is providing professional advice (without having decision-making authority or a title of authority within the organization) with respect to transactions from which the contractor will not economically benefit either directly or indirectly (aside from customary fees received for the professional advice rendered);*

- (c) *The direct supervisor of the individual does not hold a position to exercise substantial influence over the affairs of the non-governmental organization, business, or person;*
 - (d) *The person does not engage in any management decisions affecting the organization as a whole or a discrete segment or activity of the organization that represents a substantial portion of the activities, assets, income, or expenses of the non-governmental organization, business, or person, as compared to the organization as a whole; or*
 - (f) *Any preferential treatment a person receives based on the size of that person's contribution is also offered to all other donors making a comparable contribution as part of a solicitation intended to attract a substantial number of contributions.*
- VII. *A legislator shall file a declaration of intent form whenever the legislator is required to recuse from participation in any official legislative activity.*

New Hampshire General Court
House/Senate Clerk's Office
DECLARATION OF INTENT

Legislators are required to file this form whenever:

- 1) A legislator or a legislator's household member has a **financial interest that is not disclosed on the Financial Disclosure Form; or**
- 2) **A legislator or a legislator's household member has a financial interest that has been disclosed on the Financial Disclosure Form** that could reasonably be expected to have a greater financial impact on a legislator or a legislator's household member than would accrue to any other member of [the] **that specific** business, profession, occupation, or other group which the legislator listed in the Financial Disclosure Form; or
- [2)] **3) A legislator or a legislator's household member has a non-financial personal interest** distinct from and greater than the public at large in the outcome of a matter that is the subject of official activity, and the legislator has not made this disclosure in the General Disclosure of Non-Financial Personal Interests Form; **or**
- 4) A legislator is required to recuse from participation in any official legislative activity (pursuant to RSA 14-C:4-a and Ethics Guidelines Section 6-a).**

Name of Legislator: _____ Date Filed: _____

District/County: _____

Bill or other issue creating conflict of interest: _____

Subject matter of the bill or issue: _____

☐ WILL NOT PARTICIPATE

☐ **WILL RECUSE**

I have elected not to participate, or I am recusing myself from participation, in action on the above-mentioned bill or issue.

Reason for not participating or for recusing: _____

Nature of effect on legislator, household member, or organization: _____

Signature: _____

☐ WILL PARTICIPATE

I will participate on the above-mentioned bill or issue.

Description of Conflict of Interest

Identify and describe below the conflict of interest you or a household member may have with this bill or issue. A household member is any person living in the same domicile as you who shares a common economic interest in the expenses of daily living, including, but not limited to, a spouse, child, or parent.

This bill or issue creates a: financial interest non-financial personal interest

Nature of effect on legislator, household member, public body, or organization: _____

Additional information: _____

Signature: _____

7 VERBAL DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

- I. ***In addition to filing a Financial Disclosure Form and/or a Declaration of Intent as required by law or by these Guidelines, a*** [A] legislator who becomes aware of a financial or non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter shall make a verbal disclosure prior to engaging in verbal advocacy at any meeting of the general court or county delegation. The verbal disclosure shall consist of a short statement that identifies the financial interest or non-financial personal interest.
- II. The disclosures required pursuant to paragraph I of this section shall be made in the ~~[following]~~ manner ***and on each occasion specified below***:
 - (a) When testifying before a legislative committee regarding a bill or other matter in which the legislator has a special interest, the legislator shall make the disclosure prior to testifying.
 - (b) When appointed to a subcommittee working on a bill in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made upon appointment to the subcommittee and at the initial subcommittee work session.
 - (c) When serving as a member of a committee considering a bill in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made prior to engaging in verbal advocacy.
 - (d) When addressing a bill in which the legislator has a special interest before the full House or Senate, the disclosure shall be made prior to engaging in verbal advocacy. If the legislator does not speak on the bill, the legislator is not required to make a verbal disclosure.
 - (e) When appointed as a member of a Committee of Conference on a bill in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made at the initial meeting of the Committee of Conference.
 - (f) When serving as a member of a county delegation considering a matter in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made to all participants prior to engaging in verbal advocacy.

8 LEGISLATIVE EMPLOYEE CODE OF CONDUCT.

- I. General Principles of Conduct.
 - (a) A legislative employee or officer shall view his or her work for the General Court as a public service and shall strive to promote the common good of the citizens of the State of New Hampshire through the devotion of his or her professional talents and energies to the support of the General Court in its mission as the representative of the citizens of this state.
 - (b) A legislative employee or officer shall act in a way that makes him or her worthy of the trust the General Court places in staff members and officers.
 - (c) A legislative employee or officer shall provide objective advice, information, and alternatives to legislators, independent of the employee's or officer's personal beliefs or interests or the interests of third parties. A legislative employee or officer shall avoid activities that conflict with this objectivity or give the appearance of conflict.
 - (d) A legislative employee or officer shall treat all legislators with dignity and respect and provide services of equal quality to the employee's or officer's appropriate legislative clientele.
- II. Prohibited Activities.
 - (a) The activities listed in this paragraph are prohibited. Making disclosure in compliance with paragraph IV of this section does not excuse or absolve legislative officers or employees from compliance with the provisions of this paragraph or the provisions of RSA 14-C:3 prohibiting certain activities.
 - (b) A legislative employee or officer shall not violate the provisions of RSA 14-C.
 - (c) A legislative employee or officer shall not accept any gift from givers who wish to influence the work activities of the employee or officer.
 - (d) A legislative employee or officer shall not accept any employment or serve in any position, in addition to legislative employment, which would impair the employee's or officer's independence of judgment.
 - (e) Except within the scope of employment, a legislative employee or officer shall not provide any service to a lobbyist or any other person in any matter or action pending before the General Court.
 - (f) A legislative employee or officer shall not use or attempt to use the employee's or officer's official position to (1) personally obtain any privilege, exemption, special treatment, or any other thing of value, or (2) obtain any such benefit for others except as required to perform duties within the scope of employment.
 - (g) A legislative employee or officer shall not accept or solicit anything of value for the private benefit of the employee or officer, or the employee's or officer's immediate family or household member under circumstances in which it can be reasonably inferred that the legislative employee's or officer's independence of judgment is impaired or is intended as a reward for any official action.

- (h) A legislative employee or officer shall not use state-provided services or facilities for private gain.
 - (i) A legislative employee or officer shall not disclose confidential information acquired by reason of the employee's or officer's official position to any person or group not entitled to receive such information, nor shall the employee or officer use such information for personal gain or benefit or for the benefit of others.
 - (j) A legislative employee or officer shall not enter into any contract with a state agency involving services or property, unless the contract is made after public notice and competitive bidding; except in cases where public notice and competitive bidding are not required, the contract or agreement shall be filed with the employee's or officer's supervisory officer.
- III. Permitted Activities. The activities listed in this paragraph are permitted.
- (a) Acceptance of awards, prizes, honors, or gifts of a minimal value.
 - (b) Acceptance of informational material relevant to the employee's or officer's official function, such as books, pamphlets, reports, documents, periodicals, or other information that is recorded in a written, audio, visual, or digital format.
 - (c) Acceptance of expense reimbursement for the reasonable expenses for attendance, registration, travel, meals, and lodging related to a bona fide conference, meeting, seminar, or educational, cultural, or informational program related to the legislative employee's or officer's employment so long as disclosure of any such reimbursement is made no later than the last day of the month following the month during which the expense reimbursement was received. This disclosure shall be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and shall be in a form prescribed in RSA 14-C. This provision shall not be construed to require reporting of an expense reimbursement made by the general court to a legislative employee or officer.
 - (d) Acceptance of an honorarium so long as disclosure is made no later than the last day of the month following the month during which the honorarium was received. This disclosure shall be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and shall be in the form prescribed in RSA 14-C.
 - (e) Acceptance of meals or beverages with a value of \$50 or more consumed at a meeting or event the purpose of which is to discuss official business so long as disclosure is made no later than 10 days following the meeting or event at which the meals or beverages were consumed. Meals or beverages accepted under this subparagraph shall be limited to \$250 in the aggregate from any single source during any calendar year. Disclosure shall be filed in a report in the Office of the Secretary of State and shall be in the form prescribed in RSA 14-C.
 - (f) Solicitation or acceptance of gifts, grants, or donations on behalf of an official meeting, conference, or event held within the state of New Hampshire of a state or national legislative association to which the general court pays dues and which includes among its membership the New Hampshire general court, officers, or staff. Any legislative employee or officer who receives gifts, grants, or donations pursuant to this subparagraph shall disclose the source and amount of any gift, grant, or donation to the Office of the Secretary of State ~~and shall be~~ in the form prescribed in RSA 14-C.
 - (g) Acceptance of anything permitted to be accepted pursuant to RSA 14-C.
- IV. Disclosure Procedure. When a legislative employee or officer becomes aware that his or her participation in a particular activity presents a conflict of interest or conflicts with his or her objectivity or gives the appearance of a conflict, the employee or officer shall immediately make disclosure of this fact to his or her supervisory officer. All such reports shall be forwarded to the Chief of Staff of the House, or the Chief of Staff of the Senate, or the Director of the Office of Legislative Services, or the Legislative Budget Assistant, as appropriate.

MOTION TO SPECIAL ORDER

Rep. Prout moved that the Amendment to Ethics Guidelines be made a Special Order for January 8, 2025, Convening Day.

Reps. Prout, Belcher and Perez spoke in favor.

Rep. Lynn spoke against and yielded to questions.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Granger moved that the Amendment to Ethics Guidelines, be laid on the table.

On a division vote, with 106 members having voted in the affirmative, and 242 in the negative, the motion failed.

The question being adoption of the motion to Special Order the Amendment to Ethics Guidelines to January 8, 2025, Convening Day.

Rep. Prout withdrew the motion to Special Order.

The question now being adoption of the Amendment to Ethics Guidelines.

Amendment was adopted.

RESOLUTION

Rep. Steven Smith 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 resolutions be by caption only and that all resolutions be read a third time and passed and when the House adjourns today it be to convene on Wednesday, January 8, 2025.

Motion was adopted.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Rep. Thibault requested Unanimous Consent of the House regarding the United States Senate Youth Program and addressed the House.

The Organizational Session of the 2025-2026 House of Representatives adjourned at 1:50 p.m.