# State of

# New Hampshire

# HOUSE RECORD

## Second Year of the 155th Session of the General Court

## Calendar and Journal of the 1998 Session

**Vol. 20 Concord N.H. Thursday, January 15, 1998 No. 4**

Contains: Reports and Additional Amendments for January 15, Hearings, Notices, Work Sessions and Ethics Proposed Advisory Opinion.

## HOUSE CALENDAR

## NOTICE

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE:

The House today welcomes the Moultonborough Girls' Softball Team and members of the UNH Cooperative Extension 4-H Program.

Donna Sytek, Speaker

## NOTICE

There will be a Republican Caucus on Thursday, January 15 at 9:15 a.m. in Representatives Hall.

Rep. Robert L. Wheeler, Majority Leader

## NOTICE

There will be a Democratic Caucus on Thursday, January 15 at 9:15 a.m. in Rooms 306-308 of the Legislative Office Building.

Rep. Peter Hoe Burling, Democratic Leader

## NOTICE

Due to the 1998 Session schedule Calendars will close at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays for mailing on Fridays.

Karen O. Wadsworth, Clerk of the House

# Parliamentary Points to Ponder

**In all cases not provided for by the Constitution, House Rules or Joint Rules, *Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure*, 1989 edition, shall be referred to as the parliamentary guide.**

House Rule 10

*The rules of the House are reasonably comprehensive, but they don't cover every situation that may arise. We have chosen to use Mason's as our back up rules for those situations where our rules are silent. In the foreword to his last edition, Paul Mason wrote:*

*A proper application of these rules of procedure will eliminate*

*controversy, confusion, and litigation, and will make public bodies more*

*efficient in their work and more pleasant to work with.*

*We will be providing parliamentary tips from time to time in the House Calendar to help increase the clarity of debate and decorum in the chamber. Let me know what you think.*

Donna Sytek, Speaker

**All debate must be addressed to the presiding officer and not to the members.**

Mason's Legislative Manual

Section 110 Paragraph 1

*Because we face the members when we speak from the microphones, and it is the members we are trying to persuade, it seems natural to want to speak to them directly. Correct form is to direct remarks to the presiding officer, and refer to the members in the third person. Example: "Madam Speaker, this bill is important to my district, will create jobs, and cure the common cold. I hope the members will join me in supporting it." Watch the Congress on C-SPAN and see how easy it is to conduct a debate in proper parliamentary form.*

Donna Sytek, Speaker

# NOTICE

**Legislative Forum**

**House Continuing Education**

**Topics:** Webster: New Hampshire State Government Online

**PRESENTER:** Theresa Pare, Supervisor, New Hampshire State Library

**Date:** Wednesday, January 21

**Time:** Noon to 1:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Room 100, State House

Learn more about how state government is providing information via the internet. All members are encouraged to attend. For the members' convenience, the cafeteria will sell sandwiches, snacks and sodas outside the room.

Rep. Godfrey Howard

Legislative Continuing Education Coordinator

# THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

# CONSENT CALENDAR

**STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**HCR 21,** encouraging the designation of the Connecticut River as an American Heritage River OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Peter F. Bergin for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: The American Heritage Rivers Initiative application process for the Connecticut River has been an extensive one. Over 125 rivers throughout the United States have applied. Only 10 rivers will be nominated as American Heritage Rivers. The committee feels that the resolution will show President Clinton that the people of New Hampshire are supportive of this initiative . In ten months of the application process no one has stepped forward in opposition of this process. This does not affect any regulation or enact any regulation or affect any local or state regulations. Vote 13-0.

**REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

**COMMERCE**

**HB 721,** prohibiting certain tobacco or alcohol advertising within drug-free school zones. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Gregory G. Carson for Commerce: This legislation, as amended, is the epitome of the New Hampshire legislative process and local control. As amended, the bill authorizes municipalities to restrict the advertising of alcohol and tobacco products through the exercise of zoning powers. The committee does not make this recommendation lightly in the context of the First Amendment and freedom of speech considerations. This legislation allows communities to determine to what extent they wish to limit such advertisement. However, limitations are considered in the intent section of this legislation. Specifically, such limitation is to be no more extensive than is necessary to advance the communities' interest in reducing the exposure of youth to such advertising with the ultimate goal of reducing the incidence of youth consumption of tobacco and alcohol. Vote 12-2.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**HB 353,** establishing a committee to study issues regarding prosecutions and sentencing of, and incarceration treatment for, persons convicted of sex-related crimes. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. William V. Knowles for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill would have established a study committee regarding prosecution and sentencing of, and incarceration treatment for, persons convicted of sex-related crimes in New Hampshire. After hearing testimony from a county attorney and a superior court judge that there are significant protections for defendants, and twelve jurors must be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the accused is guilty, there didn't appear to be much to study. As for availability of treatment for sex offenders, the Department of Corrections would be happy to expand the program if the financing and space were available. The existing program is very successful for those they are able to treat. Follow-up treatment is also important. The Department of Corrections is working to get grants to expand the program. Vote 13-0.

SB 66, allowing a state resident to obtain a license for a pistol or revolver for life. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Richard F. Doucette for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill would allow for a concealed weapons permit to be granted to a New Hampshire resident for life rather than the current four-year term. Testimony was overwhelming in opposition from law enforcement and many gun proponents. A persons mental and physical circumstances may change radically with age or other infirmity and for these reasons the committee felt that this was not a good idea. It was mentioned during testimony that Vermont had no permit requirements at all and there seemed to be no more firearm related problems in Vermont than any other state with a variety of firearm restrictions. One police chief was heard to say that he would rather have no law than to have a lifetime carry law, indicating the Vermont experience. Such a measure may be introduced in the Senate for the next session. This bill is not in the best interests of the firearm owners of this state and the committee voted to kill the measure. Vote 15-1.

**ELECTION LAW**

**CACR 9**, relating to requiring that the attorney general be elected by the legislature. Providing that the attorney general be chosen by joint ballot of the senators and representatives. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Janet S. Arndt for Election Law: The committee felt that election by the Legislature would not serve to "de-politicize" the Attorney General's Office. Vote 11-0.

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**

**HB 535**, relative to the regulation of architects. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Kipp A. Cooper for Executive Departments and Administration: This bill slightly modifies the definition of architecture, changes the board's authority and to adopt administrative rules, gives the board authority to assess administrative fines, and establishes requirements for administrative hearings. As amended, this bill has the support of the Architects Board and the Board of Professional Engineers. Vote 18-0.

**FINANCE**

**HB 108-FN-A**, relative to the rate of the legacies and successions tax as it applies to siblings of the decedent together with their spouses and lineal ascendants and descendants of siblings of the decedent together with their spouses. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. David J. Alukonis for Finance: The sponsors and supporters of this bill urged that the state reform the legacies and successions tax in order to bring a greater level of equity to the application of the tax. Currently, lineal descendants and ascendants (parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, etc.) are exempt from paying the tax, while non-lineal heirs (brothers, sisters, cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, etc.) are required to pay to the state a tax of 18% of all inheritances received.

In general, the committee agreed with the sponsors. However, in order to achieve a more equitable plan, it became clear that the legacies and successions tax would have to be scrapped in favor of a new inheritance tax which would be similar to the federal inheritance tax. The policy changes required by such a change, as well as the possible ramifications, will require significant additional review prior to any final action. Additionally, at this time, the Department of Revenue Administration has neither the ability nor the resources to expediently or accurately prognosticate the fiscal impact of such changes which are acknowledged to be significant. Vote 20-0.

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**HB 529**, relative to excluding from the definition of subdivision the placement and maintenance of wireless communication facilities. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Joseph E. Stone for Municipal and County Government: This bill relates to excluding from the definition of subdivision the placement and maintenance of wireless communication facilities. The amendment added the word "unstaffed" to structure and changed the square footage from 200 sq. ft. to 500 sq. ft. A new paragraph was added that stated clearly this bill does not affect zoning regulations for this use. Vote 17-0.

**HB 676-FN-L**, establishing procedures for the distribution of proceeds from the sale of tax-deeded property by a municipality. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Kathleen N. Taylor for Municipal and County Government: The committee felt this bill would address the concerns of the courts relative to "taking" by municipalities, and at the same time offer the community protection by imposing a reasonable penalty coupled with recouping back taxes, interest and associated costs. Vote 17-2.

**WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES**

**HB 371**, relative to the authority of the department of fish and game to regulate the management, preservation, propagation and taking of state fish, game and wildlife resources. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Charles H. Felch, Sr. for Wildlife and Marine Resources: This legislation is designed to send a clear signal to our towns and cities that the authority and jurisdiction over the management, preservation, protection, propagation and taking of our wildlife resources rests exclusively with the state. Nothing in this bill can be construed as affecting a political subdivisions property rights concerning land owned and controlled by that entity. Vote 13-0.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 15**

**REGULAR CALENDAR PART II**

**COMMERCE**

**HB 410**, allowing mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists to obtain third party payments for services rendered which would otherwise qualify for such payments. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Keith R. Herman for Commerce: This partisan issue was debated thoroughly over the summer. This bill would have mandated certain reimbursements by indemnity insurers in New Hampshire. The committee feels, since New Hampshire is recognized as the leading state in mental health care, and since consumer access to mental health care in New Hampshire is greater than most other states, the only reaction to this legislation would be higher costs to premium payers. Since indemnity plans are cost sensitive, there would be a greater shift to managed care plans. Managed care plans limit access to mental health services. A compromise proposal was discussed but rejected by the proponents of this bill. The proponents of this bill appear insensitive to the costs and to who pays the costs of mental health services in New Hampshire. Vote 10-7.

**SB 1,** relative to exclusive arrangements with managed care insurers. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Gregory G. Carson for Commerce: The intent of this legislation is covered in an amendment to HB 451 which this committee strongly urges passage of this session. Vote 10-4.

**EDUCATION**

**HB 143-L,** requiring that SAU budgets be approved by vote at school district meetings. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Richard L. Champagne for Education: This bill is well intended. However, it mandates a change in governance for SAU budget adoption, preempting local control. Many SAUs function well under current law and have no desire to change governance. Any school district not satisfied with current practices may use RSA 194-C to withdraw and form a single district with direct budget and voting. Time line considerations in light of SB 2, Chapter 164 from 1995 Municipal Budget Finance Committee and open district meetings make the voting provision of this bill nearly impossible to implement. A clear one person-one vote constitutional issue exists in SAUs where co-op high school and village school districts share SAU management for its current form. This bill does not accomplish its intended objectives. Vote 14-5.

**HB 612-FN,** requiring the state board of education and the department of education to establish suitable tests of academic knowledge to be administered as a prerequisite for certification of new teachers in New Hampshire. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Susan B. Dunham for Education: This bill is not necessary because the State Board of Education and the Department of Education are in the process of instituting such a test at this time. The committee will continue to follow this process to ensure that it is completed and will meet with the state board for that purpose. Vote 14-5.

**ELECTION LAW**

**CACR 8,** relating to increasing the executive council membership and the number of executive council districts. Providing that the executive council shall be increased from 5 to 10 members, and the number of executive council districts shall be increased from 5 to 10. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Lynn C. Horton for Election Law: The intent of this resolution is to increase the membership and number of executive councilor districts from 5 to 10. The committee found no compelling need to do this. We considered the increased expense of government. It is felt that the present system is working well. Vote 9-4.

**HB 443,** relative to push-polling. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. C. Donald Stritch for Election Law: Anonymous "push polling" is a deceitful campaign practice having an adverse impact on the political process. This bill requires candidates and others engaging in this practice to be accountable for the statements made in push polls. Vote 11-0.

**HB 484,** relative to registration of certain voters who vote by absentee ballot. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. John M. Root for Election Law: While sympathetic to the plight of individuals who might be unable to vote by absentee ballot if not registered to do so 10 days in advance of an election (as required by present law), the committee felt that to try to accommodate all potential absentee voters as proposed in this bill would place an impossible burden on city and town clerks and supervisors of checklists. The subcommittee noted that New Hampshire's same-day registration and voting system provided ample opportunity for the overwhelming majority of citizens to exercise their franchise. Vote 10-3.

**HB 659,** modifying restrictions on televised political advertising. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Natalie S. Flanagan for Election Law: This bill tightens the practices in political television advertising (by both candidates and independent organizations) by requiring that the candidate's or organization's payments for the ad to be clearly identified at the end of the political advertisement. Vote 13-0.

**ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**

**HB 418,** prohibiting the land application of sludge or biosolids containing amounts of heavy metals

over certain limits. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Karen K. McRae for Environment and Agriculture: The confusion about the numbers, the percentiles, of the heavy metals in relation to the Environmental Protection Agency standards as submitted by the Department of Environmental Services made the bill unworkable and therefore, it was voted inexpedient to legislate. Vote 17-2.

**HB 497**, excluding domestic septage from regulation as sludge or biosolids. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Karen K. McRae for Environment and Agriculture:. This bill separates the regulation of domestic septage and the regulation of sludge and bio-solids. Further definitions may be needed. Vote 14-1.

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**

**HB 762-FN**, relative to the regulation of naturopathic medicine. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Merton S. Dyer for Executive Departments and Administration: The bill as introduced would require licensure of doctors of naturopathy and registration of naturopaths or natural healers. The subcommittee recommended inexpedient to legislate and the full committee agreed by a 12 to 7 vote. Reconsideration was requested and voted affirmatively and the bill was voted to send to interim study. The committed voted for interim study so that we could work with those wishing to practice naturopathic medicine either as doctors of naturopathy or in the traditional method of practice. The present board is working very hard to get the program that the Legislature approved in 1993 running smoothly. One area that needs to be addressed is the terminology now in use by those in the field. With the oversight of the Executive Departments and Administration Committee, we feel we can resolve the questions and problems that have arisen in the course of implementation. The complexities of this program require additional work on the part of the Legislature, the Board of Naturopathic Doctors and the traditional naturopaths. A majority of the committee feels this would be a positive approach. Vote 12-7.

**SB 131-FN**, allowing certain state employees to take paid leave to participate in disaster relief service work. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Merton S. Dyer for Executive Departments and Administration: The purpose of the bill is to allow certain state employees to take annual leave to participate in disaster relief at Red Cross designated disasters. The subcommittee studied various options and presented an amendment that would restrict the amount of time to 15 working days and to level III disasters within the state. After a lengthy discussion, the amendment was rejected and the bill was voted inexpedient to legislate. Among the concerns expressed by the committee was the limitation to the state only and the fact that the Governor could implement this type of program now without legislation. Another concern of the committee dealt with liability to the state if employees were injured. There were concerns about the collective bargaining agreement as leave time and sick leave are included in the state contract and awarding extra time to certain individuals might conflict with the contract. This is a laudable idea but the committee felt that given the many concerns that this should not pass. Vote 9-6.

**FINANCE**

**CACR 21**, relating to a balanced budget. Providing that the governor be prohibited from proposing and the general court be prohibited from approving, an operating budget in which expenditures exceed estimated revenue. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Arthur P. Klemm, Jr. for Finance: The committee believes that CACR 21 though well-intentioned may have the effect of tying our hands too tightly in coming forth with a balanced budget. The committee believes it more appropriate to put into statute the current House practice of approving a balanced budget. The committee will file a bill to this effect for the 1998 session. Vote 16-2.

**HB 195-FN-A**, increasing the exemption amount under the interest and dividends tax. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Charles L. Vaughn for Finance: Division II of the Committee on Finance debated the merits of increasing the exemption under the interest and dividends tax, holding several public and executive sessions. The Finance Committee, after due deliberations, concurred with the Division's findings: keeping the exemption at $2400 for a payer under 65 years, with an additional amount of $1200 for persons over that age. A couple over 65 years thus receives a $7200 exemption.

The elderly are not the largest percentage of payers. Revenue Administration (DRA) figures tell us persons over 65 comprise 46% of filers out of a total of 52,000 filers, and pay 41% of tax revenues. New Hampshire residents with adjusted gross income over $75,000 paid 32% of the revenue increases.

Sharp increases in tax revenues for 1996 and 1997 are due in large measure to positive market forces and increased compliance activity due to publicity around the 1995 law eliminating the exemption on interest earned in New Hampshire and Vermont banks. This fact is substantiated by federal increases in interest and dividends revenues which mimics New Hampshire - 1993 to 1995 -- federal 20%, state 17%.

To determine the amount of interest persons over 65 earned from New Hampshire and Vermont banks as

opposed to that earned from other stock dividends, would require a man-year's work reviewing over 100 IRS computer reels on 52,000 New Hampshire filers.

The Department of Revenue Administration indicates this bill will decrease state general fund unrestricted revenue by $17.5 million over the biennium. Vote 17-3.

**HB 223-FN-L**, providing that catastrophic aid for special education shall be fully funded. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Reps. Kenneth L. Weyler and Sandra K. Dowd for Finance: The premise of this bill is that new additions to special education spending are putting school districts in dire financial straits. The committee discovered the following: (a) the maximum exposure of a school district for any one student is $26,500, because of catastrophic aid; (b) the legislature has fully funded the catastrophic aid budget as presented, and has held harmless the districts for previous years' overspending, as in HB 50, Chapter 348, Laws of 1997; (c) districts may borrow for overexpeditures on special education that occur after budget is set. The state pays the interest; thus, no new taxes need be levied for current budget.

In examining reasons for such large increases in catastrophic aid over the last few years, the committee discovered that New Hampshire leads the nation in per capita coding of students, we lead the nation in litigation over individual education programs, we place special education learning disabled-students in private residential programs at ten times the national rate.

For all of the above reasons we recommend Inexpedient on this bill, but are requesting a performance audit by the Performance Audit and Oversight Joint Committee of the special education program. Our goal is to get a handle on what the cost of the program is compared to what we are spending. We want to continue fully funding catastrophic aid without deficit spending or supplemental budgets to cover these costs. The bewildering cloud of contradictions we had in testimony cries out for facts Vote 15-3.

**HB 563-FN-A**, relative to a tax on telecommunications easements. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Kenneth L. Weyler for Finance: This bill would establish a special fund for the maintenance of trails along the 223 miles of abandoned railroad corridor which the state now owns. These trails are currently maintained by state supervision of a large group of volunteers. The tax created by this bill would be payable by the owners of the utility easements which the state did not buy when it bought the railroad corridor rights-of-way. The easements are used mainly for fiber-optic cable owned by telephone companies. The bill would give 25% of the tax collected to the municipality where the easement was located.

The committee had problems with the creation of yet another dedicated fund. The committee also concluded that this tax on telephone company transmission lines violated the spirit of the RSA on the telecommunications tax. Finally, both the Department of Revenue Administration and the bill's prime sponsor felt that litigation would likely use up any revenue for the first few years. Vote 12-8.

**HB 717-FN-A**, relative to the taxation of venture capital firms under the business profits tax. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. David J. Alukonis for Finance: The amendment, which replaces the original bill in its entirety, revises and improves upon those incentives found in current law which were intended to encourage the development of investment capital funds in New Hampshire. To date, these incentives have not been exercised, and there continue to be difficulties in the ability of local firms to raise much-needed equity capital.

Some of the problems with the current law are: (1) the requirements failed to allow for traditional venture capital fund investment cycles; (2) the requirements failed to recognize traditional venture capital fund investment structures; (3) the requirements unnecessarily limited the investment marketplace solely to New Hampshire; (4) interest and dividends tax rules required taxation of investors even when they received no actual dividends; and (5) the tax incentives were limited only to persons that were subject to the BPT.

The amendment addresses these concerns in a manner which the Department of Revenue Administration finds structurally acceptable. Additionally, the amendment: (1) requires additional reporting requirements which will allow for the legislature to determine whether or not the venture capital funds are being reinvested in New Hampshire, and in which industries; (2) allows for a credit to the Interest and Dividends tax for monies invested in a venture capital fund (this joins already existing credits allowed against the BPT and BET; and (3) changes the point of taxation from "deemed distributions" to "cash or actual distributions."

The Department of Revenue Administration is unable to estimate the impact to tax revenues that the proposed changes and additional tax credit will have. The Department is equally unable to assess the additional tax revenues that this bill will generate from increased business activities which will result from the increased investment opportunities that venture capital funds will provide to New Hampshire businesses.

The committee estimates that the worst case negative impact to the general fund (resultant of the three tax credits) could be $750,000; but unfortunately, is unable to quantify the additional tax receipts that would result from increased business activities in the state.

It should also be noted that venture capital funds take significant time to be developed and become active in soliciting investments. Thus, it is very unlikely that there will be any sizable impact to the general fund during the current biennium. Vote 20-0.

**HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS**

**HB 490**, relative to the confidentiality of medical records. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Alphonse A. Haettenschwiller for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: The amended bill is the result of many meetings over the summer of the subcommittee, the sponsors of the original bill and interested individuals and organizations including the Department of Health and Human Services. It is a consensus to which all parties agreed and which increases the confidentiality of medical records without creating barriers to necessary use. Vote 17-1.

**JUDICIARY AND FAMILY LAW**

**SB 25**, establishing employer immunity from civil liability for good faith disclosure of information regarding current and former employees to prospective employers. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Benjamin J. DePecol for the Majority of Judiciary and Family Law: This bill establishes immunity from civil liability for employers who disclose information regarding current and former employees' job performance and work histories to prospective employers, unless lack of good faith is shown. The committee believed that while there was some merit to this idea, little protection was left to employees. After much discussion and many attempts to compromise failed, the bill was voted Inexpedient to Legislate. Vote 10-4.

Rep. Paul M. Mirski for the Minority of Judiciary and Family Law: Employers are presently discouraged from being open to other prospective employers concerning the performance of present or past employees due to the potential for litigation over any critical comment which an employer might make. Passage of this bill would lend some equity to the present unsuitable equation by granting employers limited immunity for expressing candor and honesty on the subject of employee performance.

**LOCAL AND REGULATED REVENUES**

**HB 198-LOCAL**, allowing municipalities to offer tax incentives to foster growth in new and existing industrial construction. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Stephen G. Avery for the Majority of Local and Regulated Revenues: This legislation allows municipalities to offer limited tax exemption to foster growth in new and existing industrial construction. There were constitutional questions on the bill and the Supreme Court has ruled that it is constitutional. The majority of the committee felt that cities and towns should have this option. Vote 10-8.

Reps. Betsy McKinney, Laura C. Pantelakos, Francis C. Vincent, Raymond A. Lundborn, Linda T. Foster, Betsy A. Coes, Jean R. Wallin, Carol T. Burney for the Minority of Local and Regulated Revenues: The minority believes that this bill is simply bad tax policy for the following reasons: (1) It creates a new and distinct class of taxpayers; (2) study after study has failed to prove that tax credits attract industry; (3) the adoption of such policy pits town against town and becomes a "race to the bottom;" (4) towns that have the greatest need for a diversified tax base are those that can least afford the incentives; (5) incentives for new businesses may adversely affect existing businesses; and (6) tax breaks for some result in a tax shift to others, usually homeowners. The minority believes that attracting industry is best accomplished through innovative and cooperative planning and infrastructure improvements.

**HB 432**, increasing the wager limit on games of chance from $1 to $5. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Douglass P. Teschner for the Majority of Local and Regulated Revenues: When testimony was first offered on this bill, the committee became concerned that current law is not apparently followed at some "Monte Carlo" nights. As a result, the committee voted unanimously to re-refer the bill to study charitable gaming. The committee solicited testimony from the Attorney General Charitable Trust Division, Sweepstakes Commission, and Department of Safety. As a result, a comprehensive amendment was developed to improve and clarify the statutes on charitable gaming. In the interest of ensuring adequate public process, the committee voted the bill Inexpedient to Legislate and will bring the amendment forward as a clean bill in the upcoming session. The majority of the committee is opposed to raising the minimum bet until the law has been amended to ensure that this practice is suitably regulated. Vote 10-8.

Rep. Stephen G. Avery for the Minority of Local and Regulated Revenues: This was a simple bill that would allow wagers on charitable organization casino nights to be raised from a $1 limit to $5. There was overwhelming testimony that this would greatly increase the monies that would actually get to the charities. The minority of the committee feels that while other aspects of charitable gaming need to be tightened up, this can be done in subsequent legislation.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS**

**HB 126-FN-L**, repealing road toll refunds for retail dealers. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Merle W. Schotanus for the Majority of Public Works and Highways: This is the second consecutive time this bill has been introduced in the House. The previous bill, after study, was voted inexpedient to legislate by the House. The voluntary road toll refund program was established in 1957. The program allows independent gasoline dealers to apply for a 1 percent rebate on state gasoline taxes paid as compensation for shrinkage which occurs before the gasoline is sold. Gasoline dealers pay the state tax on gasoline up-front based on gallons delivered from the wholesale terminal before any gasoline is sold to the public. Temperature shrinkage during storage reduces the number of gallons that can be sold to the public. Without the rebate, dealers will have paid a tax on gasoline that cannot be sold. Vermont, Maine and other cold-weather states allow rebates to gasoline dealers which range from 0.05 to 4 percent. The majority of the committee believes the 1 percent New Hampshire rebate is fair. The Department of Environmental Services (DES) took no position on this bill in 1997. However, DES did state that gasoline dealers can experience losses of gasoline as a result of shrinkage. New Hampshire dealers testified that shrinkage is the greatest contributor to loss of gasoline. The majority of the committee believes that it is unfair to tax a product that cannot be sold and thus recommends this bill is inexpedient to legislate Vote 14-7.

Rep. Katherine D. Rogers, Steve Vaillancourt, and Marlene M. DeChane for the Minority of Public Works and Highways: The amendment would decrease the rebate from 1 to 0.5 percent of the toll paid on gross gasoline purchases. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services reported in January of 1996 that the amount lost during delivery is 0.1-0.2 percent or less. Therefore, with the reduction to 0.5 percent, dealers would still be receiving approximately three times what they are in fact losing. During extensive meetings of the subcommittee dealing with this bill, no clear and compelling empirical evidence was presented that any significant amount of gasoline is lost in underground storage tanks. With New Hampshire's year-round temperature range, scientific evidence is that the amount of expansion and contraction offsets each other. If anything, dealers may be experiencing an increase of volume to sell. If this rebate was dropped to 0.5 percent, the state would realize an additional $325,000 a year into the highway fund. It should also be noted that there is no refund to the federal gasoline tax, none in our neighboring New England states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, and the 0.5 percent as proposed by the amendment in Maine.

**RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**HB 405-L**, relative to standardizing the requirements for the design and specifications of septic systems. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Michael D. Whalley for the Majority of Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill would require that the design and specifications for sewage or waste disposal systems approved by the Department of Environmental Services be the standard for all systems in similar circumstances throughout the state. Although many on the committee felt regulations and standards should be based on science and not become a tool for local communities to restrict reasonable growth, most of the committee did not wish to upset the partnership that exists between the state and local communities with regard to the regulation of sewage disposal systems. Vote 12-5.

Rep. William E. Williams, Jr. for the Minority of Resources, Recreation and Development: The minority of the committee, being unable to agree with the majority, believes that this bill is a basic, simple bill which brings the entire state in line with the present technical standards as enforced by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. This is not a "home rule" issue. Rather, it is an attempt to standardize septic statutes in a similar manner as we now treat clean air, clean water, etc.

**HB 560-FN**, relative to penalties for introduction of boats and seaplanes from waters infested with milfoil or zebra mussels into clean lakes or ponds. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.

Rep. David M. Lawton for the Majority of Resources, Recreation and Development: While the majority of the committee believes that the problems associated with milfoil and zebra mussels are very serious concerns for our lake resources, we firmly believe that this legislation isn't needed at the present time. HB 181, Chapter 185 of 1997 was an important effort by this Legislature to address the issues of milfoil infestation. Chapter 185 already makes it illegal to sell, import, possess, distribute or transport exotic aquatic species (milfoil). Further, it provides for a $1.50 increase in boat registration fees to help control milfoil infestation. Until the results of our efforts of last session become clear, further action is unnecessary. Vote 10-7.

Rep. Sidney Lovett for the Minority of Resources, Recreation and Development: The exotic weed milfoil is contaminating the lakes of New Hampshire. It is currently in 30 lakes or ponds - an increase of 15% in 1997. The minority believes that this fact and the proximity of zebra mussels (Vermont) should require the legislature to maintain a committee for study and the development of appropriate strategies to preserve New Hampshire lakes. The minority recommends interim study.

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY**

**HB 485**, relative to limited electrical energy producers. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Reps. Donald B. White, Anne C. Grassie and Jeb E. Bradley for Science, Technology and Energy: There

are three major provisions of this bill. First there are legislative guidelines for net energy metering. This metering occurs when an extremely small generator of electricity, primarily using wind or solar power, uses less energy than such a system produces on an instantaneous basis. The excess energy flows into the distribution network and runs the homeowners' meter backwards, allowing an offset against consumption at other times. PSNH currently allows this practice for a handful of residences that can produce up to 25 kilowatts of power. The net impact in terms of cost to the electric system is extremely small, but the practical impact would be to encourage people to explore and install renewable energy technology. This amendment limits the total amount of kilowatts of such generating capacity that can use net energy metering. The second provision of the bill removes the requirement from state law that a utility must purchase new sources of independent power, such as hydro or wood energy, once competition in the electric industry actually commences. This requirement, as well as similar federal legislation enacted in the late 1970s, has led to the growth of renewable independent power but has proven to be very costly for N.H. customers. Much of the independent power cost problem for PSNH customers can be traced directly to projected costs of energy that PSNH and the Public Utilities Commission agreed to in a 1983 Commission docket. These high projected costs not only were used to justify continued Seabrook construction but also created an incentive for wood to energy plants to locate in PSNH's service territory. The committee believes it is time to end this practice of future mandatory power purchases, as all sources of power generation should be subject to competitive market forces. The third component of the bill involves existing purchases of independent power. In 1994 the legislature passed SB 790, which barred the buyout of any rate orders for the six remaining wood to energy plants. At the time, SB 790 was necessary to facilitate negotiations between PSNH and the six wood plants to lower their cost to ratepayers. Partial buydowns of these rate orders have been negotiated and are pending approval at the Commission. Even though there would be significant ratepayer savings with buydowns, greater savings might be achieved with rate order buyouts. The committee believes that it is appropriate to eliminate the prohibition on buyouts once competition exists, should any of the plants choose that as an option. Because a buyout could lead to a wood plant closure, there could be an impact on the forest products industry. The committee mitigated this possible impact by allowing only one potential buyout per year. Unlike 1994, once electric industry competition begins, these wood to energy plants as well as all other sources of renewable energy, both new and existing, will be able to sell to willing buyers. Results from the N.H. Pilot Program suggest at least some consumers will choose to purchase this type of power. Vote 17-0.

**STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**HCR 12,** urging ratification of the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Rita G. MacAuslan for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: The committee, with the approval of the sponsors, amended this resolution, which originally urged the US Senate to ratify the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, to urge that the CEDAW be considered instead. The majority of the committee agrees with the amendment that CEDAW, which was signed by the US in 1980, passed from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (13-5) to the full Senate in 1994, then referred back to committee due to its lateness, should be reconsidered and voted on by the Senate. Vote 10-6.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**HB 712,** relative to the purchase, preservation, and reactivation of abandoned railroad rights-of-way and limiting railroad liability for passenger rail service. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. John W. Flanders for Transportation: It was the feeling of the committee that two prior decisions by the State Supreme Court finding it unconstitutional to implement medical liability caps and that this bill would not pass constitutional muster. Vote 13-2.

# NOTICE

# LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Legislative Ethics Committee will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 21, 1998, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 304, LOB on a proposed Advisory Opinion and a proposed amendment to the Ethics Guidelines for the 1999 session. The proposed Advisory Opinion and a ***working draft*** of the proposed amendment are printed below in their entirety.

Representative Jeb E. Bradley, Chairman

Senator Richard L. Russman, Vice-Chairman

Senator John A. King

Representative Sarah K. Bonneau

Shawn N. Jasper

Peter C. Scott

# PROPOSED

# ADVISORY OPINION

The Legislative Ethics Committee has received and reviewed a request for an Advisory Opinion regarding the application of the conflict of interest disclosure procedure of the Guidelines as it may pertain to members of the General Court who own land subject to current use assessment. The Committee was asked whether a legislator who has filed a general disclosure of ownership of land in current use assessment at the beginning of a legislative session must also file a Declaration of Intent Form for each individual bill the legislator votes upon which relates to the current use assessment and tax system.

The Committee has addressed the issue of current use land ownership previously. In Advisory Opinion 1996-1, the Committee ruled:

> The current use tax system, unlike a tax of general application, is available and applies to a limited number of landowners, and accordingly, constitutes a financial interest, and therefore a potential conflict of interest, with respect to any official activity pertaining to the current use tax system. Therefore, a legislator who owns (or whose spouse owns) land in current use must file a conflict of interest disclosure form with the clerk with respect to any official activity which may affect the financial benefits or burdens of such ownership. (emphasis added)

Ethics Guidelines Section 2, VI defines "official activities" as:

> …the conduct of 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.

Ethics Guidelines Section 5, Conflict of Interest Procedure, requires a legislator to file a Declaration of Intent Form with the clerk of the member's respective body "within 24 hours" of the time of the legislator's participation in any official activity in which the legislator has a potential conflict of interest. Although the Ethics Committee is currently considering a process which would allow legislators to file a general disclosure form at the beginning of the session, that process has not yet been adopted by the House and the Senate.

Accordingly, the Committee concluded that the Ethics Guidelines require a legislator with land in current use to file a Declaration of Intent Form for each bill for which the legislator has a potential conflict of interest.

# WORKING DRAFT

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ETHICS GUIDELINES

**3 LEGISLATOR'S FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM.**

Every representative, representative-elect, senator, senator-elect, and officer of the House and Senate, shall file with the Secretary of State the following financial disclosure form on or before January 31 of each year [~~for the preceding calendar year~~].

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM

FOR STATE SENATORS, STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL COURT

Required by the Legislative Ethics Committee (RSA 14-B)

Name of Legislator/Officer _____

(print name)

Address _____

street town/city zip code

Office _____ County/District _____

Telephone Number _____

I. Identify below the name, address, and type of any professional, business, or other organization (including any unit of government) in which you are or were an officer, director, associate, partner, proprietor, employee, or member, or served in any advisory capacity, from which you derived any income (including retirement benefits) in excess of $10,000 during the preceding calendar year.

1) a) Name of organization _____

B) Address of organization _____

C) Type of organization _____

2) a) Name of organization _____

b) Address of organization _____

c) Type of organization _____

3) a) Name of organization _____

b) Address of organization _____

c) Type of organization _____

(attach additional sheets if necessary)

Please note: every State Senator, State Representative, and Officer of the General Court is required to file this form. If you feel that your income during the preceding calendar year does not qualify for disclosure according to the criteria stated above, signify by checking on the line below.

My income does not qualify _____

***II. Do you or your spouse participate in and/or receive income from any of the following businesses, professions, occupations, groups, or matters? Check any of the following which apply and describe the nature of the interest:***

***(a) any profession, occupation, or business licensed or certified by the State of New Hampshire***

_____

***(b) health care***

_____

***(c) insurance***

_____

***(d) real estate, including brokers, agents, developers, and landlords***

_____

***(e) banking/financial services***

_____

***(f) State of New Hampshire employment***

_____

***(g) the New Hampshire Retirement System***

_____

***(h) the current use land assessment program***

_____

***(i) restaurants and lodging***

_____

***(j) the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages***

_____

***(k) the practice of law***

_____

***(l) any business regulated by the Public Utilities Commission***

_____

***(m) horse or dog racing, or other legal forms of gambling***

_____

***DISCLOSURE AND DESCRIPTION OF INTERESTS ON THIS FORM MAY ELIMINATE THE NEED TO FOLLOW THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 5 OF THE ETHICS GUIDELINES. 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 5 OF THE ETHICS GUIDELINES.***

The foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

_____

Signature of Legislator/Officer

Complete and return to the Office of Secretary of State no later than January 31, ____

**5 CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROCEDURE.**

1. ***No declaration shall be required if no benefit or detriment could reasonably be expected to accrue to the legislator 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 membership is made in the Financial Disclosure Form pursuant to section 3 of the Ethics Guidelines. For purposes of these guidelines, groups shall be limited to ones generally recognized and of a substantial size.***

   *II*. When a legislator becomes aware that a conflict of interest exists or may exist ***and the conditions set forth in paragraph I 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.
   b. Declare that the legislator intends to participate in the official activity and will provide a description of the conflict of interest including:

* names of all entities, both public and private, which might be affected;

* the nature of any benefit which may accrue to the legislator;

* the nature of any financial interest in the issue;

* the nature of any relationship which existed, exists or may exist between the legislator and any person or entity which might be affected;

* such additional information as may be required to permit clear public awareness and understanding of the nature and extent of the conflict.

*III*. The declaration required in subparagraphs *II* (a) and (b) of this procedure shall be publicly announced prior to the legislator's initial participation in the official activity. The information required in subparagraph (b) shall be filed with the clerk of the member's respective body within 24 hours of the time of the official activity and be made available for public inspection during normal business hours.

# COMMITTEE HEARINGS

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

**NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING FINANCE COMMITTEE (RSA 162-F:15), Room 307, LOB**

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

**OSTEOPOROSIS ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 126-I:3), Room 103, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 281-A:62), Room 305, LOB**

9:00 a.m. Rescheduled regular meeting.

## MONDAY, JANUARY 19

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1649-FN-A,*** providing an exemption under the interest and dividends tax for taxpayers on a fixed income.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1657,*** extending the consultant’s reporting date for surveying the department of youth development services’ facilities.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1040-FN-A,*** decreasing the rate of the communications services tax.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1241-FN-A,*** repealing the temporary increase of the communications services tax and increasing the tobacco tax.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1507-FN-A,*** providing for a graduated reduction in the temporary increases in the communications services tax, meals and rooms tax, and the real estate transfer tax.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

**COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1176***, prohibiting charges for the use of electronic customer service terminals.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1179,*** limiting fees charged by financial institutions for use of electronic customer service terminals.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1348,*** limiting fees for use of electronic customer service terminals.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1540-FN,*** allowing non-banks to establish cash dispensing machines.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1127***, requiring lending institutions to allow consumers to choose their own attorneys in connection with real estate financing loans.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1165***, relative to the incorporation, management, branching and merger of banks.

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

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1647-FN,*** allowing a person to be sentenced to up to 2 years of electronically-monitored home confinement probation for a class A misdemeanor and relative to drug testing of persons on home confinement probation.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1583-FN-LOCAL,*** transferring the county attorneys' offices and the county sheriffs' offices to the department of justice and the unified court system, respectively.

11:15 a.m. ***HB 1600,*** relative to the multiple DWI offender intervention detention center program.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1588-FN,*** making it a felony to cause bodily injury to a police dog or horse.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1592-LOCAL,*** relative to the enhanced 911 data base.

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

**EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1293-FN-LOCAL,*** requiring school districts without a high school program to provide transportation for its resident students to an out of district high school.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1398-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to tuition reimbursement for kindergarten and eligibility criteria for school attendance.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1159***, establishing a committee to study strategies for increasing parental involvement in public education.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1247,*** establishing a study committee relative to access to public school facilities by home school students.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1584,*** relative to the applicability of the youth access to and use of tobacco products law.

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

**ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1520-FN,*** relative to primary petitions, political expenditures, and the jurisdiction of the ballot law commission.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1488,*** amending the definition of candidate and requiring additional reporting under

the political expenditures and contributions act.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1204,*** relative to political party expenditures.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1218,*** requiring the secretary of state to print a question to the voters relative to the public financing of political campaigns on the 1998 general election ballot.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1577-FN-A,*** relative to campaign finance expenditure and contribution reform.

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

**ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 303, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1145***, relative to the definition of "livestock."

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1160***, relative to the definitions of the terms "farm," "agriculture," and "farming."

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1162***, relative to permit applications before the hazardous waste facility siting board.

1:00 p.m. **HB 1238,** establishing a committee to study ways to manage land use and to preserve and protect the state's farmland, rural character, and environmental quality.

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

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1506-FN,*** changing the composition of the liquor commission.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1508-FN,*** regulating the practice of hypnotherapy.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1139-FN***, relative to group II retirement system eligibility for law enforcement training specialists and assistant directors employed by the police standards and training council.

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

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

9:30 a.m. Rescheduled public hearing on ***HB 630-FN-L,*** relative to additional voluntary contributions to provide for early retirement by members of the retirement system.(A)

10:00 a.m. Division work and executive sessions.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

**HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS, Room 205, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1407,*** clarifying the unlawful practice of medicine.

11:15 a.m. ***HB 1563,*** prohibiting physicians from prescribing or administering cannabis-type drugs.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1174***, establishing a committee to study the state substance abuse treatment delivery system.

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

**JUDICIARY AND FAMILY LAW, Room 208, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1102***, barring perpetrators of crimes from recovering civil damages for injuries sustained during criminal conduct.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1105***, providing a cause of action for agricultural disparagement.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1173***, limiting the liability of the state and its employees for personal injuries and civil damages resulting from fire standards and training instruction and programs.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1191,*** relative to limiting the liability of governmental units under certain circumstances.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1251,*** concerning the recovery of costs and expenses to a defendant agricultural operation in a nuisance suit.

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

**LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, Room 306, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1148***, relative to review of eligibility for a workers' compensation award where compensation was by lump sum agreement.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1181,*** relative to the waiting period for workers' compensation benefits for undisputed claims.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1385,*** relative to clarifying independent medical examinations under the workers' compensation law.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1446,*** relative to certain private employers under workers' compensation.

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

**LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION, Room 307, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Rescheduled public hearing on ***HB 1402-FN,*** allowing the members of the general court dental insurance and relative to excess appropriations for state employee health insurance benefits for fiscal year 1998.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1405-FN,*** including the legislature and judiciary as public employers under the public employees labor relations act.

11:15 a.m. ***HB 1410-FN,*** relative to administrative control and transferring the budget of the state law library.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1413,*** relative to the membership and compensation of the general court.

1:45 p.m. ***CACR 43,*** relating to compensation for members of the general court. Providing that members of the general court shall receive the annual sum of 5 cents per citizen of the state per week, multiplied by the most recent decennial federal census figure for the state of New Hampshire, divided by the number of legislators for the term elected.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1625-FN,*** relative to financial disclosure by elected officials.

3:15 p.m. ***HB 1645,*** to eliminate secrecy in the handling of complaints by any state ethics committee or conduct board or commission.

**LOCAL AND REGULATED REVENUES, Room 206, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1558-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to games of chance.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1122***, relative to the definition of charitable organization for the purposes of conducting bingo games.

Noon ***HB 1381,*** relative to charitable organizations eligible to sell Lucky 7 tickets.

12:30 p.m. ***HB 1276,*** relative to charitable organizations conducting bingo.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1418-FN-LOCAL,*** prohibiting gambling activities within one mile of a school.

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1388,*** establishing a committee to study commercial, suburban, and rural sprawl.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1404,*** establishing the fishing family protection act, prohibiting political subdivisions from interfering with commercial and recreational operations of fishing families.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1383-LOCAL,*** relative to zoning for small businesses in rural areas.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1252,*** relative to the right to farm.

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

**NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL ON APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (RSA 12-H:1), Room 304, LOB**

8:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1206,*** affirming that it is the legislature's intent that new court facility construction costs reflect the needs and usage of the judiciary.

10:45 a.m. ***HB 1253-LOCAL,*** relative to disposal of state property which is no longer in use for state purposes.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1272-LOCAL,*** requiring the long range capital planning and utilization committee and the Skyhaven airport operation commission to develop a plan to transfer the Skyhaven airport to a local public entity.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1617-FN-LOCAL,*** requiring all state agencies to include in its budget request the cost for maintaining state-owned buildings based upon a formula and requiring the department of administrative services to maintain state-owned buildings.

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

**RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Room 305, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1426-FN,*** relative to structures in or over public waters.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1246,*** relative to enforcement of oil spillage laws.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1531-FN,*** relative to reimbursement for removal of petroleum storage facilities from the oil pollution control fund.

2:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 1161-FN***, requiring the state to rebuild and maintain the dam controlling Baxter Lake in the towns of Farmington and Rochester, New Hampshire.

3:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 1104***, relative to building a certain dam in Windham.

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

**RULES, Room 203, LOB**

4:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

Executive session.

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 304, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1351-FN,*** extending "the Laboratory for New Ideas in Information Technology" pilot project.

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1292-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to payment by public utilities for output of limited electrical energy producers.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1560-FN-A,*** reestablishing the New Hampshire energy authority, making an appropriation therefor, and directing it to explore the acquisition of the transmission and distribution system of the Public Service Company of New Hampshire.

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

**TRANSPORTATION, Representatives Hall**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1216-FN,*** relative to motorcycle registration for drivers and riders who wear approved helmets.

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

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

**COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1186,*** requiring all-night convenience stores to have 2 attendants on duty during night hours.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1308,*** protecting the rights of distributors.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1237,*** relative to "salvage" motor vehicles.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1512-FN,*** relative to credit card rates and payments.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1178***, relative to automobile leasing.

3:00 p.m. ***HB 1314,*** relative to enforceable provisions in retail installment contracts for motor vehicles.

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

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1132-LOCAL***, relative to the sale of fireworks.

10:15 a.m. ***HB 1128-FN***, relative to space heaters.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1279-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to the procedures for vacating uninhabitable or unsafe buildings.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1474,*** establishing a study committee on a unified corrections system.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1550-FN,*** justifying the use of force against persons armed with deadly weapons engaging in illegal drug transactions and permitting life imprisonment as an enhanced sentence for

persons who engaged in an illegal drug transaction while armed with deadly weapons.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1557-FN,*** establishing the New Hampshire racketeer influenced and corrupt organizations act.

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

**EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1226-FN,*** creating the educational credential of master teacher

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1175-LOCAL***, relative to authorizing the state board of education to adopt rules on teacher education programs, teacher certification fees, and recertification standards.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1357-LOCAL,*** authorizing teachers in public schools to remove dangerous, disruptive, or uncooperative pupils from the classroom.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1280-LOCAL,*** clarifying the procedures for background criminal checks for school employees and volunteers.

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

**ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 303, LOB**

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 1576-FN-A,*** permitting the development of an industrial hemp industry in New Hampshire and continually appropriating a special fund.

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1431,*** prohibiting the aerial spraying of herbicides for forestry purposes.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1606-LOCAL,*** relative to liability for response to hazardous materials accidents.

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

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1525-FN,*** establishing an office of administrative hearings.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1524-FN,*** licensing bail recovery agents.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1612-FN,*** establishing a public information system to ensure electronic access to public records.

2:45 p.m. ***HB 1573-FN,*** changing the name of the department of cultural affairs to the department of cultural resources and establishing a fund for educational purposes and historic preservation.

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

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1249,*** requiring budget line item appropriations for individual and departmental dues to national and regional organizations paid from state resources.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1260,*** limiting the use of appropriated funds to influence state contracting and financial transactions, and legislation.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1288-FN-A-L,*** relative to reimbursement of funds for recipients in nursing homes.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1295-FN***, relative to reimbursing the state medical assistance program.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1228,*** relative to notice required upon an agency's receipt of federal funds.

2:15 p.m. ***HB 1310,*** relative to legislative approval of expenditure of federal and other funds.

3:00 p.m. ***HB 1326,*** relative to applications for exemption to the state hiring delay.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

**HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS, Room 205, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1150***, establishing a committee to study the authority, functions, duties, and responsibilities of the bureau of emergency medical services.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1396-FN,*** relative to training programs for emergency medical services instructors and funding of certain testing programs.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1498,*** requiring emergency medical care providers to inform patients of transport options.

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

**JUDICIARY AND FAMILY LAW, Room 208, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1116***, relative to division of property in no-fault divorces.

10:15 a.m. ***HB 1190,*** encouraging alternative dispute resolution as an alternative to litigation in domestic relations cases.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1376,*** relative to co-parenting of children.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1194,*** prohibiting a minor child from being forced to have visitation with an incarcerated parent.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1317,*** relative to termination of parental rights upon a finding of either child abuse or the commission of certain criminal offenses.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1347,*** providing visitation rights to siblings.

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

**LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, Room 306, LOB**

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 1489,*** eliminating the duty of a public employee labor organization to represent employees who elect not to join the employee organization.

**LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION, Room 307, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

**LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE (RSA 14-B:2), Room 304, LOB**

3:00 p.m. Public hearing on a proposed Advisory Opinion regarding the requirement that a legislator file a Declaration of Intent Form for individual bills when a legislator has a potential conflict of interest.

Public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Ethics Guidelines for the 1999 session to allow a general disclosure of potential conflicts of interest.

Regular meeting.

**LEGISLATIVE FACILITIES (RSA 17-E:2), Room 103, State House**

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

**LOCAL AND REGULATED REVENUES, Room 206, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1130-FN***, relative to the distribution of beverages.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1131***, relative to the sale of liquor and beverages and relative to enforcement of the liquor laws.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1188,*** requiring a 24-hour rest for beer at the warehouse after delivery to the wholesale distributor by the brewer or manufacturer.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1189-FN,*** increasing the limits of direct off-premises sales from breweries and brew pubs.

Noon ***HB 1468,*** clarifying the legal status of home brewers of beer.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1313,*** relative to wholesale distributors who are delinquent in making payment of accounts.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1278,*** prohibiting the use of instant redeemable coupons for the purchase of beverage.

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1154***, establishing a committee to study the issue of updating New Hampshire laws related to fences.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1282-LOCAL,*** requiring a public hearing and vote of the town before a conservation commission may expend funds received through the current use penalty.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1451,*** requiring the office of state planning to coordinate planning assistance to municipalities with state laws and rules adopted pursuant to state laws.

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

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1177-FN***, relative to increasing the minimum amount of a state capital improvement project requiring competitive bidding.

9:35 a.m. ***HB 1374,*** relative to contracts for major capital projects of the departments of fish and game and resources and economic development.

10:45 a.m. ***HB 1193-FN,*** relative to installing vending machines at welcome and tourist information centers on state highways.

11:15 a.m. ***HJR 24-FN,*** requiring the department of transportation to re-elm U.S. Route 1.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1389-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to agreements for telecommunications-related uses of the state highway system.

2:15 p.m. ***HB 1157***, relative to the layout of highways.

2:45 p.m. ***HB 1596-A,*** authorizing a state welcome center in the town of Bradford and making an appropriation therefor.

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

**RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Room 305, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1240-FN*****,** establishing wetlands permits for slips-only marinas.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1187,*** relative to breakwater permitting.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1341,*** relative to temporary seasonal docks on lakes and ponds.

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

**TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB**

9:00 a.m. ***HB 1392,*** relative to student drivers.

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1345,*** relative to school crosswalks.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1537,*** relative to aeronautics enforcement authority.

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

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

**COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1546-FN,*** extending consumer protection rights to purchasers of farm equipment.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1598-FN,*** prohibiting the use of social security numbers except for taxation purposes and providing certain rights to victims of credit card fraud.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1312,*** adopting the 1995 revisions to article 5 of the uniform commercial code relative to letters of credit.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1461,*** relative to the definition of "destroyed" and "transfer" involving cashier's checks.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1319,*** relative to foreclosure sales.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1379,*** making attorneys subject to the Consumer Protection Act.

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

**EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1356-LOCAL,*** revising the procedures for withdrawal from a cooperative school district.

***HB 1487,*** allowing a receiving district to withdraw from an authorized regional enrollment area school.

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

Full committee work session to follow.

**ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1444,*** requiring a special primary for all parties if there are at least 2 candidates for election from one party.

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1121***, making technical corrections to the election laws.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1115-LOCAL***, relative to boundary markers.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1495,*** relative to procedures for apportioning state representatives among counties and among legislative districts.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1485,*** establishing a redistricting commission.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1611,*** relative to reports of income by county officers.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1170-FN***, allowing municipalities to designate areas and conditions for the placement of political advertising and relative to the removal of improperly placed political advertising.

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

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1643-FN-LOCAL,*** consolidating the pari-mutuel commission and sweepstakes commission into a gaming commission.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1590-FN,*** relative to vending facilities operated by blind persons and blind services.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1522-FN,*** establishing the offices of inspector general.

3:00 p.m. ***HB 1607-LOCAL,*** exempting state agencies and counties from competitive bidding requirements when purchasing bulletproof vests and other personal body armor for law enforcement officers, other officers with powers of arrest, and corrections personnel.

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

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Division work and executive sessions.

**HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS, Room 205, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1503-FN-A-LOCAL,*** relative to intergenerational homeshare programs and making an appropriation therefor.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1564-FN,*** relative to testing for AIDS when necessary to protect the health of law enforcement officers.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1652,*** establishing a pilot program relative to the administration of medications in residential care facilities.

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

**JUDICIARY AND FAMILY LAW, Room 208, LOB**

10:00 a.m. All day executive session on pending legislation.

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. County study committee meeting.

**PEASE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS (RSA 12-G:4), Authority Offices Conference Room, 360 Corporate Drive, Pease International Tradeport**

8:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1639-A-LOCAL,*** relative to U.S. Route 3 from Twin Mountain in Carroll to Clarksville and making an appropriation therefor.

10:15 a.m. ***HB 1575-FN,*** relative to highway modifications on lands acquired through the land conservation investment program.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1137***, establishing a study committee on controlling the spread of graffiti.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1138-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to New Hampshire route 111.

2:15 p.m. ***HB 1143-FN***, reclassifying Ayers Road in Northfield and Canterbury as a class III recreational road.

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

**TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB**

9:00 a.m. ***HB 1322-FN-LOCAL,*** requiring seat belts on school buses.

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1364-LOCAL,*** establishing a bus only commercial driver license.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1198,*** relative to the registration of vehicles owned by trusts.

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

**WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES, Room 307, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1481,*** granting rulemaking authority to the executive director of fish and game to determine the legal length of lobsters.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1409-FN,*** relative to licenses for taking lobster and crab.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1354-FN,*** relative to fishing in the Connecticut River by residents of Vermont and relative to the use of funds from the sale of timber on fish and game lands.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1621,*** relative to the membership of the advisory committee on shore fisheries.

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

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

**STATEWIDE EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 193-C:7), Room 105A, State House**

10:00 a.m. Work session.

**VEHICLE EMISSIONS ADVISORY (RSA 268:20,I), Room 304, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

## MONDAY, JANUARY 26

**BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD INJURY ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 137-K:2), Room 205, LOB**

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1397-FN-A-L,*** reestablishing the investment tax credit against the business profits tax under the community development finance authority.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1439-FN-A,*** relative to reducing the amount of meals and rooms tax retained by operators and designating the moneys to a nonlapsing fund in the department of resources and economic development for the promotion of tourism.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1595-FN-A,*** repealing certain exemptions under the meals and rooms tax.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1399-FN***, revising certain information required in the state operating budget.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1456,*** relative to the budget making process.

3:00 p.m. ***HB 1627,*** relative to deposits with the state treasurer of amounts due **certain** stockholders and creditors on the dissolution of a corporation.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

**OIL FUND DISBURSEMENT (RSA 146-D:4), Room 305, LOB**

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

**COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1578-FN,*** establishing the New Hampshire returnable beverage container law.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1365,*** establishing a committee to study whether any state laws were violated or any misrepresentations made up to and including the present date in the merger of Catholic Medical Center and Elliot Hospital.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1484,*** relative to motor vehicle insurance.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1529,*** reinstating the corporate charter of Hampstead Garage, Inc.

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

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1011-FN,*** prohibiting possession of gambling machines unless specifically authorized under state law.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1626-FN,*** relative to illegal gambling businesses.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1544-FN,*** prohibiting a prosecutor from testifying voluntarily as a character witness in a criminal case.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1309,*** relative to an exemption from the notification requirement for telemarketing firms.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1265,*** establishing a study committee on the enactment of laws which would allow the office of the attorney general to freeze assets in white collar crime cases.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1318,*** relative to extended terms of imprisonment for crimes substantially motivated by hostility towards the victim's religion.

2:15 p.m. ***HB 1184-FN,*** expanding the victims eligible for compensation from the victims' assistance

fund and changing the allocation of criminal penalty assessments.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1307,*** relative to penalties for habitual offenders.

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

**ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 303, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1623,*** relative to a waiting period before a dog or cat may be euthanized and relative to requirements for cats.

1:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 1225,*** restricting the land application of solid wastes within certain distances of natural, rural, and community rivers.

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

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1636-FN,*** relative to the executive director of fish and game and the fish and game commission.

10:45 a.m. ***HB 1523-FN,*** adding security officers of the New Hampshire hospital campus security force to group II of the New Hampshire retirement system.

11:15 a.m. ***HB 1574-FN-LOCAL,*** adding state and local government part-time employees to employees eligible to participate in the state group insurance coverage.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1616-FN-LOCAL,*** requiring the department of revenue administration to make available to the public certain tax and real estate assessing software.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1619,*** relative to the embossing of government seals.

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

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Full committee executive session.

**JUDICIARY AND FAMILY LAW, Room 208, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1158***, changing the process for designating a part-time district court justice a full-time district court justice.

10:15 a.m. ***HB 1603-FN,*** relative to appointment and payment of guardians ad litem and establishing a complaint process against the guardian ad litem system.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1338-FN-A,*** authorizing the extension and expanding the powers of the committee on investigations of the late John C. Fairbanks and others and making an appropriation therefor.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1505-FN,*** removing judges from the state defense and indemnification provisions.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1570-FN,*** relative to establishing the legislative committee on the oversight of the practice of law.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1516,*** requiring a criminal background investigation for all department of health and human services personnel who deal directly with children.

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1532,*** establishing a committee to study the village plan alternative to municipal subdivision procedures for the purpose of retaining open space in the development process.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1567-LOCAL,*** relative to local excavation permits for bedrock quarrying or crushing operations.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1172-LOCAL***, relative to the number of members on a municipal budget committee.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1126-LOCAL***, relative to municipal debt limits.

2:00 p.m. **HB 1239-LOCAL,** allowing school districts and village districts to independently adopt the provisions of the municipal budget law concerning establishment of a budget committee.

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

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1208,*** authorizing the housing finance authority to sell or transfer certain land.

10:45 a.m. ***HB 1315-LOCAL,*** relative to leasing of state-owned property.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1340-LOCAL,*** establishing a committee to study the upgrade of Dean Memorial Airport in North Haverhill, New Hampshire.

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

**TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1201-FN,*** relative to the use of motor vehicle repair plates.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1140-FN***, relative to special motor vehicle plates for district court judges.

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

**WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES, Rooms 305-307, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1473-FN-A,*** establishing a wildlife damage control program and making an appropriation therefor.

**Room 307, LOB**

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1120***, establishing a commission to study the effects of and jurisdiction over alternative agricultural products.

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

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

**COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1628,*** relative to health care liability.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1458,*** requiring health maintenance organizations to provide certain written statements.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1281,*** eliminating the requirement for precertification from a primary care physician to

access OB/GYN services in managed care plans.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1153***, establishing a committee to study uninsured and underinsured persons who have diabetes.

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

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1258,*** establishing a committee to study and investigate issues related to The State of New Hampshire v. Edward Silva.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1499,*** establishing a committee to study the circumstances and investigation of the deaths of Janet and Steven Dow; providing an exception from statutes of limitations for certain unlawful acts related to murders; relative to false reports to law enforcement officers; and nullifying the adoption of Steven Medeiros.

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

**ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Representatives Hall**

10:00 a.m. Continued public hearing on ***HB 1454,*** relative to the spreading of sludge or biosolids.

Continued public hearing on ***HB 1224,*** relative to the regulation of biosolids.

Continued public hearing on ***HB 1346,*** relative to the definition of disposal under the solid waste management act.

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

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1556-FN,*** transferring the division of fire standards and training to the department of regional community-technical colleges.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1640-FN,*** prohibiting the use of public resources for political purposes.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1455,*** relative to the publication of administrative rules.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1459,*** requiring that all administrative rules adopted by every state agency under the Administrative Procedures Act identify the specific state or federal statute or regulation which the rule is designed to implement.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1222,*** increasing the membership of the Christa McAuliffe planetarium commission.

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

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1548-FN-A,*** providing for the health care of New Hampshire children and making an appropriation therefor.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1384-FN-A,*** making appropriations for use by the New Hampshire Commission on the Smithsonian Festival of American Folklife.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1586-FN-A,*** making an appropriation for the purpose of increasing coverage on highways by state troopers and for additional state troopers.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1615-FN-A,*** relative to the restoration and preservation of the colonial era state house presently stored by the department of cultural affairs and making an appropriation therefor.

3:15 p.m. ***HB 1514-FN,*** setting the biennial rate for the medicaid enhancement tax.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

**JUDICIARY AND FAMILY LAW, Room 208, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1549-FN,*** granting a right to trial by jury in any controversy between a person or persons and a state board, commission, or agency when the amount in controversy is at least $1,500.

10:15 a.m. ***HB 1580-FN,*** permitting a jury trial in the superior court for violations of the state law against discrimination for a certain time period or with the written assent of the commission for human rights after an action has been filed with the commission.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1534,*** granting an accused or aggrieved party the right to inform the jury of its right to find the defendant not guilty under certain circumstances when the state or a political subdivision is the opposing party.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1637-FN,*** repealing the requirement that the commissioner of the department of employment security maintain a state directory of new hires.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1613-FN,*** limiting the liability of registers of deeds and counties for recording fraudulent documents and establishing a criminal penalty for knowingly filing a fraudulent document with a register of deeds.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1599-FN,*** allowing the custodial parent with legal custody of a child to change the child's name.

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1111***, relative to the types of investments allowable by local treasurers.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1213-LOCAL,*** relative to the authority of a town to name a trustee to expend funds for certain purposes.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1221-LOCAL,*** relative to the acceptance of personal property donated to towns or village districts.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1435-LOCAL,*** relative to the vote required for a legislative body of a municipality to accept a street.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1609,*** permitting municipal elections to be held on biennial election day.

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

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1401-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to the application of local planning and zoning to construction, development, or use of facilities on state-owned property.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1330-FN,*** naming the bridge over the Newfound River on route 104 west in the town of Bristol, New Hampshire, the Richard W. Musgrove bridge.

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

**RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Room 305, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1291-FN,*** relative to management of the state ski areas at Mount Sunapee and Cannon Mountain.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1412,*** relative to increasing the administrative fine for violations of wetlands laws.

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

**STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, Room 306, LOB (Please note room change.)**

9:30 a.m. ***HCR 24,*** urging Congress to enact legislation amending the Social Security Act to authorize issuance of waivers to states allowing design and implementation of alternative retirement plans.

10:30 a.m. ***HCR 25,*** requesting the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp commemorating the 200th anniversary of the United States naval shipyards.

1:15 p.m. ***HCR 22,*** rescinding the 1979 call for a federal constitutional convention.

2:30 p.m. ***HJR 22,*** requesting the government of the United States to adopt and ratify the international treaty to ban land mines.

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

**TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB**

9:00 a.m. ***HB 1171***, to establish a committee to investigate the discrepancy in air fares between flights from Logan International Airport and Manchester Airport.

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1648,*** restricting the transporting of passengers in the bed of trucks.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1572,*** establishing a study committee relative to inter-city commuter bus transportation.

11:15 a.m. ***HB 1605,*** establishing a study committee on marine patrol services.

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

**WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES, Room 307, LOB**

9:00 a.m. ***HB 1372,*** increasing the distance from a dwelling within which a person is prohibited from discharging a firearm.

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1256,*** transferring the wildlife rehabilitation program to the department of resources and economic development.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1255-FN-A,*** increasing the fee for a resident trapping license and continually appropriating the increased revenue for the purpose of wildlife rehabilitation.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1432-FN,*** relative to hunting and fishing licenses for certain disabled persons.

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

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

**COLLEGE TUITION SAVINGS PLANS FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE COLLEGES STUDY (HB 1160, Chapter 65, Laws of 1996), Room 205, LOB**

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

**IDENTIFY GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES RELATED TO MANAGED CARE STUDY (SB 122, Chapter 230, Laws of 1997), Room 105A, State House**

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1321-FN-A***, to provide marine patrol officers with adequate communications systems and making an appropriation therefor.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1303-FN-A-L,*** continually appropriating boating fees and other revenues to the division of safety services.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1349-FN,*** relative to using department of revenue administration income data in calculating foundation aid.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1442,*** repealing the held harmless practice codified in the Augenblick formula.

2:15 p.m. ***HB 1581-FN-A-L,*** relative to the payment of school building aid.

3:00 p.m. ***HB 1403-FN-A,*** increasing the personal needs allowance of nursing home residents and certain other residents and making an appropriation therefor.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

**COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1147***, relative to corporate filings with the secretary of state.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1311,*** adopting the 1994 revisions to article 8 of the uniform commercial code relative to investment securities.

11:15 a.m. ***HB 1604,*** relative to ownership of shares of professional corporations and relative to shareholders of firms practicing public accountancy.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1203,*** establishing a committee to study methods of increasing the funding for the insurance fraud investigation unit.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1212,*** prohibiting the use of credit reports to deny property or casualty insurance.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1391,*** requiring insurance coverage for the screening and treatment of glaucoma.

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

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1635-FN,*** establishing the crime of criminal storage of a firearm.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1515-FN,*** relative to discharge of persons imprisoned for failure to pay a penalty assessment or an administrative fee.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1543-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to disbursement of income of persons held or imprisoned in a county department of corrections facility.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1490,*** requiring defendants charged with certain crimes to turn over firearms to law enforcement agencies; requiring a protective order for surrender of firearms in cases of abuse; and allowing protective orders on behalf of public servants and witnesses who are victims of stalking or criminal threatening.

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

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1415,*** relative to the regulation of the practice of optometry.

10:45 a.m. ***HB 1450,*** relative to standards for certification of soil scientists and wetland scientists.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1361,*** relative to rulemaking authority, subpoena powers, and establishment of civil penalties by the board of professional engineers.

1:00 p.m. Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Full committee executive session on re-referred bills.

**JUDICIARY AND FAMILY LAW, Room 208, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1504-FN,*** repealing the authority of the chief justice of the supreme court to assign superior court judges to hear cases in the district court.

10:15 a.m. ***HB 1538-FN-A,*** extending the reporting date for the committee to study judicial pensions, increasing the duties of the committee, and making an appropriation therefor.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1593-FN,*** codifying and revising the existing cooperative agreement between the department of health and human services and the judiciary.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1433-FN,*** relative to physician aid-in-dying for certain persons suffering from a terminal condition.

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1638-LOCAL,*** relative to the work program requirement for assisted persons who are single parents.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1533-LOCAL,*** requiring court diversion programs to provide an accounting of funds appropriated by municipalities, requiring municipalities to publish such accounting in the annual report of the municipality, and requiring municipalities to separately state anticipated expenditures for court diversion programs in the budget.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1192,*** permitting the city of Concord to combine the positions of tax collector and treasurer.

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1447-LOCAL,*** relative to approval by the legislative body of cost items in a collective bargaining agreement.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1373,*** enabling towns and cities to adopt a procedure allowing for the denial of a planning board application by a vote of the municipality.

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

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1656,*** relative to the law enforcement memorial.

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

**TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1135***, relative to the use of watercraft and boats on Ledge Pond in the town of Sunapee.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1152***, permitting municipalities to further restrict watercraft on great ponds wholly within the municipality.

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

**WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES, Rooms 305-307, LOB**

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1196,*** prohibiting the sale and use of lead fishing sinkers except to persons with commercial salt water fishing licenses.

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

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

**COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1257,*** authorizing landlords to conduct criminal background checks on prospective tenants with the consent of the prospective tenants.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1654,*** relative to consumer credit solicitations.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1380-FN,*** relative to energy costs for persons dependent upon life-support equipment.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1551-FN,*** adding dental insurance to the continuing insurance coverage for certain employees.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1536,*** establishing a committee to study women's health care and relative to breast feeding a baby.

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

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1552-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to standards for juvenile court diversion programs.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1614,*** relative to tobacco use violations by minors and establishing a committee on educational programs on tobacco use for minors.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1547-FN-LOCAL,*** relative to mandatory incarceration for violators of protective orders.

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

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1185,*** creating a committee to study the feasibility of establishing an audit division within the department of justice to audit and review state contracts.

10:45 a.m. ***HB 1438,*** establishing a committee to study the regulation of personnel employed in early care and education including, but not limited to, center and family-based child care and preschools.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1655-FN-A,*** relative to the authority of the length of service awards program committee, and making an appropriation therefor.

1:15 p.m. ***HB 1299,*** requiring members of executive branch councils to file annual financial statements and relative to certain person's who fail to file annual financial statements.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1344-FN,*** relative to state employees receiving workers' compensation benefits.

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

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Full committee executive session on re-referred bills.

**JUDICIARY AND FAMILY LAW, Room 208, LOB**

9:30 a.m. Informational meeting.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1370,*** abolishing the judicial council.

11:15 a.m. ***HB 1594-FN,*** transferring the authority of the judicial conduct committee to the legislature.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1267,*** relative to membership on the professional conduct committee and the judicial conduct committee of the supreme court.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1358,*** relative to failure to cooperate with proceedings of the supreme court committee on professional conduct or the judicial conduct committee.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1500,*** relative to powers of appointment.

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1146***, relative to the use of capital reserve funds for multiple payments of lease/purchase agreements.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1568,*** relative to the timing of special school district meetings.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1250-FN-LOCAL,*** providing that beginning with the tax year 2002, the education portion of a property taxpayer's tax bill shall not exceed 50 percent of the total tax due and establishing a committee to recommend legislation necessary to implement this act.

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

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

**TRANSPORTATION, Representatives Hall**

9:00 a.m. ***HB 1367,*** requiring motorcyclists to wear protective headgear.

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

**WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES, Room 307, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1436,*** exempting resident or landowner permissions for applications and permits for wildlife reductions on Long Island from the right to know law.

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

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1217,*** relative to balancing the operating budget.

10:45 a.m. ***HB 1300,*** relative to the revenue stabilization reserve account.

11:30 a.m. ***HB 1644-FN-A,*** relative to general fund operating budget surpluses.

1:30 p.m. ***CACR 40,*** imposing limitations on state government spending. Providing that the legislative and executive budgets cannot be more than 98 percent of the previous year's revenues, with the remainder being placed into a stabilization fund.

2:30 p.m. ***CACR 30,*** relating to the levy of taxes. Providing that no taxes shall be levied without the consent of the people through a referendum vote.

3:15 p.m. ***CACR 34,*** relating to broad-based sales or income taxes. Providing that adopting a broad-based sales or income tax is prohibited.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

**EDUCATION, Rooms 205-207, LOB**

9:00 a.m. ***CACR 42,*** relating to public money used to compensate individuals for sectarian education. Providing that the provision prohibiting public money from being used to compensate individuals for education at sectarian schools be replaced with federal constitutional church-state separation protections.

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

**EDUCATION JOINT WITH SENATE EDUCATION, Rooms 205-207, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1476-LOCAL,*** enabling school districts to allow parental choice among public and nonpublic schools and ***SB 456***, enabling school districts to allow full parental choice in education..

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

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1400-FN,*** relative to the powers and duties of the commissioner of health and human

services.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1497,*** establishing a committee to study adoption of a single factor method of apportionment for business taxation purposes.

1:45 p.m. ***HB 1362,*** requiring a vote of 2/3 of the house and senate to pass any bill approving the issuance of bonds which would increase state indebtedness.

2:30 p.m. ***HB 1555-FN,*** relative to including revocable trusts for medicaid estate recovery purposes.

3:00 p.m. ***HB 1521-FN-A,*** making supplemental appropriations to certain academic institutions within the university system of New Hampshire for fiscal years 1998 and 1999.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

**PERINATAL ALCOHOL TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUG USE TASK FORCE (RSA 132:19), Room 101, LOB**

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1472,*** relative to employment of prisoners.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1227-FN,*** authorizing extended terms of imprisonment for persons who assault emergency medical personnel and fire services personnel.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1248-FN,*** establishing the crime of assault against a sports official.

1:00 p.m. Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Rescheduled public hearing on ***HB 1631-FN,*** extending the moratorium on new nursing home beds.

Division work and executive session to follow.

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1113***, relative to reports of town and school district meetings to be certified to the department of revenue administration.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1112***, relative to the placement of articles on the official ballot.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1434-LOCAL,*** simplifying the charter amendment procedure for the purpose of establishing official ballot voting.

1:00 p.m. ***HB 1482,*** providing a mechanism for optional fiscal year towns to use the official ballot voting procedures.

2:00 p.m. ***HB 1491,*** making the second Tuesday in April, rather than the second Tuesday in March, the election day for all local offices and for official ballot voting.

3:00 p.m. ***HB 1343,*** relative to multiple and contingent warrant articles under the official ballot voting process.

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

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1448,*** relative to confidential communication between victims and counselors.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1561-FN,*** preventing computer pornography and child exploitation and increasing penalties for possession under the child pornography laws.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1378-FN,*** making the penalty for the offense of official oppression a felony,

1:30 p.m. ***HB 1183,*** relative to use of force to prevent an unlawful taking of property.

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1483,*** authorizing secret ballot voting at annual meeting.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1608,*** providing that the membership on any charter commission established in a multi-town school district shall reflect each town's proportionate membership of the district's school board.

1:00 p.m. **HB 1236-LOCAL,** relative to limitations on the amendment of warrant articles in official ballot voting.

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

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. ***HB 1571,*** relative to the acquisition of abandoned or inactive rail lines in the city of Lebanon.

10:15 a.m. ***HB 1585,*** requiring the state to notify the town or city in which state-owned real estate is located prior to a change in use of such real estate.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1591,*** relative to a width exception for highway building and maintenance equipment owned by private businesses and used for winter snow removal.

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

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

10:00 a.m. ***HB 1559,*** legalizing the possession and cultivation of marijuana for medicinal purposes.

10:30 a.m. ***HB 1562,*** excepting cannabis-type drugs from forfeited drugs which may be delivered to the department of health and human services for medical use.

11:00 a.m. ***HB 1646-FN,*** removing the intent requirement for crimes of possession under the controlled drug law and increasing penalties for violations of the controlled drug law involving marijuana and hashish.

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

10:00 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation, if necessary.

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

**EDUCATION, Representatives Hall**

9:30 a.m. Meeting with Vocational Institute Students.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation, if necessary.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

**PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

9:30 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation, if necessary.

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

## OFFICIAL NOTICES

### COUNTY DELEGATION NOTICE

Hillsborough County Executive Committee will meet Friday, January 23 at 8:30 a.m. at the Department of Corrections, Manchester.

Rep. Frances L. Riley, Chairman

Hillsborough County Executive Committee

### COUNTY DELEGATION NOTICE

Strafford County Delegation will meet January 28 at 7:00 p.m. in Superior Courtroom 2 for a public hearing on the 1998 budget.

Rep. Deborah F. Merritt, Chairman

Strafford County Delegation

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The hard-cover 1997 Permanent House Journals have been delivered. Those Representatives who ordered copies can pick them up anytime at the Sergeant-at-Arms counter.

Leo J. Callahan, Assistant Clerk

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On House session days and committee days Representatives who do not have reserved LOB or reserved street parking please park in the Storrs Street Parking Garage.

Rob Johnson, Sergeant-at-Arms

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Mail slots are full! If you requested all bills last year you are automatically receiving them this year. Please empty mail slots weekly so that distribution may continue uninterrupted. Thank you.

Rob Johnson, Sergeant-at-Arms

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Pursuant to 1996 HR 62, the Finance Committee has prepared a report dated November 1, 1997, of its study of alternatives to fund public, primary and secondary education. Copies of the report are available from the Sergeant-at-Arms office. Members will find it both interesting and enlightening.

Rep. Neal M. Kurk, Chairman

Finance Committee

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Pursuant to RSA 326-B:12, the Joint Health Council will meet at the NH Board of Nursing, Room 17, 78 Regional Drive, Building 2, Concord, on Monday, February 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Karen O. Wadsworth, Clerk of the House

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**REVISED AMENDED FISCAL NOTES**

The following HBs have a revised or amended fiscal note: HBs 1350, 1545, 1582, 1594, 1599, 1600, 1601, 1602, 1603, 1617 and 1644.

Leo J. Callahan, Assistant Clerk

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When the House Clerk is aware of House Members who are hospitalized or homebound by serious illness, it will publish a list of names and addresses so that their colleagues who so desire may send cards and greetings

George F. Brown, 13 Grove Street, Rochester, New Hampshire 03839-5511

Robert W. Foster, PO Box 602, Moultonborough, New Hampshire 03254-0602

Paul W. Taylor, 214 Harris Road, Nashua, New Hampshire 03060-3708

Robert H. Turner, 44 Winnicooash Street, Laconia, New Hampshire 03246-3040.

Karen O. Wadsworth, Clerk of the House

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## MEMBERS' NOTICES

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

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A summary of the November meeting of the Judicial Conduct Committee is available at the Sergeant-at- Arms counter for those who may be interested.

Donna Sytek, Speaker

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NH Senators and Representatives may receive complimentary ski privileges for themselves and one guest upon presentation of proper credentials at the ticket window. The elected official must be present to personally present the credentials, unless prior arrangement has been made with Commissioner Thomson. *(Lift tickets are to be picked up at Guest Services at Sunapee; and at Guest Services or the Ticket Window at Cannon.)*

Rep. Gene G. Chandler

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Please advise me by note at 945 East Rumney Road, Rumney, NH 03266 or by phone at 786-9562 if your town celebrates "Old Home Day" (OHD) or equivalent annually or occasionally. In HCR 20 we will ask the House to recognize the upcoming 100$^{th}$ anniversary of OHD and seek knowledge now of your town or city participation in that New Hampshire tradition. Thanks for your help.

Rep. John R.M. Alger

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Interested legislators are invited to a lunch and open discussion with Steve Forbes on Friday, January 16 at 11:45 a.m. at

Eagle's Nest in Eagle Square, Concord. Any questions call 898-9103.

Rep. Nancy C. Stickney

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To celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr., Civil Rights Day there will be a gathering at noon on Monday, January 19th at the State House Plaza for words of Martin Luther King, Jr., followed by the ringing of the Liberty Bell. An Ecumenical Service will be held at 12:15 p.m. at St. Paul's Church.

Rep. Barbara C. French

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The Legislative Caucus for Young Children will hold a forum on improving access to quality child care on January 20 from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. in the Upham Walker House. The program will include an informational presentation and a discussion of relevant pending legislation. All legislators are welcome.

Reps. Julie M. Brown, Iris W. Estabrook, Mary Stuart Gile and James P. Pilliod

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The House Republican Alliance will meet at the Upham Walker House (Park Street across from the State House) at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 21st and Wednesday, February 4th. Refreshments will be served.

Rep. Robert K. Boyce

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The Legislative Caucus for Young Children will meet on Tuesday, January 27, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Upham Walker House. The agenda will include a discussion of the recent caucus forums.

Reps. Julie M. Brown, Iris W. Estabrook, Mary Stuart Gile and James P. Pilliod

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The Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce cordially invites the Merrimack County Delegation and Leadership of the House to a legislative reception on Thursday, January 29 from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. at the Historical Society at 30 Park Street, across from the LOB.

Rep. Miriam D. Dunn

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The New Hampshire Society of CPAs invites all legislators and staff to a reception on Wednesday, February 11 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Concord.

Reps. Robert L. Wheeler and Peter Hoe Burling

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The New Hampshire Psychological Association invites all legislators and staff to a breakfast on Thursday, February 12th from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the basement of St. Paul's Church.

Reps. Robert L. Wheeler and Peter Hoe Burling

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The Department of Transportation will hold the following meetings:

Jan 20 - Southern NH Regional Planning Commission, 438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, 3:00 p.m. Committee meeting. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Advisory Committee.

Jan 21 - Exeter Town Office Building, Nowak Room, 10 Front Street, Exeter, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing (Commission), Exeter NH Route 108.

Jan 27 - New Hampton Community School, Main Street, New Hampton, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing (Selectmen), New Hampton (Betterment), Dana Hill Road.

Jan 28 - Plymouth Town Hall, Main Street, Plymouth, 7:00 p.m. Public informational meeting, Plymouth, Main Street transportation enhancement.

Jan 29 - Chesterfield Elementary School Gymnasium, 535 Old Chesterfield Road, Chesterfield, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing (Special Committee), Chesterfield, NH - Brattleboro, VT, NH Route 9.

Feb 17 - Newport Opera House, 20 Main Street, Newport, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing, Newport, Central Street.

Feb 18 - Stratham Municipal Center, 10 Bunker Hill Avenue, Stratham, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing (Commission), Newfields-Stratham, NH Route 108.

Feb 18 - Town Office Building, Route 3, West Stewartstown, 6:00 p.m. Public informational/officials meeting, Stewartstown, NH Route 145 over Bishop's Brook.

Rep. Gene G. Chandler, Chairman

Public Works and Highways

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As a convenience to the members of the NH General Court, the Visitors' Center offers the following schedule of school groups visiting the State House in January 1998. These listings will replace individual notifications in an effort to reduce paper usage and to ensure all members will be notified in a timely manner. Please contact the Visitors' Center for further information. Thank you for your continued participation with our School Visitation Program.

Kenneth Leidner, Director

| ***DATE*** | ***TIME*** | ***GROUP*** | ***CLASS/Size*** |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1/16 | 10:00 & 11:00 | DAR Good Citizens | HS / 100 |
| 1/16 | 1:00 | Walker School - Concord | 3&4 / 36 |
| 1/19 | 10:00 | Troop 22 BSA - Amherst | 11-15 / 20 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1/20 | 9:00 | Nashua Jr. High NSSSB | JHS - 15 |
| 1/20 | 10:00 & 11:30 | Charlotte Ave. - Nashua | 4 / 70 |
| 1/21 | 10:00 & 12:00 | Milford Elementary School | 4 / 75 |
| 1/22 | 10:00 & 12:00 | The Paul School - Sanbornville | 4 / 50 |
| 1/23 | 9:30 | Chester Elementary School | 4 / 50 |
| 1/23 | 11:00 & 12:00 | Bedford Memorial School | 4 / 60 |
| 1/26 | 10:00 & 11:15 | Towle School - Newport | 4 / 50 |
| 1/27 | 9:15 & 10:30 | Pembroke Hill School | 4 / 50 |
| 1/28 | 10:00 & 11:00 | Charlotte Ave. - Nashua | 4 / 46 |
| 1/29 | 10:00 & 12:00 | Milford Elementary School | 4 / 75 |
| 1/30 | 10:00 & 11:30 | Woodman Park School - Dover | 4 / 80 |

## ADDITIONAL AMENDMENT FOR JANUARY 15

1998-0225h

**Floor Amendment to HB 143-LOCAL**

**Proposed by Reps. Bruce F. Hunter and James J. Fenton**

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

1 School Administrative Units; Budget Voting Procedures; Meeting Times; Single District School Administrative Units; Exemptions. Amend RSA 194-C:9, I and II to read as follows:

I. At a meeting held before January 1, the school administrative unit board shall [~~adopt~~] ***develop*** a budget required for the expenses of the school administrative unit for the next fiscal year, which budget may include the salary and expenses of supervisors of health, physical education, music, art, and guidance, and any other employees, and shall include the expenses necessary for the operation of the school administrative unit. Superintendents, assistant superintendents, business administrators, teacher consultants, and the regularly employed office personnel of the school administrative unit office shall be deemed employees of the school administrative unit for the purposes of payment of salaries and contributions to the employee's retirement system of the state of New Hampshire and workers' compensation. The school administrative unit board shall apportion the total amount of the budget among the constituent school districts in the following manner: the apportionment shall be based 1/2 on the average membership in attendance for the previous school year and 1/2 on the most recently available equalized valuation of each district as of June 30 of the preceding school year. Prior to January 15 in each year, the board shall certify to the chairperson of the school board of each constituent school district the amount so apportioned. Each district within a school administrative unit shall raise at the next annual district meeting the sum of money apportioned to it by the school administrative unit board for the expenses of services which each district received in connection with the school administrative unit office. The school administrative unit board in [~~adopting~~] ***developing*** the budget shall not add any new service to the school administrative unit budget unless a majority of the school districts in the school administrative unit representing not less than 60 percent of the total pupils in the school administrative unit have voted favorably upon the establishment of the service. A vote to accept a new service shall not be construed as a vote to raise and appropriate money within the meaning of RSA 197:3. ***The amount of the previous fiscal year's budget, as adjusted pursuant to paragraph III, shall be disclosed to the voters at the deliberative session of the annual meeting. This amount shall not be amended by the school administrative unit board, but may be adjusted in response to new relevant information at any time prior to the printing of the ballots.***

II. The provisions of paragraph I shall not apply to school administrative units comprising only one district***, or in any district where a board of aldermen votes on the budget, or in any school administrative unit where the budget in at least one member district is voted on by a board of aldermen.*** The budget for these units shall be a part of the school district budget and subject to the vote of the annual school district meeting or, for those districts without an annual meeting, by the legislative body.

2 New Paragraph; School Administrative Units; Budget Adoption and Voting Procedures; Default Budget Provision. Amend RSA 194-C:9 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. After development by the school administrative unit board, the budget shall be nominated for consideration, placed on a warrant and subjected to an official ballot vote of the annual school administrative unit member districts, and decided by the combined popular vote of all of the school administrative unit member districts. If no budget is adopted by official ballot vote, the default budget for the school administrative unit shall be deemed to be the budget authorized for the previous fiscal year with appropriations reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, provided that appropriations for such contracts and other obligations in the default budget shall remain fixed and shall not be increased over the previous fiscal year's appropriations except as provided herein. For the purposes of this paragraph, a multi-year contract which authorizes specific, identifiable increases in expenditures over subsequent years of the contract shall not constitute an increased appropriation in the default budget unless such multi-year contracts are fully disclosed to and approved by the voters at the inception of the contract. The warrant procedures, wording of the ballot question, and voting procedures for the special meeting shall be in conformance with applicable state law.

3 Budget Approval by Member Districts Added. Amend RSA 194-C:10 to read as follows:

194-C:10 Public Hearing. Before final adoption of the school administrative unit budget as provided in RSA 194-C:9, at least one public hearing shall be held within the school administrative unit, at a time and place specified by the school administrative unit board chairperson, upon a preliminary budget prepared by the school administrative unit board. Notice of such public hearing and a summary of the preliminary budget shall be submitted by the secretary of the board for publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the school administrative unit at least 7 days prior to the date of the hearing. The budget, subsequent to its final approval by the school administrative unit [~~board~~] ***member districts***, shall be posted in a public place in each constituent school district and given such other publication as the school administrative unit board may determine.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 1999.

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that budgets shall be developed by the school administrative unit (SAU) board and voted on by each member school district in accordance with the local meeting procedures in effect in each district, and provides for a default budget procedure in the event a proposed SAU budget is not adopted.