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HOUSE RECORD

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Calendar and Journal of the 1999 Session

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Contains: Reports on Re-referred Bills, Work Sessions, Notices, Order Form for Final Disposition of Bills and Unsigned Sponsor List

HOUSE CALENDAR

NOTICE

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE:

Thanks to Commissioner Stan Arnold and those members who attended his briefing on the implementation of the hardship relief provisions of HB 999. The information provided will be useful to us in answering inquiries from constituents. Handouts from his presentation are available in the Speaker's Office. Anyone with questions about the new system may call the DRA hotline at 271-6000.

This week's calendar contains reports on rereferred bills. These will be taken up when the House meets in January. Please save the packet containing the proposed amendments, as they will not be reprinted in future calendars.

Your next mileage check will have a different look. The Department of Treasury has implemented a new automated program which will enhance efficiency and better protect personal privacy. Checks will be issued in the new format on the usual schedule. Those who have chosen the direct deposit option will continue to receive an advice copy.

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the calendar deadline will be noon on Tuesday, November 23. All legislative offices will close on Wednesday, November 24 at noon, and reopen Monday, November 29.

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving and take time to reflect on our many blessings.

Donna Sytek, Speaker

NOTICE

DEADLINES FOR FILING THE YEAR 2000 BILLS

SEPTEMBER 7 - Tuesday	First day that requests for drafting of bills for introduction in the second-year session may be filed with the Office of Legislative Services.
OCTOBER 7 - Thursday	Last day to file bill drafting requests.
NOVEMBER 1 - Monday	Last day to report all re-referred bills from the first-year session.
NOVEMBER 10 - Wednesday	Last day to file legislation relating to subject matter of study committees.
NOVEMBER 22 - Monday	Last day to sign off all bills requiring fiscal notes (FNs) and study committee bills. Sign-off shall be 10 calendar days after receipt by the sponsor of the draft legislation, or November 22, whichever day is earlier.
DECEMBER 6 - Monday	Last day to sign off all other bills. Sign-off shall be 10 calendar days after receipt by the sponsor of the draft legislation, or December 6, whichever day is earlier.
DECEMBER 21 - Tuesday	Availability of chairmen's copies of all bills and resolutions.

RE-REFERRED BILLS

CONSENT CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

HB 200-FN-L, relative to restructuring the juvenile justice system in New Hampshire. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Mary Stuart Gile for Children and Family Law: This bill proposes to create a department of children's services and juvenile justice as a separate executive agency of state government responsible for the general supervision and enforcement of all programs and services for children and youth. The committee is involved in an extensive study of the various programs, functions, services of both DCYF and DYDS and needs more time to develop their recommendations. Vote 17-0.

HB 405-FN, relative to the definition of "placement cost" with regard to services for children, youth, and families provided by the department of health and human services. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. L. Randy Lyman for Children and Family Law: The subcommittee conducted several sessions where diversion was addressed at length with county executives, DHHS and program facilitators. Diversion reduces the possibility of placement. Funds have not been increased since 1995. Vote 16-1.

HB 555, relative to representation of a child during child interviews. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Laura C. Pantelakos for Children and Family Law: The committee felt this bill should be studied further to be sure that the children's rights are protected during interviews. Vote 17-0.

HB 571, relative to joint legal and physical custody of children. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Edward P. Moran for Children and Family Law: This bill encourages more shared parental responsibility, but sets an arbitrary minimum time standard which creates a whole set of problems. Bill sponsors introduced what they believed is an

improved approach, but the committee felt that a bill dealing with a parenting plan in the next session was the best approach. Vote 16-0.

HB 717-FN-A, establishing a child care incentive program for training child care workers, and making an appropriation therefor. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Julie M. Brown for Children and Family Law: This bill would establish a childcare incentive program for training childcare workers and making an appropriation. This is an excellent bill, but needs further study. Vote 15-0.

SB 137-FN, relative to use of social security numbers in child support enforcement and in the issuance of driver's licenses. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Thomas I. Arnold, Jr. for Children and Family Law: This bill deals with the use of Social Security numbers for support enforcement and for driver's, marriage, professional and recreational licenses. The committee determined that although the goals are laudable, the opportunities for abuse, misuse and unwarranted invasion of privacy were sufficient to warrant a recommendation of "Inexpedient to Legislate." Vote 16-0.

COMMERCE

HB 309, relative to motor vehicle insurance. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Stephen G. Avery for Commerce: There have been several steps taken by the Insurance Department to help the problems of "After Market Parts" and coercion or steering to certain repair facilities through a bulletin they issued in September. While it does not solve all of the problems, new legislation has been filed to address these issues. The committee wants to keep the subject alive for further work. Vote 15-0.

HB 434, providing that health care providers shall determine the appropriate course of patient treatment. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Sheila T. Francoeur for Commerce: The committee had three re-referred bills, as well as a chaptered study, which covered the subject matter of this bill. The concern of the committee was how to most effectively address the issue. The consensus was to focus our efforts on House Bill 637. Vote 14-2.

HB 528, adding penalty provisions to the unfair claim settlement practices by insurers law. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Stephen G. Avery for Commerce: The Insurance Department is still waiting for a pending Supreme Court decision on this matter. The committee would like to keep this bill alive for further action next year. Vote 17-0.

HB 647-FN, relative to health care providers and provider agreements with health insurers. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Sheila T. Francoeur for Commerce: The committee believed that the concerns of the sponsor could not be addressed without dismantling the current HMO system in New Hampshire. Many of the issues raised by the sponsor will be covered in House Bill 637. Vote 16-0.

SB 162, providing for the licensure and regulatory oversight of voluntary small employer health insurance purchasing alliances. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Sheila T. Francoeur for Commerce: The amendment to this bill clarifies several issues pertaining to purchasing alliances and the licensing of same, pursuant to RSA 420-G:10. The amendment also states that two or more employers may jointly purchase health insurance coverage without having to form a purchasing alliance. The bill will sunset in five years if no entity has been licensed and is currently issuing coverage under the provisions of this bill. Vote 16-0.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 202, legalizing the possession and cultivation of marijuana for medicinal purposes. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Timothy N. Robertson for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: The committee felt that further information should be sought before a final decision was made on legalizing the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Testimony from a pharmacist suggested that merinol was, indeed, as effective as smoking in alleviating pain in terminal patients. The committee decided it

needed more information about why the medical industry was perhaps not prescribing its use, and is seeking more input about the medical uses. Vote 10-2.

HB 254-L, relative to restricting the fire marshal's authority in certain municipalities. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Everett A. Weare for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: Upon hearing testimony from the bill's sponsor and representatives from the Fire Marshal's Office, local fire chiefs and code enforcement officials, it was determined that it was not prudent to restrict the authority of the Fire Marshal in communities with a population over 3,000. This creates the potential of having various codes throughout the state, which could jeopardize the safety of its citizens. However, the testimony brought out several problem areas. The committee felt that formulating a study committee with all parties involved would resolve those issues that are problem areas and thereby insure the public safety of all citizens. Vote 13-0.

HB 282-FN-A, relative to bomb dogs and making an appropriation therefor. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Everett A. Weare for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill would authorize the purchase of two bomb dogs for use by the state. The state has recently received a federal grant in the amount of \$24,000 for the purchase and training of two explosive sniffing dogs. The purchase is underway and the training is either about to commence or has already commenced. This bill is, therefore, unnecessary and the committee voted "Inexpedient to Legislate." Vote 17-0.

HB 312, restricting the carrying of firearms in courthouses. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Everett A. Weare for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: House Bill 312 defines an area used by a court. The term is in the part of the statute that restricts the carrying of firearms into a courtroom or an area used by a court. The penalty for this is a Class B felony. Occasionally, the judges meet at a non-court facility and the court security personnel have indicated that this also is an area used by a court. The committee disagrees with this use of the statute that originated as a result of an earlier court security study committee. We do agree, however, that firearms should not be introduced into a court building that houses only a court facility or into a building that is partially used as a court facility. The placement of security devices remains with the court security personnel and the county sheriffs where appropriate. The Class B felony would only apply in the areas used by a court as defined in RSA 159:19. Those areas as amended include courtrooms, jury assembly rooms, deliberation rooms, conference and interview rooms, the judges chambers, other court staff facilities, holding facilities, and corridors, stairways, waiting areas, and elevators directly connecting these rooms and facilities. A reference to RSA 159:5 was added to protect law enforcement personnel when they are "on duty" at a court facility. RSA 159:5 allows marshals, sheriffs, and police to carry firearms in a court security situation in a normal course of business. Input from the administrative office of the courts and the county sheriffs was considered and included in the amendment Vote 14-0.

HB 359, establishing a committee to study the rights of a private citizen to pursue a criminal investigation if he or she believes it is not being pursued vigorously. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. William J. McCarthy for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: The committee feels that in homicide cases, which is the circumstance that precipitated this bill, the Attorney General's Office does not hesitate to bring forth prosecutions even if a case has been pending for years. However, they prefer not to call a Grand Jury and initiate the prosecution of a case, if they feel that the evidence is lacking for a successful case. In present law, a relative of a homicide victim can file a wrongful death suit, regardless of any action by the state. Also, only one other state, Colorado, allows for a private citizen to pursue a case, and that state has a special prosecutor for that purpose, which New Hampshire does not have. It has been used only minimally in that state and for a somewhat unique personnel situation. After listening to the number of homicide cases still pending for over a year (approximately 53), and hearing details of several reopened and successfully prosecuted after considerable time had passed, the committee concluded that no suggested changes would improve upon the present system and that the solution remains improved management and better investigations, rather than legislation. Vote 12-2.

HB 478, prohibiting smoking in all areas of prisons. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Richard F. Doucette for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill would have prohibited smoking by all personnel and inmates within all areas of the state's prison system. When the public hearing was held, the correction officers' union representative testified in support of the measure. Since that time, the no-smoking policy has become a bargaining issue. The Department of Corrections has informed the committee that the no-smoking policy promulgated earlier this year is underway. The New Hampshire State Prison for Women has been non-smoking since April 1, 1999. The New Hampshire State Prison Secure Psychiatric Unit and the three halfway houses have been non-smoking since September 1, 1999. The Lakes Region Facility will be non-smoking as of November 1, 1999 and the Berlin State Prison will open non-smoking. There is no need to

create a statute that is difficult to reverse when a department policy will suffice. The committee is also divided on the practicality of a no-smoking policy within the prison system. The committee recommends "Inexpedient to Legislate." Vote 16-1.

HB 522, relative to the public's access to sex offender registry information. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Andrew Christie, Jr. for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This legislation requires convicted sex offenders and offenders against children who are required to register, to do so annually within 30 days after each anniversary of the person's date of birth rather than each anniversary of their date of release from custody. This should make it easier to remember to register. Added to the list of information available to the public are outstanding arrest warrants for any sexual offender or offender against children who has not complied with the offenders obligation to register. Sexual offenders or offenders against children previously convicted of a misdemeanor for knowingly failing to register, shall be guilty of a Class B felony for knowingly failing to register a second or subsequent time. Vote 14-2.

HB 631-FN, authorizing the department of safety to issue photographic identification cards to persons required to have criminal background checks for employment or other lawful purposes. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Frederick B. Andrews for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: House Bill 631 is an act authorizing the Department of Safety to issue photographic identification cards to persons required to have criminal background checks for employment or other lawful purposes. The Department of Safety would issue photographic identification cards for persons who have undergone criminal background checks. These cards could be used when applying for other safety-related clearance matters. Such cards shall only be issued after Department of Safety personnel have verified, via review of National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) records, that no data exists to indicate that possession of a firearm by the individual requesting the card would be in violation of federal, state or local law. At the September 28, 1999 work session, Assistant Commissioner John Stephen was not enthusiastic about the bill. There was no support from the department and there were no suggestions about how to speed up the present process. When originally drafted, the sponsor thought it would provide a more uniform procedure and allow the criminal record background checks at the time of hire to be done in a more timely manner. The work sessions shed no light on the methods used that would indicate a benefit to those who need criminal record checks for the purpose of hiring or for those who apply for employment. House Bill 304 currently being studied by the committee on education will, when amended by that committee, clarify the procedure for those who work with children in our school system. The committee recommends that House Bill 631 be found "Inexpedient to Legislate." Vote 14-0.

HB 683-FN, requiring teachers and school administrators to report incidents of disruptive behavior by students. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Andrew Christie, Jr. for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill in its original form added duties or obligations on school systems, which in most cases were already covered by the systems rules and procedures, and by RSA 193:D, the Safe School Zones Act. The only part the committee changed was paragraph 1 (A), that when a report is made by the principal to the police, it is also made to the parent or guardian of the victim. The changes made were agreed to by the sponsor and he felt they accomplished his goal. Vote 17-0.

SB 29-L, relative to the proper sheltering of dogs. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. William J. McCarthy for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill, as originally written, actually weakened the animal cruelty statutes in some areas. It also, however, opened up possible scenarios of enforcement officials entering private property for little reason. The original bill also addressed shelter specifications in minute detail. The committee agreed that a better definition of shelter may be in order, but not in the detail presented. The amendment maintains the level of penalty in current statute and inserts the shelter definition in the appropriate place in the statute. Vote 13-1.

SB 88-FN, relative to penalties for third driving while intoxicated offenses. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Andrew Christie, Jr. for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill deals with penalties for third offense DWI. The committee felt "Interim Study" was proper for this as House Bill 84 was initially the same and that was made into a chaptered study committee to look into DWI related matters. By putting this bill into "Interim Study," we have a vehicle available to use if needed for DWI penalties and we felt that the issues in Senate Bill 88 should be looked at along with those in House Bill 84. Vote 16-0.

EDUCATION

HB 273-FN-L, relative to annual grants for school building aid. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Robert E. McKinley for Education: The amendment replaces the bill. This bill, as amended, creates a legislative oversight committee for school building aid to study all aspects of state funding for building programs and recommend legislation or rules where applicable. This oversight committee is to review the report on the condition of schools by the State Board and the administrative rules dealing with building aid and what constitutes an adequate public school building. The original bill revised the building aid formula. Information and data are still forthcoming making a new formula premature at this time. Vote 16-1.

HB 304, relative to the confidentiality of criminal history records checks. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Brien L. Ward for Education: The amendment replaces the bill and streamlines the process of a criminal history check for school personnel. This bill, as amended, increases the offense that an individual, if convicted of specific violations or attempted violations, would be prohibited from being employed by or volunteering in a New Hampshire school district. The bill also designates the Division of State Police as the sole repository for criminal records required for educational hiring procedures. The State Police shall be required to notify the State Department of Education if any applicant for hire or volunteer has been convicted of any of the enumerated offenses. The school district is required to destroy within 30 days any criminal history record information that indicates a criminal record. Vote 18-0.

SB 208-FN, establishing a "parents as scholars" program. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Susan B. Durham for Education: The purpose of this bill is to allow people on TANF to take courses at the Technical-Community College and have that effort considered work for purposes of receiving benefits. This is in conflict with the current philosophy of Health and Human Services which is "work first," if work is available. There will be further legislation to establish a commission to study how the Technical-Community College can work with TANF recipients so they can achieve skills to be self-supporting. Vote 15-0.

ELECTION LAW

HB 493-FN, relative to alteration of sample ballots. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Lynn C. Horton for Election Law: This bill would create a new class A misdemeanor. The committee felt that since city and town election officials with only one exception had no complaints and the secretary of state's office had no complaints that this piece of legislation could cause more problems than it would solve. Therefore, inexpedient to legislate is the correct and proper way to handle this. Vote 18-0.

SB 94, relative to absentee voter affidavits. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. C. Donald Stritch for Election law: The committee felt that since the secretary of state had addressed the problem of absentee ballot affidavit signatures to the committee's satisfaction, this bill was no longer needed. Vote 18-0.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB 52, exempting certain currants and gooseberries resistant to the white pine blister rust organism from restrictions on planting in control areas. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Kenneth R. Marshall for Environment and Agriculture: The committee voted 15-0 that this bill is unnecessary at this time because the law already allows for the Division of Forests and Lands to issue permits for the growing of gooseberries and currants and, in fact, is now doing so. Vote 15-0.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 246, relative to personnel transfers at the department of safety. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Howard C. Dickinson for Executive Departments and Administration: The amendment to HB 246 represents a compromise on the subject of personnel transfers involving personnel in the Division of Fire Standards and Training at the Department of Safety. The Executive Departments and Administration Committee is pleased to unanimously support this agreement. Vote 15-0.

HB 499-FN, relative to payment by the state of the cost of medical insurance benefits for certain New Hampshire retirement

system members. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Merton S. Dyer for Executive Departments and Administration: This bill would have required the New Hampshire Retirement System to send the monthly subsidy checks for retirees or beneficiaries to the medical plan selected by the retiree. RSA 100-A:52 requires payment to the employers health plan. The New Hampshire Retirement System now sends out about 120 checks per month and to send them to the medical plan of the retiree's choice, could increase the workload tremendously. The retirees need to work with their former employers to select a plan with wide acceptance. When the State of New Hampshire changed insurance carriers, they retained Blue Cross/Blue Shield for retirees because of its wide accessibility. The employer or group of employers should work with the retirees to provide the coverage requested. Vote 16-0.

HB 598-FN, relative to the licensure of x-ray technicians. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Maurice E. Goulet for Executive Departments and Administration: During the fall of 1999, under SB 60, a study committee reviewed the issues relating to licensure of radiological technicians. Many issues were raised pertaining to radiological safety. However, further examination is required. The study committee (SB 60) approved a motion on October 21, 1999 to extend the study committee's reporting date to November 1, 2000. It is believed that this one-year extension may produce different bills that would provide better legislative resolution(s) regarding the provision of safer radiological services for the 2001 legislative session. Vote 15-0.

SB 216-FN, allowing veterans the right to purchase credit in the retirement system for certain service in the armed forces. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Merton S. Dyer for Executive Departments and Administration: This bill would allow any Group I employee or teacher member who has completed ten years of creditable service, to purchase up to four years of additional creditable service for active service in the armed forces of the United States or service in an active status in the New Hampshire National Guard or organized reserves. The present statute has provisions for members called to active duty in the armed forces. This bill refers to prior service or service in the reserves. This retirement system is for the employees and is provided, in part, by the employer for service provided in the course of employment. Additional payments late in the employment cycle will enhance the retirement benefit but may not fully fund the benefit purchased. The subcommittee voted "Inexpedient to Legislate" as this bill might have unrecognized consequences. Vote 15-1.

FINANCE

HB 107-FN-A, establishing a tax review and adjustment study commission and making an appropriation therefor. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. William S. Belvin for Finance: The bill's purpose was to study the state's tax structure in light of legislative action to respond to the *Claremont II* decision. A commission would recommend a new revenue-neutral tax structure. The Finance Committee believes such a study to have value and appreciates the sponsor's foresight. However this function was subsequently assigned to the Tax Equity Commission created in HB 117 which is now meeting and makes further consideration of HB 107 unnecessary. Vote 21-0.

HB 289, relative to eligibility for child day care assistance. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Mary Jane Wallner for Finance: During the public hearing it became clear that this bill addressed an issue which was addressed in rules. The problem was that the Department of Health and Human Services' policy did not properly reflect the department's rules. The department has corrected the policy and this bill is not necessary. Vote 24-0.

HB 630-FN-L, relative to the Skyhaven airport transfer plan. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Margaret A. Lynch for Finance: This bill deals with the Skyhaven Airport transfer plan and establishes a self-funding maintenance and operations fund. It further requires capital budget overview on any capital improvements projects.

The amendment removes the "sole source of funding" provision in section 422:49, the Skyhaven Airport Maintenance and Operation Fund and replaces it with wording that allows management to seek federal and/or private funds. It further amends the bill to require the transfer of the Skyhaven Airport to a local public entity be completed no later than July 1, 2003; it also requires that the submission of a plan for the transfer be completed and presented by 2002 rather than the year 2000. The remaining sections of the bill are unchanged. Vote 22-0.

HB 692-FN-A, adopting a single sales factor method of apportionment under the business profits tax. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Jean R. Wallin for Finance: The Finance Committee recommends that this bill be placed in interim study. As with other pieces of legislation coming before us, we are loathe to jeopardize such a large source of general fund revenue. However, many members have long advocated use of the single sales factor to determine the business profits tax. By placing the bill in interim study, the Finance Committee can compare actual collections with model collections using the single sales factor. The information gleaned can then be used to further consider any changes. Vote 20-1.

HB 747-FN-A-L, relative to the education property tax and adequate education grants. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. David J. Alukonis for Finance: In light of the adoption of a statewide property tax via HB 117, as well as the Supreme Court's action regarding the same, the committee finds that the current proposal, which also levies a statewide property tax, to be unnecessary. Certain policy aspects found in HB 747 but not in HB 117 have been debated and will continue to be examined by the Tax Equity and Efficiency Commission. Of particular discomfort to the committee is the mechanism whereby the statewide property tax rate is set. In HB 747, the rate is not set in statute. Rather, the authority to set the tax rate each year is left to the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue Administration. Vote 21-0.

SB 11-FN, relative to the filing fee for securities in a combined prospectus offered for sale in New Hampshire by a mutual fund. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Jean R. Wallin for Finance: The Finance Committee recommends that the House find this bill Inexpedient to Legislate because it is virtually impossible to calculate the amount of revenue that would be lost or gained with passage of this bill. Finance further feels that this is not the time to place any general fund revenue in jeopardy. There were no supporters of the bill from the general public appearing at our hearings. Vote 21-0.

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

HB 326-FN, requiring the department of health and human services to survey home health care agencies for compliance with federal regulations for medicare. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Francine Wendelboe for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: New federal regulations require inspections of home health agencies for compliance with federal regulations for Medicare. It was discovered that two home health agencies that do not provide Medicare services were impacted by this. A representative of the Department of Health and Human Services told the subcommittee that this could be worked out in rules, and that no action would be taken for non-compliance until addressed in rules. The re-refer motion enabled that process to be followed through. The Department of Health and Human Services is now in the final stages of rulemaking on this matter and it appears this issue is being satisfactorily resolved. Vote 14-0.

JUDICIARY

CACR 2, relating to supreme court rules. Providing that supreme court rules shall be subject to review and approval by a special legislative committee. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Tony F. Soltani for Judiciary: The 1978 constitutional amendment to article 73-a was approved by the voters. The voters were not explicitly informed of the language that the rules of the Supreme Court would have the "force and effect of law." In fact, the question presented to the voters never mentioned those words. This language has been a source of controversy while the representatives of the court have repeatedly advised the Legislature that this language was superfluous and without substantive effect. This proposal seeks to remedy the oversight of the 1978 amendment by affording the voters an opportunity to choose after having been fully informed. The proposal clarifies an existing ambiguity. Vote 13-2.

HB 568, establishing a review panel to review judicial officers. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Sandra B. Keans for Judiciary: The subcommittee met several times on a series of judicial reform bills. We were very careful not to cross over the Constitution lines of authority. Through this legislation, the courts should now understand that the citizens of New Hampshire want judges to be courteous, efficient and competent. In this amendment, the committee provides in the Judicial Conduct statute that (1) performance evaluations will be done on all judges with input from attorneys, parties, witnesses, jurors, court personnel, etc. at least once every three years; (2) all complaints pertaining to judges will be passed (dismissed or not) between the Administrative Judge and the Judicial Conduct Committee; (3) the evaluations will be made

available to the Governor and Executive Council upon nomination of judges to other judicial appointments; and (4) the court annually will file a report on the evaluation process. Vote 16-0.

HB 575, limiting railroad liability for passenger and tourist rail service. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Peter F. Bergin for Judiciary: The committee was concerned with setting a precedent of a liability cap of \$75,000,000 per occurrence annually and \$100,000,000 in the aggregate annually on "passenger rail service." It was also a concern that the rail owner would be fully exempt from total liability on the tracks that the commuter rail would operate on. As a result of these concerns, the committee voted somewhat reluctantly to send this bill to interim study even though most committee members have a genuine interest in perpetuating passenger rail service in the state where appropriate. Vote 18-0.

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

HB 636-FN, relative to public safety employee collective bargaining negotiations under the public employee labor relations act. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Russell D. Bridle for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: The Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services Committee has put an extensive amount of work into the issue of public sector employee conflict resolutions. The committee desires more time to continue working on this bill in hopes of drafting a bill that will result in timely collective bargaining negotiations for public sector employees. Vote 16-0.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 71-FN-L, relative to authorizing agreements for the determination of each municipality's share of county costs. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Richard C. Leone for Municipal and County Government: Due to the complexity of this bill, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend it "Inexpedient to Legislate" at this time. However, the Municipal and County Government Committee already has a standing subcommittee to study county issues on a continual basis. This would include the subjects of HB 71, issues of proportionality, property equalization (statewide), the formulas used by cooperative school districts relative to numbers of students (usage) and property valuation, and the significance of per capita income of each community. Vote 15-0.

HB 209, relative to authorizing the consideration of traditional village patterns in local zoning ordinances. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Betsey L. Patten for Municipal and County Government: This bill would set up a traditional village pattern for local communities to adopt in their regulations to try to lessen the growth and impact of sprawl. The committee realizes that the local land use boards already have the ability to enact any innovative zoning regulations, which may or may not include a traditional village pattern. The issue of developing land in a manner that causes "sprawl" is being studied in the statutory study committee created by House Bill 288, Chapter 23:3, Laws of 1999. Therefore, the full committee felt that this specific bill was premature and wanted to let the full statutory committee do its work and will be looking forward to the report they will file in November of 2000. Vote 14-0.

HB 226-L, establishing municipality bond payment schedules and percentages. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Gerard L. St. Cyr for Municipal and County Government: The sponsors of this bill originally asked to change the bond payment schedule from 2 percent (current law) to 10 percent intervals to pay off Tax Increment Financing (TIF) projects. Their argument was that considerable savings could be realized in interest if the bond could be retired earlier. The Department of Revenue Administration was concerned that this could create problems of back-loading, especially if some community leaders decided to hold off payments until the last few years, possibly leaving the community in financial difficulty. The Department was also concerned that some of our smaller towns may not have access to financial officers or expertise to guide them as some of the larger communities do. The Committee was satisfied with a compromise of 5 percent increments worked out with the sponsors and the Department of Revenue Administration. Vote 13-2.

HB 285, providing that equalized value of property in small towns be calculated as a multi-year average. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Linda T. Foster for Municipal and County Government: This bill would allow towns with populations of less than 5000 to

calculate their annual valuation by taking the average of equalized values over a 3-year period. Testimony from the Department of Revenue Administration expressed many concerns with this proposal. The Committee's major concerns were (1) population is not an appropriate measure to determine the need for using sales over a multi-year period, (2) the legislation conflicts with the different methods of assessment contained in HB 117 as it relates to the statewide education property tax, and (3) the Department of Revenue Administration now has the flexibility to use previous years sales in its calculations already. This bill would limit that flexibility. For those reasons, the committee unanimously concluded that the proposed legislation is not warranted. Vote 14-0.

HB 391, establishing a village plan alternative in zoning and land use planning laws. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Robert W. Brundige for Municipal and County Government: This bill is premature due to the statutory committee currently studying the total issue of sprawl (HB 288, Chapter 23:3, Laws of 1999), along with several other committees studying this issue of unplanned growth. Reports are due in November 2000. Vote 14-0.

HB 446-L, subjecting certain land in the town of Newport to local land use regulations. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Betsey L. Patten for Municipal and County Government: The committee received information and input regarding the issue of subjecting the ash landfill in the town of Newport to local land use regulations. Based on the fact that the landfill is "owned and operated by an unusual partnership of 29 towns in the two states of New Hampshire and Vermont" and is therefore considered a municipality, the local land use regulations are not applicable to this specific use. Currently, any change of ownership from the municipality to a private owner would require the private owner to comply with local land use regulations. The town of Newport also proposed a zoning change, which was adopted, that zoned the current parcel of land into a "solid waste district." Knowing that this issue is closely related to HB 379 which "sets up a study committee to study issues pertaining to the Sullivan County Regional Refuse Disposal District," the subcommittee voted to send the bill to Interim Study in order to be sure that the complex issues were discussed and viewed by the study committee, along with the members of the appointed subcommittee. The sponsor concurred with this action. Vote 14-0.

HB 521-L, exempting initial bond issues from the 10 percent limitation on exceeding appropriations recommended by the budget committee. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Betsey L. Patten for Municipal and County Government: The intent of this legislation is to allow the governing body to vote to place an initial bond request on the warrant, even if the budget committee has voted "not to recommend" the initial bond request. Currently, if a budget committee makes this recommendation, the bond request does not go on the warrant for the local legislative body to vote on. In an MBA town/district, if the initial bond request is not recommended in its entirety by the budget committee, the governing body has the ability to call a duly posted meeting and have a majority vote to place the initial bond request on the warrant. Line 17, section II -- the process by which the question would be put on the warrant is outlined in the bill. Line 28, section III -- if the initial bond request is passed by the voters, the governing body is required to send a copy of the minutes where they took the vote to place the initial bond request on the warrant to the Department of Revenue Administration. Vote 14-0.

HB 569, relative to the tax credit for service-connected total disability. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Anthony F. Simon for Municipal and County Government: The United States Department of Veterans' Affairs goes through a very detailed and exhaustive medical investigation before any veteran is rated as "totally and permanently disabled from service connection." There is a tax credit that the veteran may apply for and receive from the veteran's residential property. Assessors are the local entity who either approve or reject this tax credit. In some cases it may not be visible to the assessor that the veteran is "totally and permanently disabled from service connection." This amendment sets up a process for the assessor and the veteran to use if a question of disability arises. The actions of the veteran, through any specific contrary evidence brought by the assessing officials, are at issue, not the rating received from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Vote 14-0.

HB 641-L, clarifying the value of public utility property for property tax purposes. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Linda T. Foster for Municipal and County Government: The committee voted unanimously to refer this bill to interim study. The taxation of public utility property is a very important and complex issue which is addressed in HB 117. It is currently being discussed and debated by the Tax Equity and Fairness Commission which was established by that bill. The Committee and the prime sponsor agreed that acting on this piece of legislation at this time would be precipitous. Vote 16-0.

HB 696-FN-L, relative to the taxation of land held by municipalities for water supply purposes. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Betsey L. Patten for Municipal and County Government: This bill would have provided a formula for land located in one

municipality and held by another municipality for water supply purposes to be taxable. Since this may have affected some current payment in lieu of taxes the committee referred this bill to study. Then not knowing the outcome of the education funding and how land parcels will be taxed, and also knowing that the protection of our water resources is an important issue, the full committee decided to put this bill into Interim Study to keep our options open. Vote 14-0.

SB 86, relative to enforcement of the collection and payment of county taxes by the county treasurer. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Mary E. Griffin for Municipal and County Government: The Committee agreed that there is a need to remove the obscurity relative to the county treasurer's authority to collect taxes from the individual towns (incorporated and unincorporated). Although, the Committee did not feel comfortable giving counties unlimited authority, it did opt to spell out a process whereby the county treasurer has the option of going to the superior court of the county of the community involved, to attach pecuniary assets. Vote 13-2.

SB 89-L, relative to library trustees. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Priscilla P. Lockwood for Municipal and County Government: This bill enables towns to appoint up to three alternate library trustees and authorizes payment schedules for library appropriations, as agreed to by the trustees and the governing board. Vote 16-0.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

SB 207-FN, relative to authorizing bonds for the construction and renovation of regional vocational education centers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Edwin O. Smith for Public Works and Highways: This bill is not needed as it was similar to HB 413 and the committee incorporated everything into one bill. The subject matter is all in HB 413. Vote 17-0.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB 212, relative to local ordinances or regulations affecting groundwater withdrawals. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Richard T. Cooney for Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill, as introduced, would give municipalities the final say on the permitting of large groundwater withdrawals. During the hearing process and committee deliberations, there was little support for this change since aquifers often cross political boundaries and therefore lend themselves to regional or statewide control. However, there were many important related issues concerning groundwater withdrawals discussed during the process. These included possible fees or taxes on certain groundwater withdrawals, consideration of an allocation process for water, zoning issues, and several others. These issues are the subject of several bills introduced in the 2000 session. This bill was voted "Inexpedient to Legislate" overwhelmingly by the committee. Vote 14-0.

HB 539-FN, relative to public access to Squam Lake. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY**

Rep. Michael D. Whalley for Resources, Recreation and Development: Public access to Squam Lake has been and continues to be an issue of significant importance to the State of New Hampshire. This issue has been before the Legislature for well over twenty years and numerous attempts have been made by the state to locate and develop an access site. It would appear that the Fish and Game Department, with the cooperation of the Department of Transportation and other interested parties, is close to completing the plans and agreements for a public access site as defined by RSA 271:20-a on Squam Lake. (RSA 271:20-a is legal passage to any of the public waters of the state by way of designated contiguous land owned or controlled by a state agency, assuring that all members of the public shall have access to and use of the public waters for recreational purposes.) Because this latest attempt may still require the Legislature's involvement, the committee felt that interim study was the best recommendation. Vote 14-0.

HB 543, relative to fill and dredge permits for breakwaters. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY**

Rep. David M. Lawton for Resources, Recreation and Development: HB 543 would prohibit breakwaters on lakes other than Lake Winnepesaukee. The Department of Environmental Services has recently finalized rules relative to breakwaters that fulfill the intent of this bill. However, the committee did not have time to properly address other changes in the rules relative to breakwaters and would like to further study this important lakes issue. Vote 13-0.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

HB 386, establishing a committee to study allowing Internet service providers to restrict unsolicited electronic mail. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Jeffrey C. MacGillivray for Science, Technology and Energy: The problem of Internet service providers being deluged by unsolicited electronic mail appears to have occasionally disrupted service to customers. Several other states have enacted legislation attempting to remediate this problem. However, none of these efforts seem to yet solve the problem; to date, counter-measures have been too effective. The committee recommends interim study so we can continue to seek effective solutions before enacting legislation. Vote 17-1.

HB 407, relative to unsolicited telephone sales by competitive telephone and electricity providers. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Terie T. Norelli for Science, Technology and Energy: As amended, HB 407 establishes a study committee to review issues related to unsolicited commercial telephone solicitation calls. Among these issues are determining the effectiveness of existing rules and examining the need for increased public awareness of these rules; studying the costs, benefits and legality of restrictions and/or guidelines for such calls; examining whether any restrictions should apply to all businesses or just telephone and electric service providers, etc. The committee believes that many New Hampshire residents are frustrated with such calls and that it is appropriate to study the matter and consider options. Vote 16-2.

HB 611, relative to performance standards for telephone companies providing noncompetitive services. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Jacqueline A. Pitts for Science, Technology and Energy: House Bill 611 would have permitted the Public Utilities Commission to set performance standards for telephone utilities such as installation standards, etc. It was determined that the authority to set such standards currently exists and after reporting and data collection methods have been resolved by the utilities and the Public Utilities Commission, the committee felt that at this time further legislation was not necessary. Vote 18-0.

TRANSPORTATION

HB 505-FN, establishing a special license plate for veterans. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. John W. Flanders, Sr. for Transportation: The majority of the Transportation Committee felt that the financial goals of this bill would not be met. The subcommittee met with and spoke to many veterans who were opposed to this legislation and would not participate in the program. The sponsors of this bill were notified and did not attend the subcommittee meetings. The language of the bill in regards to cost was vague. It is questionable that this bill would meet its financial goals thereby raising the issue of creating a possible financial loss for the state. Vote 12-1.

HB 560-FN, relative to the suspension or revocation of youth operators' licenses. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Sherman A. Packard for Transportation: The committee received information from the Department of Safety that the numbers of suspensions of those under 20 years old is in decline, clearly indicating that this law is working. The Department of Safety is in the process of making rule changes to certain violations that will clear up suspensions of non-moving violations. The Department of Safety is evaluating new programs that may be used to substitute license suspension for under 20 year old drivers. In light of these developments, the committee felt that we should refer this bill to "Interim Study" to follow the progress of the Department of Safety regarding this issue. Vote 13-0.

WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES

HB 280-FN, establishing a point system for the annual moose permit lottery. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Ronald J. Nowe for Wildlife and Marine Resources: The subcommittee for re-referred HB 280-FN met on several occasions to discuss and evaluate the merits of this proposal. After an extensive review of several state moose hunting regulations, the committee agreed that this bill had merit and should be studied further. The State of Maine has had a point system in effect for a little over a year and is still ironing out its problems. We would like to follow and evaluate their point system so we do not have to "reinvent the wheel" should we choose to implement a point system in New Hampshire. Vote 13-0.

REGULAR CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

HB 628, relative to the relocation of the principal residence of a child. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Edward P. Moran for Children and Family Law: This bill simply requires that the issue of relocation be addressed in the final divorce decree and that the standard is in the best interest of the child. Vote 16-1.

COMMERCE

HB 637-FN, including persons who make medical decisions as practicing medicine. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Martha Fuller Clark for Commerce: The unanimous vote of support from the committee for the amendment to House Bill 637 is testimony to the commitment of the committee to provide greater protection for New Hampshire consumers enrolled in managed care plans. The amendment requires that managed care entities employ a medical director who shall be licensed as a physician in New Hampshire. In addition, it extends the jurisdiction of the Board of Medicine to medical directors in alleged cases of professional misconduct. The intent of such language is to insure that medical directors will be held to the same level of accountability and professional standards as any other physician holding a New Hampshire medical license. The amendment also requires that a medical director be added to the Board of Medicine's review committee to insure a fair and impartial review of any alleged professional misconduct complaint against any other medical director. The legislation also prohibits contracts between health carriers and participating providers from including financial incentives to deny medically necessary care. The remaining sections of the bill create an independent external consumer appeal process to review certain determinations made by managed care entities. As part of the internal and external appeal process, the amendment requires that health insurers disclose certain information necessary for consumers to hold managed care entities accountable for healthcare treatment decisions. A significant change from earlier legislation is that the Commissioner of Insurance will now select the independent review organization for external grievances. Additionally the threshold below which a consumer will not be able to apply for a review has been lowered to \$400. Finally, the implementation date has been changed from January 1, 2001 to 180 days after passage so that consumers may have the chance to benefit from this legislation as soon as possible. Vote 12-0.

HB 662-FN, relative to the duties of the liquor commission. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Stephen G. Avery for Commerce: The majority of the committee felt that this legislation was not necessary and felt there were adequate checks and balances on the Liquor Commission. The one major concern of the sponsor appears to be taken care of by a decision of the Rockingham County Superior Court saying that the commission is bound by local zoning ordinances. Vote 9-7.

HB 693-FN, limiting access to certain business records. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Stephen G. Avery for Commerce: This is a bill the committee wants to keep on the table to help prevent harassment from out-of-state tax departments on New Hampshire businesses. New legislation will be introduced next session to create a regional compact to take care of the problem. Vote 16-1.

SB 52, requiring insurance coverage for infertility treatments. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Martha Fuller Clark for Commerce: The issue of how to resolve lack of access for New Hampshire residents who need coverage for the treatment of infertility and at the same time control rising premium costs for health insurance continues to confound the committee. Finding an equitable solution necessitates returning Senate Bill 52 to the House Commerce Committee. Vote 16-1.

SB 147, relative to self-referrals for chiropractic care under managed care organizations. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Martha Fuller Clark for Commerce: The committee heard testimony in a hugely attended public hearing about current problems with managed care's inability to manage effectively chiropractic benefits. Many healthcare consumers claimed that they are being denied access to chiropractic care for which they have already purchased coverage. The amendment to SB 147 stipulates that managed care plans that already sell chiropractic benefits must allow 12 self-referral chiropractic visits before

utilization review of treatment will be required. It also requires a doctor of chiropractic services be consulted during such utilization review. The chiropractic doctor, after an initial consultation, must send documentation to the insurer and/or the primary care physician. A section of the Senate version would have required that insurers pay all chiropractic providers a comparable fee if they perform a comparable service. The Commerce Committee has substituted non-discrimination language instead, believing it to be the better solution. Vote 13-0.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 427, relative to the laws requiring a prescription to possess hypodermic needles and modifying the drug paraphernalia laws applying to syringes. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Patricia M. O'Keefe for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: The committee heard considerable testimony in favor of removing the prescription requirement for hypodermic syringes. Of greatest concern presently in many states, is the disposal of used syringes/needles. When a consumer purchases a needle today, there is no literature accompanying the product speaking to disposal. This legislation would provide that information. In states where the prescription requirement has been lifted, transmission rates of hepatitis and the HIV virus has gone down, and the disposal problem has actually lessened. In fact, needle stick incidents to police officers dropped in Connecticut after Connecticut removed their prescription requirement. A criticism of this type of legislation in the past has been that "it sends the wrong message – that drug use is okay." The committee feels that the message is actually one of health, saving lives, and increasing the incidence of proper disposal of needles and syringes. Health professionals who agree include the American Medical Association, the American Pharmaceutical Association, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, the New Hampshire Medical Society, the New Hampshire Nurses' Association, the New Hampshire Board of Pharmacy, and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. Vote 11-2.

HB 713-FN, relative to penalties for multiple DWI offenses. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Andrew Christie, Jr. for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill dealt with DWI penalties and alcohol interlock devices. The committee amended the entire bill with a new section for the use and regulation of alcohol interlocks. More work needs to be done on this bill before we believe it will be ready for passage. We will continue to work with the sponsor to make this the best piece of legislation we can and it is also our intention to ask for House Bill 713 to be recommitted so we may continue to make improvements and finalize this piece of legislation. Vote 17-0.

SB 143-FN, relative to penalties for incest. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Andrew Christie, Jr. for Criminal Justice and Public Safety: This bill removes the statute of limitations for incest and increases the penalties for incest. The penalty is no more than 20 years or less than 10 years, except that any person under 18 years shall not be subject to the minimum. The previous penalty was 3-1/2 to 7 years. The reasons for removing the statute of limitations are (1) the age of people who are able to report incest are usually in the middle 40's. They are in many cases not emotionally or psychologically able to do so earlier; (2) the average pedophile has about 100 victims – the incestuous behavior can not be stopped if charges can't be brought against them; (3) the act of prosecution not only acknowledges a crime and protects society, but can be an integral part of the healing process for a survivor; (4) lack of prosecution can allow a perpetrator to continue the cycle of violence; (5) because victims of incest often suffer low self-esteem, drug abuse and alcohol abuse, and the inability to report, their children often become victims. All this and much more testimony convinced us to make a rare exception to our statute of limitations. Vote 13-3.

EDUCATION

HB 349-FN-L, relative to revising annual grant amounts made for school building aid. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Robert E. McKinley for Education: This legislation revises the method of providing state aid for school building programs by including means testing for the individual districts. As a result of the formula, some communities receive no building aid; others receive less, while some receive more aid. Information for data needed to develop a formula is still being addressed by the Department of Education and the State Board of Education. Therefore, the committee agreed this legislation was not appropriate at this time. Vote 12-6.

HB 466, establishing a commission to study education options in school districts not maintaining a high school. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Bruce L. Dearborn for Education: The committee agreed that the work of an oversight committee to review pupil placements and related issues was not the immediate solution to a possible problem in some of our school districts. The Education Committee requested that these issues be studied by the State Board of Education with recommendations to be made to the full committee. More work is needed before legislation can be introduced. Also, we recognize that legislation may require policy changes. Therefore the committee will ask that the bill be recommitted to adopt an amendment to address our needs and conduct needed hearings. Vote 14-0.

HB 514-L, establishing open enrollment provisions in the school districts of the state. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. John R. M. Alger for Education: The amendment replaces the bill. This amended bill requires school boards to establish change of public school assignment based on the best interest of the pupil, giving superintendents authority to implement the policy up to annual limits of students (1 percent maximum) for a school district, 5 percent for an individual school. Superintendents would be authorized to establish tuition rates and inform parents and legal guardians of the policy on an annual basis. Vote 16-1.

SB 170-FN-A, establishing a parents as teachers pilot program in Sullivan county and making an appropriation therefor. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Susan B. Durham for Education: The amendment changes the bill so that the money would flow through the Department of Health and Human Services as it is already involved in early childhood issues. It also requires the school district to work with the Parent Information Center, which offers this program in a few places in the state. The goals of the program are to enhance parental knowledge of child development so those children come to school ready and eager to learn. Vote 14-1.

ELECTION LAW

CACR 5, relating to voting and elective rights of incarcerated felons. Providing that no felon, from the time of conviction until final discharge of sentence, shall vote in an election, become a candidate, or hold public office. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Janet S. Arndt for Election Law: The original bill added "felons" to the list of those who could not vote. Since the category of felon is broad, it would be difficult to enforce. The new amendment allows the General Court to pass laws in conformance with the Constitution relative to the election process. Vote 15-2.

HB 445, relative to straight ticket voting procedures. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Robert E. Clegg, Jr. for Election Law: The study committee looked at House Bill 445 and Senate Bill 116 together since they both dealt with straight ticket voting. The problem appeared to be determining voter intent when the box for straight ticket was checked but the voter voted outside the straight ticket for a particular candidate. Currently the secretary of state has ruled any vote cast after a straight ticket vote shall supersede the straight ticket since it is obvious the voter intended to do so. The study committee felt this was sufficient and no legislation to change this was necessary. The full committee agreed. Vote 15-2.

SB 116, eliminating straight ticket voting. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Robert E. Clegg, Jr. for the Majority of Election Law: The study committee looked at Senate Bill 116 and House Bill 445 together since they both dealt with the same subject. The problem appeared to be determining voter intent when the box for straight ticket was checked but the voter voted outside the straight ticket for a particular candidate. Currently the secretary of state has ruled any vote cast after a straight ticket vote shall supersede the straight ticket since it is obvious the voter intended to do so. The study committee felt this was sufficient and no legislation to change things was necessary. The majority of the full committee agreed. Vote 10-7.

Rep. Christine M. Konys for the Minority of Election Law: The minority believes that removing any doubt regarding voter intent when casting a ballot is far more important than the ease or speed of casting a straight ticket vote. Confusion during the recent recounts over determining the intent of the voter when the voter cast both a straight ticket vote and also a vote for other candidates in multi-candidate races is just cause for eliminating straight ticket voting altogether.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB 51, providing for registration of equipment used in the production of maple products and allowing the commissioner of the

department of agriculture, markets and food to adopt rules relative to standards for such equipment. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. David L. Babson, Jr. for Environment and Agriculture: This bill is an act to provide commercial producers, packers, and distributors with the opportunity to voluntarily register with the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food. This bill also defines producers and distributors and states what information will be on the registration form. Vote 15-2.

HB 239-FN-A, permitting the development of an industrial hemp industry in New Hampshire and continually appropriating a special fund. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY**

Rep. Peter R. Leishman for Environment and Agriculture: The committee had difficulty reaching a consensus on the bill. Strong arguments were made to support and oppose the growing of industrial hemp. The first vote of "Ought to Pass with Amendment" failed by a vote of 10-9. The second vote of "Inexpedient to Legislate" failed by a vote of 7-12. The committee by a vote of 14-5 is recommending "Interim Study" looking forward to bringing both sides closer together. Vote 14-5.

HB 310, repealing the authority of the department of agriculture, markets, and food to conduct meat inspections and poultry products inspections. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Kenneth R. Marshall for Environment and Agriculture: The committee voted to amend RSA 427 which is the section dealing with inspection of slaughterhouses. Inspection is currently being conducted by the Food Safety and Inspectors Services Division of USDA. RSA 427 mandates that the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food conduct the inspections. The amendment states that the chapter will not apply unless or until the Feds withdraw from inspections, thereby maintaining the chapter for possible future use. The poultry section, RSA 428, is amended because of its close relationship to RSA 427 and the current provisions and authority of NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food is maintained. Vote 16-2.

HB 335, prohibiting the land application of sludge in reclamation areas. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. William R. Phinney for Environment and Agriculture: After frank and earnest discussion, it was determined that the complexities of the issue, the potential ramifications of a total ban, and the need for more information precluded support for passage at this time. Vote 10-8.

HB 648-FN, relative to a sludge testing program. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. John S. Cobb for Environment and Agriculture: This bill was re-referred to the Environment and Agriculture Committee and after much consideration, it was decided to amend the bill emphasizing the reporting procedure. We put a cap on the sludge testing fee for generators satisfying a concern of municipalities. Coordination was established between both the sponsor, the Department of Environmental Services, and authorities at the University of New Hampshire. Funding comes from State Aid Grant Programs which will not have an adverse impact for present budgets. Vote 18-0.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 613-FN-L, consolidating the pari-mutuel commission and sweepstakes commission into a gaming commission. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Michael O'Neil for Executive Departments and Administration: The committee agreed that the Pari-Mutuel Commission and the Sweepstakes Commission are working well and see no compelling reasons for change. Each commission has a very distinct responsibility with little in common. The Sweepstakes Commission is a marketing driven organization promoting the sale of lottery designated games. The Pari-Mutuel Commission is a regulating body with oversight responsibility for the horse and dog racing industry. Vote 12-4.

HB 725, relative to rulemaking under the administrative procedures act. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Sylvia A. Holley for Executive Departments and Administration: This bill improves the process by which rules are adopted and updates the "Drafting and Procedure Manual" for rulemaking. JLCAR (Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules) meets once a month and is provided services and staff from the Office of Legislative Services. This bill puts into statute a division of administrative rules established within the Office of Legislative Services which shall provide services, staff and specially designated committee legal counsel as it does now. There is no FN consideration. This bill changes the definition of "rule" to include a sentence that clarifies that rules adopted by the Director of Personnel relative to the state employee system must be adopted under RSA 541-A. This bill requires JLCAR to notify chairmen of committees when JLCAR recommends

statutory changes after reviewing proposed rules; puts in new language requiring agencies to accept public comment in electronic format if practicable and extends the period for accepting public comment after a public hearing on proposed rules from 5 to 10 days; establishes a new "conditional approval" process to allow for the approval of proposed rules under the condition that the agency makes specified changes agreed to during the JLCAR meeting; duration of emergency rules extended from 120 to 180 days and numerous gender neutral changes. These changes reflect a streamlining of the rules process, a more efficient and long overdue improvement yet keeps legislative oversight in place. Vote 17-0.

SB 228-FN, relative to spousal benefits upon the death of certain retired group II members of the New Hampshire retirement system. MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Frank V. Sapareto for the Majority of Executive Departments and Administration: This bill as amended by the Senate replaces the benefits for retirees whose retirement date occurred prior to April 1, 1987. It places these retirees on the same playing field as those who retired after that date. The committee felt that it was only fair to equate these benefits. It also provides for options for those pre-April 1, 1987 retirees who took a reduced benefit to provide for spousal benefit. The estimated cost from the special account, which does not affect the General Fund in any way, is approximately \$1.8 million. The special account purpose specifies such use and has a substantial surplus making this appropriation with little effort. Vote 15-4.

Rep. Merton S. Dyer for the Minority of Executive Departments and Administration: The minority does not agree with the majority that this bill should become law. This bill will provide a spousal benefit to certain Group II retirees. This bill, as written, raises many concerns that are unanswered in the bill. This bill is not clear on certain provisions of the implementation, such as, what will the 50 percent spousal benefit be based upon – annuity at retirement or value of current annuity – will the additional benefits, providing benefits in excess of 100 percent of the accurately determined values be in conflict with IRC(a)9 and, if so, will this affect the tax exempt status of the New Hampshire system and the personal tax status of the beneficiary? The bill will provide a 50 percent spousal benefit to the spouses of those members retired prior to April 1, 1987. The actuary has determined this will cost \$4.4 million for approximately 500 people. By providing this spousal benefit, the spouse will be eligible for the medical insurance subsidy for a cost of \$3.7 million or a total cost of \$8.1 million from the Special Account of the Group II members, for a small number of retirees. This brings up a question of the fairness of this bill. Many who retired prior to 1987 elected a survivorship option, which has been available since at least 1955. Those who provided for their spouse have been receiving a monthly annuity of less than 100 percent. There is no provision in this bill to extend the same privilege to them or to reimburse them for the reduced benefit they have been receiving. Legislation passed in 1987, Chapter 216 Spousal Benefits, established the automatic 50 percent spousal benefit and made the benefits available prospectively. The Legislature has allowed those with 100 percent benefit two opportunities, Chapter 251 of 1990 and Chapter 166 of 1992, to change their option to a survivorship allowance, but for various reasons they did not change their benefits. This bill will provide them with a gift to keep their 100 percent annuity and provide a 50 percent annuity for the spouse. These benefits are not actuarially determined, but rather done by percentage of some annuity. This bill has too many flaws to become law. An amendment to provide only the medical health subsidy was defeated by the committee.

FINANCE

CACR 10, relating to restricting the use of a statewide property tax and all funds deposited into the education trust fund to education funding. Providing that all revenues resulting from a statewide property tax and all funds deposited into the education trust fund shall be used exclusively for elementary and secondary education. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. William S. Belvin for Finance: This CACR was originally introduced as a companion piece to HB 108, a statewide property tax, which was a fiscal response to the *Claremont II* decision. It is narrowly crafted to dedicate all statewide property tax money to be placed in the education trust fund, to be spent exclusively for elementary and secondary education.

The committee believes that, given the fluid legal status of the statewide property tax, a dedicated statewide property tax constitutional amendment may prove to be a hindrance and be overtaken by events in addressing the *Claremont II* decision. Also, future legislatures may need flexibility in addressing health care, or postsecondary higher education, or other material issues where a statewide property tax may have multiple roles in a re-aligned state budget. Other questions remained about apparent conflicts in the bill's references to ". . . education funding . . ." and what would happen if the statewide property tax raised more money than required for an adequate education, so the committee voted Inexpedient to Legislate. Vote 21-0.

CACR 11, relating to the use of lottery revenues for educational purposes. Providing that lottery revenues be distributed directly to the governing body of the city or town. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. William S. Belvin for Finance: The issue primarily dealt with in CACR 11 is for the net proceeds of the state lottery to be

distributed directly to the cities and towns, before being used exclusively for the purpose of state aid to education. At present these funds now go into the education trust fund established in HB 117 last session; and previously they were paid directly to individual school districts.

Much of the content of this CACR was based on previous school funding processes which were materially changed by HB 117, hence the CACR's original mechanism is no longer applicable. Even if the intent remains as proposed, future legislative activity in response to present or future court mandates or legislative initiatives may again make the bill's approach inappropriate. Vote 21-0.

CACR 26, relating to the state's duty to assure the opportunity for an adequate primary and secondary public education to all pupils in the state. Providing that the state shall have the duty to assure the opportunity for an adequate primary and secondary public education to all pupils in the state; the nature and means of the fulfillment of such duty shall be determined by the legislature and judicial review shall be limited to whether or not there is any rational basis therefor; the legislature shall have exclusive authority to determine and fund the costs or to delegate the authority to impose assessments, rates, and taxes for education to political subdivisions, which if so delegated shall be deemed local and shall be proportional and reasonable within the political subdivision in which they are imposed. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. David J. Alukonis for Finance: CACR 26 acknowledges the state's duty to provide an opportunity for an adequate education to all public school pupils in NH. It defines the scope of the state duty while establishing the limits of the Court's involvement in legislative policy decisions. As we have already seen, the Court will step into the education debate again and again unless we amend the constitution to define the proper roles of the legislature and the courts.

The adoption of CACR 26 is an affirmation of the state's duty to provide an adequate public education. The amendment provides that the legislature will decide the nature of the duty, how much it costs, and how it shall be funded. The legislature may also delegate part or all of the duty to its political subdivisions. The Court's involvement is limited to a review of whether or not the legislature had a rational basis for its policy decisions.

The additional language proposed in CACR 26 cements and defines the state's duty to public schools within the constitution while at the same time preventing an endless stream of lawsuits and appeals against the state. The passage of CACR 26 by the legislature would also let NH voters decide whether to restore control over education and tax policy to their elected representatives or whether to leave such policy making to the courts. Vote 13-7.

HB 235-FN-A, increasing the exemption amount under the interest and dividends tax. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Charles L. Vaughn for Finance: This bill was re-referred to the Finance Committee. Members in several subcommittee meetings listened to suggestions for modifying the tax such as: increased exemptions, exemptions for those over 65, exemptions for those on limited income. Still the Department of Revenue Administration suggests that state revenues would decline from \$8.5 million to \$10.5 million whichever exemption is included. The truth is revenues are increasing from this tax due in part to increased compliance, increasing value of securities and improved income earnings. Percentages of filers over 65, 42% out of 64,870 tax returns. Percent of revenue from filers over 65: 45.8%. A political promise of revenue neutrality was made for a point in time, markets are dynamic and cannot be frozen. The Finance Committee after due deliberation recommends this legislation be turned over to the Tax Equity and Efficiency Commission as it examines the state's revenue structure. Vote 21-1.

HB 279-FN-A, relative to refinancing the cost and rehabilitation of the Cheshire Bridge. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Avis B. Nichols for Finance: This bill as amended eliminates tolls on the Cheshire Bridge starting in 2001. This is a fairness issue. Since 1992, users of the Cheshire Bridge have been paying a toll designed to pay off the bond that was used to purchase and renovate the bridge. The Cheshire Bridge is not only the sole toll bridge in the state, it is also the only bridge where the tolls are used not only for retirement of the debt, but pay for maintenance of the bridge as well as all operating expenses.

If the toll is removed in 2001 the additional cost to the state highway fund is approximately \$500,000 more than it would be if we waited until 2005 when the surplus in the account would be sufficient to pay off the bonds. Vote 15-7.

HB 297-FN, permitting a jury trial in the superior court for alleged 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. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Margaret A. Lynch for Finance: The policy established by the Judiciary Committee was left intact with the exception of the

effective date. The amendment changed the January 1, 2000 date to read "upon passage." It was the opinion of the Finance Committee that this bill has minimal financial impact, therefore we deferred to the policy committee on content. Vote 24-0.

HB 303-FN-A, relative to the preservation of and access to legislative records and making an appropriation therefor. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Robert G. Holbrook for Finance: Finding \$140,000 of new, general funds at this time is just out of the question. We are all aware of the tremendous crowding and stacking of files and records and hope to see funding requested in the regular budget process. Vote 22-2.

HB 417-FN-A, relative to the rehabilitation of the Walker building at New Hampshire hospital and making an appropriation therefor. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. David J. Alukonis for Finance: This bill calls for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Walker Building, which is an 80-year-old, 108,000 square foot building located on the campus of the New Hampshire State Hospital. The building has been vacant for many years and is experiencing serious decay. The Finance Committee believes that returning this state-owned building to a constructive and positive use would be a fiscally sound decision given that the state currently leases over 300,000 square feet from private landlords at a cost of over \$3 million annually.

The committee amendment creates the opportunity and ability for the state to accomplish the reconstruction using a "construction management" technique whereby the state could hire a firm which would design, build, and finance the proposed project in return for an agreed-upon payment stream over the next twenty years.

The committee will continue to work on this concept throughout November and December and it is anticipated that the committee will ask that the bill be recommitted to the Finance Committee in order to incorporate further refinements into the bill. Vote 20-1.

HB 617-FN-A-L, relative to funding and monitoring seacoast harbor issues. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Margaret A. Lynch for Finance: This bill, as referred to Finance, had several components. First, the bill re-directed approximately \$750,000 of unrefunded road toll revenue from the general fund to the harbor dredging and pier maintenance fund. Second, it established new fees on boats registered in tidal waters and new slip fees. Combined, the fees are estimated to generate \$60,000 that would be deposited into the harbor dredging and pier maintenance fund. Third, the bill transfers the commercial fish piers at Portsmouth, Rye and Hampton from the Department of Resources and Economic Development to the NH Port Authority. Finally, the bill established two studies and required an additional report be filed.

The amendment eliminated the redirection of the unrefunded road toll revenue and replaced it with a study of unrefunded road tolls. The amendment made no changes related to the new fees. The amendment modified the language used in Department of Resources and Economic Development and Port Authority statutes to clarify the House Public Works policy that DRED would retain control of the recreational activities at the piers after the transfer to the Port Authority. Finally, the amendment struck out the two study committees and the additional report because they passed in the trailer bill in the 1999 session Vote 21-1.

HB 618-FN-A, establishing a voucher program for smoking cessation and continually appropriating a special fund. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Marjorie K. Smith for Finance: This bill establishes a three-year smoking cessation voucher pilot program for persons receiving temporary assistance to needy families. This program is funded at \$150,000 per year from the tobacco use prevention fund. The pilot program will identify those persons on assistance who smoke and will encourage and provide cessation assistance methods not currently covered under medicaid. Future health and financial benefits to the individual and the state can be anticipated. Vote 18-1.

HB 699-FN-A, establishing the granite state scholars program and making an appropriation therefor. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Charles L. Vaughn for Finance: This bill establishes a scholars program recognizing highly qualified New Hampshire high school graduates. Funds are to be awarded to these students who pursue degree programs at public colleges and universities in the state. The bill had a general fund appropriation of \$5 million to be matched by private funds. The Finance Committee recognized the benefits of this scholarship program, but reduced the appropriation to \$1 because of state school funding shortfall, thus keeping the idea alive. Vote 20-1.

HB 735-FN-A, establishing a contributory judicial retirement plan. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Margaret A. Lynch for Finance: This bill establishes a contributory judicial defined contribution retirement plan. This is a major change to present policy. While this issue has been under consideration and study for a long period of time, it was acknowledged, even by the sponsors of the bill, that the bill was not ready to be enacted in its present form.

The Finance Committee has a strong interest in investigating this subject matter further and in securing the additional facts and figures impacting changes to the present judicial retirement plan. In an attempt to avoid sending the wrong message to House members (i.e., the present bill is ready for passage) the committee voted Inexpedient to Legislate with the anticipation that a motion to recommit will be offered to the full House membership. Vote 18-6.

SB 36-FN-A, relative to salary increases for care providers for persons with developmental and acquired disabilities and making an appropriation therefor. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Robert K. Boyce for Finance: There was little disagreement about the need to increase the pay of these people providing direct care to some of the neediest people in the Health and Human Services system. There was disagreement about where the money should come from. This bill, as amended, directs the commissioner to provide the money for these increases from money not in the current budget. There was testimony that over \$6 million of non-budget funds has already been received. The cost of this increase is \$2.28 million of general fund money for fiscal year 2001. Vote 24-0.

SB 134-FN, relative to medicaid reimbursement rates and dental care. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Robert K. Boyce for Finance: The intent of this bill was to increase the percentage of medicaid-assisted children receiving dental care. According to testimony we heard, it was not clear increasing the reimbursement rates was the answer. Vote 16-8.

SB 153-FN-A, requiring that a percentage of profits derived by the liquor commission be placed into and continually appropriated to a special fund for alcohol education and abuse prevention and treatment programs. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Robert K. Boyce for Finance: This bill would have perpetually dedicated up to 5% of the gross profits of the Liquor Commission to an undefined set of programs to treat and prevent alcoholism. This is the cart before the horse. If indeed there are worthy programs that should be funded, then a bill establishing them and providing funding should be proposed. This bill would reduce general funds for programs yet to be devised by \$2 million in this biennium and \$6.8 million in the next biennium. Vote 16-8.

SB 176-FN-A, relative to technology support for individuals and making an appropriation therefor. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Mary Jane Wallner for Finance: The bill as amended establishes a committee to study the NH Assisted Technology Partnership Project. The study is to be completed by April 1, 2000. This project will be losing federal funding in the near future and the study will make recommendations to the legislature as to future direction of this project. Vote 18-0.

SB 186-FN, relative to additional cost of living adjustments and increased minimum allowances for certain retired group II members, and relative to requiring spousal acknowledgement of a member's election of an optional retirement allowance. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Steve Vaillancourt for Finance: This bill increases the minimum allowance and grants additional COLAs to retired group II members (police and firemen) whose annual allowance is less than a certain very low amount. The committee heard compelling testimony that certain individuals, mostly elderly (many in their 80s) who retired a long time ago, are receiving monthly checks which are far below the amounts required to live a life of dignity commensurate with the quality service they provided the state over the years. Testimony was also convincing that this increase can be accomplished within the existing retirement fund framework. Therefore there is no negative financial impact to the state. The amendment increases the minimum amount from \$5200 to \$10,000 as was the intent of the original legislation. It also establishes a percentage formula for COLA increases so that those on the bottom of the scale, the most needy, benefit most. For example, those currently receiving \$9300 or less will be increased to the minimum of \$10,000. Those currently receiving between \$9300 and \$11,699 will get a 7 1/2 % COLA, but those currently receiving between \$15,700 and \$17,699 will get a COLA of only 3%. Vote 22-0.

SB 205-FN, expanding medical coverage to pay dental assistance for adults on medicaid. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Robert K. Boyce for Finance: This bill would expand dental services provided to adults on medicaid. In light of other state

obligations, the committee believes this is not the time to add to entitlements. The cost to the general fund would have been \$242,000 in FY 00 and \$1.3 million in FY 01. In addition, this would have added to county medicaid costs. Vote 17-7.

SB 222-FN-A-L, relative to guarantee of loans to local development organizations. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. David J. Alukonis for Finance: This bill was introduced at the request of the Business Finance Authority (BFA) and the Berlin Economic Development Corporation. The proposal allows for the governor and council to award a state guaranty on BFA-approved loans to local non-profit community development organizations which provide capital for economic development. The bill expands the BFA's scope of guaranties but does not increase the current level of guaranty authority of the BFA. Additionally, the bill does not carry a state appropriation.

At the urging of the BFA, the Finance Committee amendment deletes a section of the bill which was inadvertently included when the bill was drafted. Vote 21-0.

JUDICIARY

CACR 22, relating to 7-year terms for state judges. Providng that all state judges appointed on or after January 1, 2001 be commissioned for 7-year terms, which may be renewed. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. James W. Craig for Judiciary: This bill was studied by a subcommittee this summer. The subcommittee and a majority of the full committee felt that this bill was not good for the judicial process or for the retention of competent judges. The prospect of having to undergo a reappointment process could interject the political process into decision-making by a judge and the committee feels that judicial decisions must be made as independently as possible. Further, it would be difficult for top grade candidates to give up a law practice to sit as a judge knowing that they may be out of work in seven years just at the time when they may be facing family student tuition and other personal expenses. Vote 13-3.

HB 53, establishing a process for reviewing judges. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Henry P. Mock for Judiciary: This bill originally proposed a "process for reviewing judges," a subject matter thoroughly studied and ultimately addressed in HB 568. During the evaluation review consideration and as a part of the broad judicial reform study, the evaluation and selection of marital masters was an ever-present subject; a subject thoroughly discussed at public hearings. Consequently, a decision was made to attach this subject matter to HB 53, with the knowledge and permission of the bill's sponsors. The committee felt that because of the tremendous impact which marital masters can have on the family, including the children thereof, that their selection should be equally scrutinized and subject to the same procedures as the selection of judges. This issue passed in the 1999 session as a component of the Family Court bill (HB 707-FN) and at this time is in limbo in the state Senate. Vote 14-1.

SB 85-FN, including the judiciary as a public employer under the public employee labor relations act. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. John M. Pratt for Judiciary: This bill would make it possible for employees of the Judiciary branch of state government to choose whether to unionize and consequently to engage in collective bargaining. The committee believed that the costs and details of such an action were significant and needed to be fleshed out in greater detail before such a bill comes to the floor. Vote 13-5.

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

HB 579-FN, relative to eligibility for unemployment benefits for certain persons commensurate with their attachment to the workforce. REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Rep. Robert E. Clegg, Jr. for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: The Department of Employment Security is currently studying the issue of unemployment benefit eligibility for part-time workers. The Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services Committee wishes to review this study and may offer a different motion when the bill comes to the floor. Vote 16-0.

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

HB 730-FN, establishing a pilot program for the recording of committee proceedings of the general court. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Merton S. Dyer for Legislative Administration: The bill, as amended by the committee, will establish a committee to study audio and/or audio/visual recording of committee meetings. The committee, working with state officials knowledgeable with digital audio or visual recording, will research various methods of recording and will be allowed to rent or lease, for a short time, various electronic devices to see if they will produce a good recording. Various standing committees will be asked to try the equipment in their committee rooms for a very short time. This will be a hands-on, try-it program. Vote 12-0.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 507-L, relative to the taxability of certain appurtenant land to a taxable building. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Roger T. Zerba for Municipal and County Government: For private colleges and boarding schools, buildings used for dormitories, dining rooms and kitchens are taxed on their value in excess of \$150,000. This value was established in 1907; it excludes the land upon which the building(s) sit. Currently, there are 21 such institutions that pay these annually. HB 507 seeks to tax that land underneath the buildings used for dormitories, dining rooms and kitchens. None of the host cities or towns of those educational institutions expressed any concerns with the current taxation law to the committee. In fact, the committee was advised that excellent relationships exist between these institutions and their host towns. A majority of the committee concurred that the existing taxation method is agreeable and acceptable to both sides, and thus voted 12-4 to recommend this. Vote 12-4.

HB 595-L, enabling municipalities to grant the elderly property tax exemption to an additional person in a household. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Priscilla P. Lockwood for the Majority of Municipal and County Government: It was the opinion of the Committee that the objectives of this bill could be accomplished by procedures already in place at the local level Vote 14-2.

Rep. Ralph L. Akins for the Minority of Municipal and County Government: The statutory minimum amounts established by the State of New Hampshire for income recognizes the difference between a single person and a married couple (ref. \$13,400 single, \$20,400 married). The statutory amount for assets is "\$35,000 or less," but makes no allowance for a married couple. Municipalities can and do allow higher asset limits, but they too give no consideration for married couples.

SB 76-L, allowing certain municipalities to offer tax exemptions to foster commercial and industrial construction. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Betsey L. Patten for Municipal and County Government: Coos County is made up of one city and 43 towns and unincorporated places and wants help to foster economic growth. The Municipal and County Government Committee worked on this issue and is bringing forth the idea of a pilot program that would sunset April 1, 2005. There are three criteria that Coos County meets – it has the lowest equalized taxable valuation per person, the highest unemployment rate for the last three years, and has the lowest population growth for the past five years of all the other nine counties in New Hampshire. Because of these three economically-depressed criteria, the committee recognizes a need to encourage new construction, rehabilitation and improvement of property for commercial and industrial uses. We are proposing the ability to adopt a very specific and focused tax exemption, at the local level, by any of Coos County municipalities. If the city or one of the 43 towns or unincorporated places meets two of the three economically-depressed criteria, which Coos County meets in totality, then it would be able to enact incentives provided. The local legislative body would determine the amount and new construction property tax exemption for commercial or industrial uses or both, as defined in SB 76. The exemption may run for a maximum period of 10 years, provided that for all years the exemption is in place, the dollar amount shall not exceed 500 percent of the increased assessed value. This exemption would not shift their current tax burden to other residents of the city or towns/unincorporated places since the current tax exemption would only apply to the increased assessed value that the new construction would generate. The committee also wants to ensure that if an exemption, as described, was adopted, all other requests for like exemptions would be uniformly administered within the city or town/unincorporated places. We urge our fellow members of the House to agree with us in adopting a needed economic tool for the citizens of the North Country and vote Ought to Pass as Amended. Vote 13-1.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

HB 86-A, making a capital appropriation for renovation of the Sawyer House at the Daniel Webster Birthplace in the city of Franklin. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. James A. Whittemore for Public Works and Highways: The full Committee on Public Works and Highways voted

unanimously to support the renovation and preservation of the Daniel Webster Birthplace buildings in Franklin. By renovating the Sawyer House this will make it possible for caretakers to live there and provide supervision of the property for school children and tourists who visit this state historic site. The funding in the amendment is one third private and two thirds from the Conservation Plate Trust Fund under RSA 261:97-6. Vote 16-0.

HB 305-A, making a capital appropriation to the department of administrative services for the construction of the new Jaffrey-Peterborough district courthouse. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Richard F. Ahern for Public Works and Highways: This bill provides a lease purchase between Cheshire County (bonding agency) and the state for a new district court house serving the Jaffrey and Peterborough District Court. The current facility is in an old manufacturing building leased at a cost of \$48,000 per year. The land for the new court is being donated by a private family with a four-year time limit for construction of a court facility expiring in 2001. So if the state does not act soon, the donors may rescind their gift. This gift weighed very heavily in committee deliberations. This is the first priority solely for a district court from the judicial branch. The design is generic and as such would cost less to construct. This project has been ongoing for more than 12 years. The donation of the land moved the project along and then Cheshire County agreeing to bond the project helped the forward progress. The town has done environmental tests and engineering studies at its own expense so everything would be ready when the state was ready. Now seems to be the correct time. Vote 15-1.

HB 413-FN-A, relative to the renovation of regional vocational education centers, and making an appropriation therefor. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. William E. Leber for Public Works and Highways: In the early 70s, funds for regional vocational schools were approved and with one exception all were built. Now 25+ years later, most of these schools need upgrading or replacement. Some schools have made upgrades with their own funds while others need to start from scratch. To a member all could see the benefit from those facilities, however larger capital expenditures outside of the capital budget are difficult. We are talking in dollar terms of \$6+ million and over time could reach in excess of \$100 million. The committee amendment directs the Commissioner of the Department of Education to submit capital budget request and priority list of facilities and programs eligible for funds. It also provides 75 percent state and 25 percent local funding. This solution allows the regional vocational schools to be eligible for funding on a regular basis not requiring special consideration. Vote 15-2.

SB 178-FN-A, relative to appropriations to the port authority for dredging projects. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. William E. Leber for Public Works and Highways: The original bill would amend a previous appropriation to the Port Authority for improvements to permit up to \$1 million for dredging and associated mitigation projects. The committee amendment identifies specific projects needed in harbor and port operations. The committee received information that the federal government will not issue any more wetlands permits until the \$400,000 hydrodynamic study of Hampton and Seabrook harbors and waterways is done. This affects both public and private (homeowners within the area) projects. The committee felt that it was very important to proceed with this project so that things would not come to a complete standstill in the area. The other part of the bill deals with improvements to the fishing piers that may be transferred to the Port Authority for \$600,000. Vote 16-0.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB 580-FN-A-L, creating a new tourism district and making an appropriation therefor. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. MaryAnn N. Blanchard for Resources, Recreation and Development: This bill, as amended, would enable the Commissioner of the Department of Resources and Economic Development, for one time only (during the biennium ending June 30, 2001), to award from the Joint Promotional Program funded at \$600,000, a grant of up to \$25,000 to an organization whose purpose is to promote tourism in the Connecticut River area. The grantee shall coordinate its marketing efforts with existing tourism organizations in New Hampshire, Vermont and communities along the river. This bill does not create a new tourism district; rather, it is to provide an incentive to Connecticut River organizations to develop real initiatives for marketing their area. This bill does not create any ongoing entitlement to Joint Promotional Program funds for the Connecticut River area. Future projects for the Connecticut River area would go through the screening committee on the same competitive footing as other applicants from around this state. Vote 12-2.

SB 135-FN, relative to water supply land protection grants. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. H. Charles Royce for Resources, Recreation and Development: Senate Bill 135-FN, as amended, develops a grant program

with the Department of Environmental Services for not-for-profit water supply companies and municipal drinking water systems to acquire land over and adjacent to their water supplies. The state may grant up to 25 percent of the water supply land acquisition costs. Land could be acquired by the grantee through conservation easements, gifts or fee simple purchases with willing donors or sellers. Towns or cities will be responsible for the stewardship of lands acquired by reporting annually to the Department of Environmental Systems. A provision of this bill requires the Department to report biannually to the Legislature, listing all land and land rights acquired under this program and also expenditures for each land stewardship activity. This insight will be helpful if modifications are necessary in future years. Following New Hampshire tradition, land protection through this bill is voluntary and it provides strong incentives to encourage cities and towns to protect their water resources in a cost-share program. Vote 14-0.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

HB 387, relative to local telephone calling areas, access charges, and competitive telephone services. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Jeffrey C. MacGillivray for Science, Technology and Energy: This bill, as amended, addresses the size of local telephone calling areas and intrastate access charges for in-state toll calls. (1) While the Public Utilities Commission has liberalized the procedure for expanding local telephone calling areas in the last two years, certain requests for expansion of calling areas are still automatically denied if there are currently few toll calls being made. The bill encourages the Commission to consider the likelihood of significant increases in the number of calls if these calls become local calls, especially where students attending the same public school would be able to make local calls to each other instead of toll calls. (2) The Science, Technology and Energy Committee supports the Public Utilities Commission's past efforts to reduce in-state toll call access charges to the level of interstate access charges. However, New Hampshire's in-state access charges are now well above interstate access charges and are higher than most other states in the region. The bill encourages the Public Utilities Commission to consider further decreases in in-state access charges even if customer monthly service charges would need to be increased. Reduction of these in-state access charges should produce greater competition for in-state toll calls and lower rates. The bill also encourages that these in-state access charges not vary greatly between Bell Atlantic customers and independent telephone customers, to reduce subsidies among groups of customers. Vote 18-0.

HB 457, extending the committee to study electric rate reduction financing. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Jeb E. Bradley for Science, Technology and Energy: This bill extends the date for the Committee to Study Electric Rate Reduction Financing (securitization) from November 1998 to May 2000. The only purpose of this bill is to study this issue. Vote 18-0.

HB 733, relative to a state master plan for the deployment of personal wireless service facilities. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Jeb E. Bradley for Science, Technology and Energy: The bill, as amended, attempts to rationally deal with the increase of telecommunication towers and their visual effect on New Hampshire landscape. The bill balances aesthetic concerns with the need for orderly development of telecommunications sites. The bill allows the Office of State Planning to develop a model zoning ordinance which local planning and zoning boards may use if they choose to adopt local zoning ordinances. The committee believes development of such a model ordinance will give invaluable assistance to local officials trying to develop coherent ordinances consistent with federal law. Such a model ordinance is strictly advisory in nature and does not establish or supersede any existing local ordinances. The bill further allows for regional notification to other New Hampshire municipalities and their residents when a tower would be visible within a radius of 20 miles. Residents from other municipalities would be allowed to comment on a particular tower installation but would not be given legal standing under the proposed bill. The bill also instructs the Office of State Planning to create a statewide map of visible tower facilities in order to encourage orderly deployment of facilities as well as opportunities for co-location of facilities. There is no fiscal note attached to this bill, and the committee believes any fiscal impact will be very, very limited. The committee worked extensively with the bill's proponents as well as representatives of the wireless telecommunications industry. The committee believes that this bill will assist local communities that are struggling to understand both their opportunities and responsibilities under federal law with regard to the siting of telecommunication towers. This bill does not affect towers owned by amateur radio operators. Vote 18-0.

SB 71 , prohibiting the use of MTBE as an additive in gasoline. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Jeb E. Bradley for Science, Technology and Energy: This bill seeks to impose a legislative ban on the use of MtBE (methyl tertiary butyl ether) in gasoline by 2003. MtBE is an additive which is widely used in reformulated gasoline. Reformulated

gasoline is designed to reduce air pollution. Reformulated gasoline has been required for use in Hillsborough, Rockingham, Merrimack, and Strafford Counties as part of New Hampshire's compliance with the federal Clean Air Act. While reformulated gasoline has reduced emissions of known carcinogens such as benzene, MtBE is water-soluble. Gasoline spills have contaminated wells with MtBE. In the 1999 session, Senate Bill 70 passed. It called for the Department of Environmental Services (DES) to set maximum contamination levels and remediation standards for MtBE. DES should propose this rule by the January deadline of the statute. Senate Bill 70 also required DES to seek a waiver from the EPA so that gasoline with a far lower MtBE content (though higher benzene content) could be used in New Hampshire on an interim basis. The EPA's initial response did not approve this waiver request. Governor Shaheen has resubmitted the request, this time directly to the Administrator of the EPA. As of this writing, Governor Shaheen has not received a reply. In the meantime, an EPA blue ribbon panel has recommended phasing out use of MtBE in gasoline however. Federal law currently severely limits states' flexibility in determining the components of gasoline, and the federal law may need to be changed to allow states more flexibility. The EPA has not recommended immediate removal of MtBE as it is likely there would be a corresponding increase of air emissions. Other additives such as ethanol are used in the mid-west. There is not enough ethanol currently available to supply areas of the country where reformulated is required such as the northeast and California. If cost and supply issues are solved, ethanol could replace MtBE. Ethanol does not have the same water quality problems as MtBE. Ethanol may increase some air emissions however. Senate Bill 70 gave authority to DES (with approval of Governor and Council) to limit or ban MtBE if a gasoline with less or no MtBE was readily available at a reasonable price and decreased public health risks. Compared to other states, New Hampshire has taken a very proactive stand in an attempt to protect water supplies. In addition, a statutory study committee created in 1999 by House Bill 592 has recommended new legislation which would encourage efforts already underway by northeastern states to work with gasoline refiners and EPA to create a regional gasoline with less or no MtBE that protects water quality and that provides equivalent air quality benefits. A check of other states showed that only California has enacted significant legislation. Even in that state, a bill just recently signed into law allows postponement of a MtBE ban originally proposed to take place through an Executive Order by the Governor of California by 2003. Maine and Connecticut have also passed legislation that studies MtBE. The Science, Technology and Energy Committee believes it has done everything it can to reduce the threat of MtBE to water supplies in the short run. Legislation banning MtBE in 2003 would not improve the water quality situation in that interim. A ban could lead to lawsuits under existing federal law and could undermine efforts to work collaboratively on a regional gasoline solution. Unfortunately, it will take time to develop alternative gasolines with less or no MtBE that have less of an environmental and human health impact and are readily available in adequate supplies. The proponents of Senate Bill 71 believe passage of the bill at this time will increase pressure to act. The Committee believes that passage last session of Senate Bill 70 has already created that pressure and that it will be far more advantageous to pursue creation of a regional gasoline solution than proposing a ban which does little to protect water quality in the short run. Vote 15-1.

house bills amended by the senate

- HB 615-FN-A*, establishing a registry for brain and spinal cord injuries. (SJ 29)
- HB 625-FN-A*, relative to a mercury emissions reduction and control program and a study of mercury in ash landfills. (SJ 30)

COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

- HB 346-FN-A*, relative to permissible fireworks. (Reps. Welch, Hunter, Mikowski and Vaillancourt; Sens. D'Allesandro, Disnard and Johnson)

LAID ON TABLE

- CACR 12*, relating to a 4-year term for the office of governor. Providing that beginning in the year 2002, the governor shall be elected every 4 years.
- CACR 21*, relating to gender neutral language in the constitution. Providing that all references to persons in the constitution shall be gender neutral.
- HB 116-FN-A-L*, establishing an alternative consumption tax as a source of funding for education and making an appropriation therefor.
- HB 536*, authorizing municipalities to exempt from the local property tax personal property employed in the generation and production of electric power. (awaiting Supreme Court Opinion)

- HB 549-L*, relative to the minimum vote required for bond issues by municipalities.
- HB 550-L*, relative to the date town reports must be made available in towns which have adopted the official ballot referenda form of meeting.
- HB 612-FN*, relative to compensation paid to jurors.
- HB 695-FN-A*, providing an exemption under the interest and dividends tax for taxpayers on a limited income.
- HB 703-FN-A-L*, establishing a regional youth center pilot program in the city of Nashua.
- HR 10*, affirming revenue estimates for fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

COLLEGE TUITION SAVINGS PLAN ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 195-H:2), Room 103, State House

4:00 p.m. Endowment subcommittee meeting.

MERCURY SOURCE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING ISSUES STUDY (HB 340, Chapter 71:2, Laws of 1999), Room 303, LOB

1:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENDITURE STUDY (HB 689, Chapter 264:2, Laws of 1999), Room 308, LOB

11:00 a.m. Final meeting.

FIELD ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES RELATIVE TO CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES STUDY (SB 65, Chapter 29:2, Laws of 1999), Rooms 305-307, LOB

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

ELECTRIC UTILITY RESTRUCTURING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 374-F:5), Room 304, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

PROBLEMS AND POSSIBLE REGULATION OF OUTDOOR LIGHTING (HB 727, Chapter 146:2, Laws of 1999), Room 104, LOB

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 304, LOB

1:00 p.m. Rescheduled full committee meeting for discussion of securitization.

wednesday, december 1

ADEQUATE EDUCATION AND EDUCATION FINANCING COMMISSION (RSA 198:49), Rooms 210-211, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

UPGRADE OF ROUTES 11 AND 140 STUDY (HB 541, Chapter 145:1, Laws of 1999), City Council Chambers, Rochester

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

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

8:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

OSTEOPOROSIS ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 126-I:3), Room 205, LOB

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 281-A:62), Room 306, LOB

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMISSION STATUS STUDY (SB 503, Chapter 272:36, Laws of 1998), Room 207, LOB

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

ELDERLY AFFAIRS (RSA 17-H:2), Room 205, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

LAND USE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF FARMLAND, RURAL CHARACTER AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND SPRAWL STUDY (HB 288, Chapter 23:3, Laws of 1999), Room 302, LOB

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

SEED STERILIZATION TECHNOLOGY STUDY, (HB 291, Chapter 282:2, Laws of 1999), Room 303, LOB

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

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

9:00 a.m. Regular business.

9:30 a.m. Audit: Department of Employment Security financial and compliance audit report for the year ended June 30, 1998.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

ELECTRIC UTILITY RESTRUCTURING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 374-F:5), Room 304, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE STUDY, (HB 214, Chapter 42:1, Laws of 1999), Room 302, LOB

1:00 p.m. Rescheduled regular meeting.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

BOARD OF CLAIMS (RSA 541-B:3), Room 202, LOB

8:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

FEDERAL WELFARE REFORM ON THE CITIES AND TOWNS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IMPACT STUDY (SB 14, Chapter 94:2, Laws of 1999), Room 102, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

ADEQUATE EDUCATION AND EDUCATION FINANCING COMMISSION (RSA 198:49), Rooms 210-211, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

SUPERIOR COURT JUSTICES STUDY (SB 209, Chapter 329:2, Laws of 1999), Room 104, LOB

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

When the House Clerk's Office is aware of House Members who are hospitalized or homebound by serious illness, we will publish a list of names and addresses requested.

Kenneth J. MacDonald, PO Box 1185, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire 03894-1185

Kenneth R. Marshall, 169 North Main Street, Boscawen, New Hampshire 03303-1106

Colleagues who so desire may send cards and greetings to the addresses listed above.

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.

The Governor's Lilac and Wildflower Commission exhibit is on display in the Visitors' Center of the State House through the holidays.

Rep. Francine Wendelboe

Applications are available for the New Hampshire Order of Women Legislators Scholarship. Your constituents may pick them up in their college's financial aid office or you may get them from the House Secretarial Services Office on the 4th floor of the LOB. New Hampshire residents who are obtaining transitional education in their field of endeavor toward a field of public service are eligible. All pertinent information is included in the scholarship application.

Rep. Janet S. Arndt

There will be a Main Street Republican Caucus meeting in Room 301, LOB on November 30th at 9:00 a.m.

Rep. Richard C. Leone

The Legislative Caucus for Young Children will meet at the Upham Walker House on Tuesday, November 30th at 10:30 a.m. All legislators are welcome.

Rep. Rebecca C. Hutchinson

The Capital Information Exchange Group will meet November 30th in Room 306, LOB at 8:30 a.m. For more information contact Rep. Gilman.

Rep. G. Michael Gilman

An informal discussion for all legislators and interested parties on upcoming legislation dealing with natural, cultural and historic resources will be held at the Upham Walker House on Tuesday, December 7th at 10:00 a.m.

Reps. MaryAnn N. Blanchard, Martha Fuller Clark and Howard C. Dickinson

Legislators are cordially invited to attend meetings of the Citizens for Inheritance Tax Equity (CITE). Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Nashua Public Library at 7:00 p.m. The December meeting will be held on December 7th. Please join us for a discussion of the Legacies and Succession Tax, RSA 86.

Rep. Paul A. McGuirk

The Department of Transportation will hold the following meetings:

- Nov 23 – Old Court House, Main Street, Farmington, 2:00 p.m. Meeting with town staff and selectmen, Farmington, TE sidewalk project Spring Street.
- Nov 30 – Police Department Conference Room, 347 Daniel Webster Highway, Meredith, 7:00 p.m. Public informational meeting, Meredith, reconstruction of US 3 intersection with Parade Road (NH106)
- Dec 1 – Pollard School (Old Gym), 120 Main Street, Plaistow, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing, Plaistow Kingston Road Bridge over the B&M Railroad and the NH Route 121 Bridge.
- Dec 1 – Effingham Town Hall, Town House Road, Effingham, 7:00 p.m. Public informational meeting, Effingham-Freedom, replacement of NH 25 bridge over Ossipee River.
- Dec 6 – Weston Elementary School, 1066 Hanover Street, Manchester, 7:00 p.m. Public officials/public informational meeting, Manchester-Auburn, rehabilitation of NH 101 from I-93 approximately 2.0 miles.
- Dec 7 – Dover City Hall, Council Conference Room, 288 Central Avenue, Dover, 7:00 p.m. Public informational meeting, Dover-Rollinsford, safety improvements at intersection of Broadway and Oak Streets.
- Dec 8 - Pollard School (Old Gym), 120 Main Street, Plaistow, 7:00 p.m. Plaistow NH Route 121 Bridge over the B&M Railroad and Little River.
- Dec 9 – Ossipee Town Hall, 55 Main Street, Ossipee, 7:00 p.m. Public informational meeting, Ossipee, replacement of the NH 25 bridge over Bear Camp River.
- Dec 16 – Wolfeboro Town Hall, 84 South Main Street, Wolfeboro, 7:00 p.m. Public informational meeting, Wolfeboro, rehabilitation and widening of NH 28/NH 109 bridge over Smith River.

Rep. Edwin O. Smith, Chairman

Public Works and Highways

As a convenience to the members of the NH General Court, the Visitors' Center offers the following schedule of schools and other groups visiting the State House in November, 1999. 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 your School Visitation Program.

Kenneth Leidner, Director

<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>GROUP</i>	<i>CLASS/Size</i>

Nov 22	9:00	Deerfield Comm School	4/21
Nov 22	1:00	Cornerstone Christian School/Epsom	4/15
Nov 23	10:00	Freedom Elem School	4/14
Nov 23	11:00	Goshen-Lempster Elem School	4/36
Nov 29	9:30	Calvary Christian School/Derry	4/28
Nov 29	11:00	Beaver Meadow School/Concord	4/42
Nov 30	10:00	Lamprey River Elem/Raymond	3/46

Orders Now Being Taken For The Final Disposition of Bills!

The House Clerk's Office is preparing to have printed the **1999 Final Disposition of Bills**, the annual 225-page (estimated) document (8½ x 11) listing all legislative action on all House and Senate bills. In recent years, printing costs have continued to rise and an effort is being made to cut waste. Therefore, the number printed will be determined by the number ordered. **Orders will close Friday, December 10.**

If you would like to receive one or more copies, please use the order form shown below. Please do not order more than you need.

If you currently receive 1999 calendars, journals and bills through the Legislative Subscription Service, you will automatically receive a **1999 Final Disposition of Bills** and need **not** submit the form shown below.

If it is necessary to mail one or more copies, a postage fee will be assessed.

***** CLIP ***** CLIP ***** CLIP ***** CLIP *****

Please clip this form and return it in person or via mail to: House Clerk's Office, Room 317, State House, Concord, NH 03301.

****** 1999 FINAL DISPOSITION OF BILLS ******

I WISH TO ORDER _____ 1999 FINAL DISPOSITIONS.

REPRESENTATIVE or STAFF PERSON NAME _____

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE _____

and CONTACT PERSON _____

PRIVATE SECTOR BUSINESS _____

and MAILING ADDRESS _____

and CONTACT PERSON _____

The members listed below have bills ready for signature in Legislative Services.

Carol J. Holahan, Director

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<i>SPONSOR</i>	<i>COUNTY</i>	<i>DISTRICT</i>	<i>LSR NUMBER</i>
Alukonis, David	Hillsborough	23	2000-S-2655-R
Anderson, Eric	Merrimack	07	2000-S-2100-R
Arnold, Thomas	Hillsborough	20	2000-H-2553-L
Asplund, Bronwyn	Merrimack	13	2000-H-2441-R
Asplund, Bronwyn	Merrimack	13	2000-H-2443-R
Avery, Stephen	Cheshire	08	2000-H-2159-R
Babson, David	Carroll	05	2000-H-2030-R
Babson, David	Carroll	05	2000-H-2278-R
Babson, David	Carroll	05	2000-H-2388-L
Babson, David	Carroll	05	2000-H-2411-R
Babson, David	Carroll	05	2000-H-2587-R
Babson, David	Carroll	05	2000-S-2744-R
Batchelder, Robert	Cheshire	02	2000-H-2328-L
Batula, Peter	Hillsborough	18	2000-H-2729-R
Beaulieu, Jon	Rockingham	11	2000-H-2049-R
Belanger, Ronald	Rockingham	26	2000-H-2201-R
Bickford, David	Strafford	01	2000-H-2553-L
Blanchard, MaryAnn	Rockingham	33	2000-S-2344-L
Bradley, Jeb	Carroll	08	2000-H-2134-R
Bradley, Jeb	Carroll	08	2000-H-2334-R
Bridle, Russell	Rockingham	22	2000-H-2325-R
Brothers, Richard	Grafton	06	2000-H-2237-R
Brothers, Richard	Grafton	06	2000-H-2284-R
Brown, George	Strafford	17	2000-H-2483-R
Bruno, Pierre	Hillsborough	04	2000-H-2331-R
Buckley, Raymond	Hillsborough	44	2000-H-2584-R
Burling, Peter	Sullivan	01	2000-H-2140-R
Burling, Peter	Sullivan	01	2000-H-2194-R

Burling, Peter	Sullivan	01	2000-H-2396-R
Calawa, Leon	Hillsborough	17	2000-H-2017-R
Calawa, Leon	Hillsborough	17	2000-H-2274-L
Calawa, Leon	Hillsborough	17	2000-S-2762-R
Carlson, Donald	Hillsborough	19	2000-H-2237-R
Christie, Andrew	Rockingham	22	2000-H-2315-R
Clark, Martha	Rockingham	36	2000-H-2365-R
Clark, Martha	Rockingham	36	2000-H-2432-R
Clark, Martha	Rockingham	36	2000-H-2534-R
Clegg, Robert	Hillsborough	23	2000-H-2017-R
Clegg, Robert	Hillsborough	23	2000-H-2140-R
Clegg, Robert	Hillsborough	23	2000-H-2381-L
Clegg, Robert	Hillsborough	23	2000-H-2383-L
Clemons, Jane	Hillsborough	31	2000-H-2016-L
Cloutier, John	Sullivan	08	2000-H-2255-R
Cloutier, John	Sullivan	08	2000-H-2397-R
Cobb, John	Grafton	05	2000-H-2741-R
Copenhaver, Marion	Grafton	10	2000-H-2311-R
Copenhaver, Marion	Grafton	10	2000-H-2432-R
Copenhaver, Marion	Grafton	10	2000-S-2605-R
Corbin, C David	Rockingham	25	2000-H-2565-L
Cote, Patricia	Rockingham	09	2000-H-2530-R
Cox, Russell	Rockingham	24	2000-H-2751-R
Curran, James	Hillsborough	09	2000-H-2749-R
Czech, Stanley	Belknap	05	2000-H-2109-L
Dalianis, Griffin	Hillsborough	35	2000-H-2054-R
Dalianis, Griffin	Hillsborough	35	2000-H-2201-R
Dalrymple, Janeen	Rockingham	26	2000-H-2160-R

Dalrymple, Janeen	Rockingham	26	2000-H-2429-R
Dalrymple, Janeen	Rockingham	26	2000-H-2458-R
Dalrymple, Janeen	Rockingham	26	2000-H-2484-R
Daneault, Gabriel	Merrimack	12	2000-H-2265-R
Daniels, Gary	Hillsborough	13	2000-H-2464-L
Daniels, Gary	Hillsborough	13	2000-S-2686-R
Daniels, Gary	Hillsborough	13	2000-H-2758-R
Davis, Francis	Merrimack	12	2000-H-2265-R
Davis, Francis	Merrimack	12	2000-H-2612-R
Davis, Francis	Merrimack	12	2000-H-2749-R
Dickinson, Howard	Carroll	02	2000-H-2140-R
DiFruscia, Anthony	Rockingham	27	2000-H-2201-R
Dokmo, Cynthia	Hillsborough	14	2000-H-2313-R
Donovan, Thomas	Sullivan	11	2000-H-2398-R
Donovan, Thomas	Sullivan	11	2000-H-2453-R
Donovan, Thomas	Sullivan	11	2000-H-2729-R
Doucette, Richard	Cheshire	19	2000-H-2045-L
Dwyer, Paul	Hillsborough	43	2000-S-2225-R
Dwyer, Paul	Hillsborough	43	2000-H-2270-L
Dyer, Merton	Hillsborough	08	2000-S-2225-R
Dyer, Merton	Hillsborough	08	2000-H-2244-R
Dyer, Merton	Hillsborough	08	2000-H-2432-R
Dyer, Merton	Hillsborough	08	2000-H-2603-R
Emerton, Lawrence	Hillsborough	07	2000-H-2243-R
Emerton, Lawrence	Hillsborough	07	2000-H-2272-R
Emerton, Lawrence	Hillsborough	07	2000-H-2453-R
Emerton, Lawrence	Hillsborough	07	2000-H-2492-R
Estabrook, Iris	Strafford	08	2000-H-2448-L
Fenton, James	Hillsborough	24	2000-H-2347-R

Flanagan, Natalie	Rockingham	14	2000-H-2749-R
Flora, Kathleen	Hillsborough	15	2000-S-2628-R
Fortnam, Janet	Merrimack	12	2000-H-2265-R
Foster, Linda	Hillsborough	10	2000-H-2757-R
Francoeur, Sheila	Rockingham	22	2000-H-2429-R
Franks, Suzan	Hillsborough	26	2000-H-2016-L
French, Barbara	Merrimack	03	2000-H-2271-R
French, Barbara	Merrimack	03	2000-H-2272-R
French, Barbara	Merrimack	03	2000-H-2273-R
Gile, Mary	Merrimack	16	2000-H-2379-R
Gilman, G Michael	Grafton	01	2000-H-2296-L
Gilman, G Michael	Grafton	01	2000-H-2297-R
Gilman, G Michael	Grafton	01	2000-H-2299-R
Gilman, G Michael	Grafton	01	2000-H-2300-R
Gilmore, Gary	Strafford	11	2000-H-2044-R
Gilmore, Gary	Strafford	11	2000-H-2079-R
Gilmore, Gary	Strafford	11	2000-H-2192-R
Gilmore, Gary	Strafford	11	2000-H-2372-L
Gilmore, Gary	Strafford	11	2000-H-2373-R
Gilmore, Gary	Strafford	11	2000-H-2560-R
Gilmore, Gary	Strafford	11	2000-H-2568-R
Gleason, John	Rockingham	13	2000-H-2730-R
Guay, Lawrence	Coos	06	2000-H-2373-R
Haettenschwiller, Alphonse	Hillsborough	29	2000-H-2272-R
Haettenschwiller, Alphonse	Hillsborough	29	2000-H-2729-R
Hager, Elizabeth	Merrimack	18	2000-H-2172-R
Hall, Betty	Hillsborough	20	2000-H-2418-L
Hall, David	Grafton	13	2000-H-2498-R

Hall, David	Grafton	13	2000-H-2500-R
Harmon, Hobart	Grafton	08	2000-H-2280-R
Harmon, Hobart	Grafton	08	2000-H-2284-R
Hinman, Harry	Grafton	07	2000-H-2359-R
Horton, Lynn	Coos	03	2000-H-2749-R
Howard, Godfrey	Carroll	10	2000-H-2373-R
Jean, Loren	Hillsborough	17	2000-H-2303-R
Jean, Loren	Hillsborough	17	2000-H-2553-L
Johnson, Lionel	Hillsborough	40	2000-H-2461-R
Johnson, Nancy	Strafford	05	2000-H-2507-R
Jones, Constance	Sullivan	03	2000-H-2578-L
Katsakiores, Phyllis	Rockingham	13	2000-H-2429-R
Katsakiores, Phyllis	Rockingham	13	2000-H-2453-R
Katsakiores, Phyllis	Rockingham	13	2000-S-2605-R
Keans, Sandra	Strafford	16	2000-H-2180-R
Kelley, Jane	Rockingham	22	2000-H-2179-R
Kennedy, Richard	Merrimack	07	2000-H-2044-R
Kennedy, Richard	Merrimack	07	2000-H-2260-R
Kenney, Joseph	Carroll	06	2000-S-2473-R
Kenney, Joseph	Carroll	06	2000-H-2520-R
Kenney, Joseph	Carroll	06	2000-H-2521-R
Keye, Harvey	Hillsborough	30	2000-H-2201-R
Keye, Harvey	Hillsborough	30	2000-H-2365-R
Keye, Harvey	Hillsborough	30	2000-H-2751-R
Knowles, William	Strafford	11	2000-H-2235-R
Knowles, William	Strafford	11	2000-H-2756-R
Konys, Christine	Hillsborough	33	2000-H-2017-R
Konys, Christine	Hillsborough	33	2000-H-2365-R
L'Heureux, Robert	Hillsborough	18	2000-H-2237-R

Langer, Ray	Merrimack	11	2000-H-2031-R
Langer, Ray	Merrimack	11	2000-H-2237-R
Langer, Ray	Merrimack	11	2000-H-2603-R
Langley, Jane	Rockingham	24	2000-H-2546-R
LaRose, Richard	Hillsborough	27	2000-H-2017-R
Larrabee, David	Merrimack	09	2000-H-2067-R
Lavoie, Gerard	Merrimack	12	2000-H-2265-R
Leber, William	Merrimack	01	2000-H-2751-R
Leber, William	Merrimack	01	2000-H-2754-R
Leishman, Peter	Hillsborough	13	2000-H-2377-L
Leone, Richard	Sullivan	02	2000-H-2757-R
Letourneau, Robert	Rockingham	13	2000-H-2031-R
Lynde, Harold	Hillsborough	24	2000-H-2562-R
Lynde, Harold	Hillsborough	24	2000-H-2563-R
Lynde, Harold	Hillsborough	24	2000-H-2741-R
MacGillivray, Jeffrey	Hillsborough	21	2000-H-2586-R
MacNeil, Allen	Grafton	07	2000-H-2756-R
Major, Norman	Rockingham	16	2000-H-2730-R
Marple, Richard	Merrimack	11	2000-H-2115-L
Marple, Richard	Merrimack	11	2000-H-2116-R
Marple, Richard	Merrimack	11	2000-H-2163-L
Marple, Richard	Merrimack	11	2000-H-2320-L
Marshall, Kenneth	Merrimack	04	2000-H-2388-L
Martel, Andre	Hillsborough	45	2000-H-2049-R
Martel, Andre	Hillsborough	45	2000-H-2051-R
Martel, Andre	Hillsborough	45	2000-H-2429-R
Martel, Andre	Hillsborough	45	2000-H-2453-R
Martel, Andre	Hillsborough	45	2000-S-2605-R

Martel, Andre	Hillsborough	45	2000-H-2729-R
Martin, Mary	Hillsborough	34	2000-H-2539-R
McCarty, Winston	Hillsborough	38	2000-S-2762-R
McGuirk, Paul	Cheshire	01	2000-H-2031-R
McGuirk, Paul	Cheshire	01	2000-H-2328-L
McKinley, Robert	Strafford	02	2000-H-2059-R
McKinley, Robert	Strafford	02	2000-H-2251-L
Mears, Edgar	Coos	07	2000-H-2179-R
Melcher, Harold	Hillsborough	11	2000-H-2030-R
Millham, Alida	Belknap	04	2000-H-2137-R
Milligan, Robert	Hillsborough	18	2000-H-2031-R
Mirski, Paul	Grafton	12	2000-H-2165-R
Mirski, Paul	Grafton	12	2000-H-2189-R
Mirski, Paul	Grafton	12	2000-H-2229-R
Mirski, Paul	Grafton	12	2000-H-2276-L
Mirski, Paul	Grafton	12	2000-H-2565-L
Mock, Henry	Carroll	03	2000-H-2501-L
Moore, Carol	Merrimack	19	2000-H-2279-R
Moriarty, Mary	Hillsborough	18	2000-H-2119-L
Mosher, William	Hillsborough	30	2000-H-2458-R
Musler, George	Strafford	06	2000-H-2418-L
Musler, George	Strafford	06	2000-H-2420-R
Musler, George	Strafford	06	2000-H-2423-L
Musler, George	Strafford	06	2000-H-2424-R
Musler, George	Strafford	06	2000-H-2425-R
Musler, George	Strafford	06	2000-H-2741-R
Nordgren, Sharon	Grafton	10	2000-H-2271-R
Nowe, Ronald	Rockingham	03	2000-H-2237-R
Nowe, Ronald	Rockingham	03	2000-H-2238-R

Nowe, Ronald	Rockingham	03	2000-H-2458-R
O'Hearn, Jane	Hillsborough	26	2000-H-2448-L
O'Keefe, Patricia	Rockingham	21	2000-H-2092-L
O'Keefe, Patricia	Rockingham	21	2000-S-2642-R
O'Neil, Michael	Rockingham	22	2000-H-2325-R
Owen, Derek	Merrimack	06	2000-H-2030-R
Packard, Sherman	Rockingham	29	2000-H-2390-L
Packard, Sherman	Rockingham	29	2000-H-2730-R
Pantelakos, Laura	Rockingham	30	2000-H-2007-L
Patten, Betsey	Carroll	09	2000-H-2404-R
Patten, Betsey	Carroll	09	2000-H-2449-R
Patten, Betsey	Carroll	09	2000-H-2756-R
Patten, Betsey	Carroll	09	2000-H-2757-R
Pepino, Leo	Hillsborough	40	2000-H-2024-R
Pepino, Leo	Hillsborough	40	2000-H-2316-R
Pepino, Leo	Hillsborough	40	2000-H-2317-R
Pepino, Leo	Hillsborough	40	2000-H-2318-R
Peterson, Andrew	Hillsborough	08	2000-H-2183-L
Philbrick, Donald	Carroll	04	2000-H-2404-R
Phinizy, James	Sullivan	07	2000-H-2045-L
Phinizy, James	Sullivan	07	2000-H-2328-L
Phinizy, James	Sullivan	07	2000-S-2613-R
Phinizy, James	Sullivan	07	2000-S-2744-R
Pilliod, James	Belknap	03	2000-H-2242-R
Pilliod, James	Belknap	03	2000-H-2272-R
Pilliod, James	Belknap	03	2000-H-2273-R
Pilliod, James	Belknap	03	2000-H-2379-R
Pilliod, James	Belknap	03	2000-H-2441-R

Potter, Frances	Merrimack	24	2000-H-2179-R
Pratt, Irene	Cheshire	05	2000-H-2271-R
Pratt, Irene	Cheshire	05	2000-H-2272-R
Pratt, Irene	Cheshire	05	2000-H-2273-R
Pratt, John	Cheshire	02	2000-H-2328-L
Pratt, John	Cheshire	02	2000-S-2613-R
Quandt, Marshall	Rockingham	20	2000-H-2049-R
Quandt, Marshall	Rockingham	20	2000-H-2051-R
Quandt, Marshall	Rockingham	20	2000-H-2275-R
Quandt, Marshall	Rockingham	20	2000-H-2453-R
Reardon, Tara	Merrimack	23	2000-H-2735-R
Richardson, Barbara	Cheshire	12	2000-H-2273-R
Richardson, Barbara	Cheshire	12	2000-H-2498-R
Robb-Theroux, Amy	Sullivan	09	2000-H-2360-R
Robb-Theroux, Amy	Sullivan	09	2000-H-2398-R
Robb-Theroux, Amy	Sullivan	09	2000-S-2621-R
Roberts, William	Cheshire	04	2000-S-2714-R
Robertson, Timothy	Cheshire	18	2000-H-2027-L
Rodd, Beth	Merrimack	03	2000-H-2273-R
Rodd, Beth	Merrimack	03	2000-H-2412-L
Rodrigue, Robert	Coos	07	2000-H-2406-R
Rodrigue, Robert	Coos	07	2000-H-2407-R
Rollo, Michael	Strafford	10	2000-H-2121-R
Rosen, Ralph	Belknap	07	2000-H-2088-R
Royce, H Charles	Cheshire	09	2000-H-2466-R
Royce, H Charles	Cheshire	09	2000-H-2467-R
Russell, Ronald	Cheshire	15	2000-H-2226-R
Salatiello, Thomas	Belknap	02	2000-H-2420-R
Salatiello, Thomas	Belknap	02	2000-H-2477-R

Seldin, Gloria	Merrimack	17	2000-H-2179-R
Shultis, Elizabeth	Rockingham	33	2000-S-2762-R
Smith, Edwin	Cheshire	06	2000-H-2413-R
Smith, Marjorie	Strafford	08	2000-H-2019-R
Soltani, Tony	Merrimack	10	2000-H-2126-R
Splaine, James	Rockingham	34	2000-H-2202-R
Splaine, James	Rockingham	34	2000-H-2749-R
St Cyr, Gerard	Merrimack	08	2000-H-2389-R
Sullivan, P Judith	Carroll	02	2000-H-2057-L
Taylor, Kathleen	Strafford	11	2000-H-2751-R
Tholl, John	Coos	05	2000-H-2732-L
Thomas, John	Belknap	03	2000-H-2242-R
Thulander, O Alan	Hillsborough	06	2000-H-2032-R
Torr, Franklin	Strafford	12	2000-H-2432-R
Torressen, Gary	Carroll	10	2000-H-2565-L
Vachon, Dennis	Strafford	04	2000-H-2734-R
Vaillancourt, Steve	Hillsborough	44	2000-H-2163-L
Vaillancourt, Steve	Hillsborough	44	2000-H-2210-L
Vaillancourt, Steve	Hillsborough	44	2000-H-2212-R
Vaillancourt, Steve	Hillsborough	44	2000-H-2335-R
Vaillancourt, Steve	Hillsborough	44	2000-H-2336-R
Vaillancourt, Steve	Hillsborough	44	2000-H-2533-R
Vaughn, Charles	Rockingham	35	2000-H-2754-R
Wall, Janet	Strafford	09	2000-S-2649-R
Wallner, Mary Jane	Merrimack	24	2000-H-2579-R
Weatherspoon, Jackie	Rockingham	20	2000-H-2461-R
Welch, David	Rockingham	18	2000-H-2140-R
Wendelboe, Francine	Belknap	02	2000-H-2729-R

Weyler, Kenneth	Rockingham	18	2000-H-2051-R
Weyler, Kenneth	Rockingham	18	2000-H-2074-R
Weyler, Kenneth	Rockingham	18	2000-H-2096-R
Weyler, Kenneth	Rockingham	18	2000-H-2101-R
Weyler, Kenneth	Rockingham	18	2000-H-2102-R
Whalley, Michael	Merrimack	05	2000-H-2754-R
White, Donald	Hillsborough	25	2000-H-2334-R
White, Donald	Hillsborough	25	2000-H-2373-R
Whittemore, James	Merrimack	13	2000-H-2441-R
Whittemore, James	Merrimack	13	2000-H-2458-R
Williams, Carol	Hillsborough	39	2000-H-2365-R
Williams, Carol	Hillsborough	39	2000-H-2432-R
Young, David	Sullivan	06	2000-H-2328-L
Young, David	Sullivan	06	2000-H-2403-R