

State of New Hampshire HOUSE RECORD

Second Year of the 156th Session of the General Court Calendar and Journal of the 2000 Session

Vol. 22 Concord N.H Friday, April 7, 2000 No. 30

Contains: Hearings, Work Sessions, Notices, Reports and Amendments for April 13.

HOUSE CALENDAR

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE:

The House will meet on Thursday, April 13, at 10:00 a.m. and also on April 20.

Although there are not many bills listed for action next week, we expect the session may be lengthy. In addition to welcoming our special guests for Tartan Day we will also be voting on updated revenue estimates, and considering Senate amendments to House Bills.

We may also be considering what might be an appropriate response to the Attorney General's report on Judge Thayer, which has been mailed to you under separate cover. Copies of the AG's investigative reports on the matter are available for members at the Sergeant-at-Arms counter.

Some of our members will recall serving with our late Majority Leader Caroline Gross. In addition to serving with distinction in the House, Caroline, with her husband Martin, was one of the founders of WEVO New Hampshire Public Radio. With encouragement in the form of a House Resolution, WEVO recently expanded its service to the North Country. They are broadcasting from Berlin, and have designated the station as WEVC in Caroline's memory. This is a fitting tribute to a wonderfully talented public servant.

Chairmen and Vice Chairmen will meet Tuesday, April 11, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 201, LOB.

Donna Sytek, Speaker

BRIEFING
on
ELECTRIC UTILITY RESTRUCTURING

Presentation by Representative Jeb Bradley
and other members of the
Legislative Oversight Committee
Wednesday, April 12, 2000
2:00 p.m.
Rooms 201-203, LOB

Reps. Gene G. Chandler and Peter H. Burling

NOTICE

There will be a Republican Caucus on Thursday, April 13 at 9:15 a.m. in Representatives Hall.

Rep. Gene G. Chandler, Majority Leader

NOTICE

There will be a Democratic Caucus on Tuesday, April 11 at 9:00 a.m. in Rooms 306-308 of the Legislative Office Building and on Thursday, April 13 at 9:00 a.m. in Rooms 305-307, LOB

Rep. Peter H. Burling, Democratic Leader

HOUSE DEADLINES

April 20, 2000, Thursday	Last day to act on all Senate bills going to a second committee
May 18, 2000, Thursday	Last day to act on Senate bills
May 23, 2000, Tuesday	Last day to form committees of conference
May 26, 2000, Friday	Last day to sign off on Committee of Conference reports
May 31, 2000, Wednesday	Last day to act on Committee of Conference reports

THURSDAY, APRIL 13
CONSENT CALENDAR

EDUCATION

SB 318-FN, relative to proposed joint maintenance agreements. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Russell N. Cox for Education: This bill is the product of a study committee and permits school districts to utilize joint

maintenance agreements and to issue bonds and be eligible for school building aid grants. It also amends existing legislation by repealing a specific existing joint maintenance agreement that was never consummated. Vote 15-0.

SB 319, relative to interstate school districts. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Elizabeth K. Hoadley for Education: All testimony in the hearing supported the bill. Elementary students in the Rivendale School District shall meet the standards established by one of the two states (New Hampshire and Vermont) with its passage. High school students have been addressed in earlier legislation. One result of this legislation is that students will not be required to take duplicate and time-consuming double assessments. Vermont state standards are both recent and rigorous. Vote 15-1.

SB 352, repealing the equipment challenge grant program within the New Hampshire community technical colleges. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Susan B. Durham for Education: The Equipment Challenge Grant Program was established in 1992 as a pilot program. It did good work for two years and has not been used since. The Technical Community College System is out-of-compliance, as shown by our audit, due to an inactive program. The Technical System continues to pursue this goal. Vote 16-0.

SB 432-FN-A, relative to state assistance for teachers applying for national board certification. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Iris W. Estabrook for Education: The amendment authorizes the Dept. of Education, through the Department's existing budgetary allocations, to reimburse costs associated with ten teachers becoming certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. These teachers are required to perform a minimum of three years teaching service in New Hampshire following National Board Certification. The bill recognizes teachers' applying for National Board Certification. Vote 16-0.

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

SB 313, establishing a commission to study the relationship between postsecondary education and recipients of temporary assistance to needy families. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Marion L. Copenhaver for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: The committee unanimously supported the creation of this commission to look at how successful New Hampshire's welfare reform program has been in helping recipients achieve long-term economic independence. This commission will attempt to evaluate education options and access to post-secondary programs for persons under New Hampshire's temporary assistance to needy families welfare system. Vote 14-0.

SB 377, relative to peer support programs within the department of health and human services. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Daniel M. Burnham for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: This legislation requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to establish peer support programs within the department. It also grants the Commissioner rulemaking authority for the purposes of this bill. It thereby, provides supporting legislation for one of the department's most responsive, innovative and cost effective programs. There will be no additional cost to the department, as this will validate a very popular program that is already occurring. Vote 13-1.

SB 400-L, relative to emergency medical and trauma services. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Peter L. Batula for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to suspend or revoke a person's authority to operate under state and local protocols. The sole sponsor of this bill asked the committee to ITL the bill and this recommendation was also embraced by all those who came to testify before the committee on the bill. The situation this bill would address is being worked on by all those involved. Vote 14-0.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

HB 1627, relative to the exchange of certain land in the town of Rindge. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. William E. Leber for Public Works and Highways: This bill provides for equal exchange of approximately 0.11 acre of land between the town of Ridge and Cambridge Boy Scout Camp, Inc. with certain property rights possessed by the state pursuant to the Land Conservation Investment Program. The land would be used by the town of Rindge to straighten the road to provide a safer travel lane on Old New Ipswich Road. The Office of State Planning supports the bill, and finds the impacts are not

extensive and do not impair the value of the conservation easement. Legislative approval is needed to convert the use of land to non-conservation. The amendment only changed the acreage from "0.07" to "approximately 0.11" acre. The committee strongly supports the Ought to Pass with Amendment. Vote 16-0.

STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HJR 26, urging Congress to pass legislation ensuring improved access to local television for households in unserved and underserved rural areas. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. George R. Rubin for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: The testimony supported the need to ask Congress to respond to the needs of citizens in underserved rural areas of our state to improve access to local television. Vote 13-0.

SCR 4, urging the federal government to establish a new zip code for the town of Madbury. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Marshall E. Quandt for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: The small town of Madbury is under the zip code of the city of Dover and suffers from either delays or loss of mail. The two mismatched delivery areas share nothing in common, not schools, municipal departments, or governing authorities. Vote 13-0.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

REGULAR CALENDAR

COMMERCE

HB 1623, relative to the disclosure of customer financial information by financial institutions. MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Martha Fuller Clark for the Majority of Commerce: In November of 1999 Congress passed a sweeping rewrite of financial law that will allow banks, insurance companies and stock brokerages to merge with one another. Known as the Financial Modernization Act, this legislation will take effect in November 2000. The legislation requires that banks provide their customers with an opt-out procedure annually beginning this November if they don't want their banks to disclose their financial information to outside companies. HB 1623 could pre-empt this requirement by legislating opt-in rather than opt-out for New Hampshire financial institutions, and their customers. This change in process would have both legal and financial implications that could result in increased costs, increased consumer solicitations and potential loss of businesses and services to New Hampshire consumers. While HB 1623 raises legitimate concerns surrounding this issue of privacy with regard to an individual's personal financial information, the committee believes it is premature to pass this legislation which could have unintended consequences for the state's economy. The committee also believes that the consumer is adequately protected by the opt-out requirement in federal legislation. The committee will continue to follow the very critical issue of privacy vs. the technology information revolution, and may very well file legislation to address this issue once the federal rules have been released (due out in June 2000); the Federal Modernization Act goes into effect (November); and more information is available. Vote 12-1.

Rep. Linda L. Garrish for the Minority of Commerce: HB 1623 would put in place significant and expanded consumer privacy protections regarding the sharing of personal information between financial institutions. The Financial Modernization Act addresses only a limited form of consumer protection. The premise of HB 1623 is that all consumers have the fundamental right of privacy and should have the first and final say about what happens to their personal information. It seeks to protect all consumers especially the most economically vulnerable. The federal act was purposely amended to provide the opportunity for states to enact stricter consumer protections to address only this issue. Twenty-three state attorney generals, including New Hampshire and all other New England states, opposed the Financial Modernization Act because it provided only that consumers could "opt-out" of disclosure in order to avoid having their personal information shared with non-affiliated parties, yet did not provide the same provision between affiliated institutions. The attorney generals further felt that an "opt-out" provision, such as provided in HB 1623, was a more affirmative protection for the consumer since the consumer could make such a choice prior to the institution using, sharing, or selling it for any purpose. Ultimately, this bill would allow our constituents and not financial institutions to decide whether and to what extent non-public personal information can be used by a financial institution. Seventeen other states are currently addressing this type of legislation. .

EDUCATION

SB 210-FN-L, relative to payment by the state for certain court-ordered placements of special education students. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Clair A. Snyder for Education: This bill requires the state to pay the cost of special education services provided for all court-ordered, out-of-district placements of special education pupils. The amendment requires that the sending district reimburse the Department of Education for either the average per pupil cost or for the actual pro-rated cost of the special education or educationally related services. Vote 16-0.

STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SCR 3, rescinding the 1979 call for a federal constitutional convention. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Dennis H. Fields for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: The legislature of NH since 1979 has always reaffirmed its original decision for a federal constitutional convention and continues to support the many other state legislatures who wish to improve the federal budget. Former United States Senator from New Hampshire Warren Rudman succeeded some distance toward that goal. Vote 11-3.

LAID ON TABLE – 1999 SESSION

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 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.

LAID ON TABLE – 2000 SESSION

CACR 2, relating to supreme court rules. Providing that supreme court rules may not be inconsistent with statutes. (Pending question is reconsideration.)

CACR 33, relating to meetings of the legislature. Providing that the legislature shall assemble biennially. (Pending question is interim study.)

HB 637-FN, establishing certain standards of accountability for health maintenance organizations and other entities providing health insurance through a managed care system. (Pending question is the adoption of the committee report – ought to pass with amendment.)

HB 1229, requiring the completion of a rate proceeding prior to legislative approval of a settlement agreement with PSNH. (Pending question is the adoption of the majority committee report – interim study.)

HB 1375, establishing financial assurance for guaranteed promise of customer repayment of rate reduction bonds. (Pending

question is the adoption of the committee report – interim study.)

HB 1521-FN-L, relative to the definition and administration of an adequate education. (Pending question is the adoption of the committee report – ought to pass with amendment.)

HOUSE BILLS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

HB 75, changing the number required for a quorum on the commission for human rights.

(House Nonconcurrent; C-of-C 2/3/00)

HB 97, relative to the right to farm. (House Nonconcurrent; C-of-C 2/24/00)

HB 228, clarifying permissible political expenditures. (House Nonconcurrent; C-of-C 2/17/00)

HB 422, relative to advertising by rent-to-own business. (House Concurred 2/3/00)

HB 449-FN, requiring boating safety education. (House Concurred 3/23/00)

HB 553-FN-A, establishing a commission on the status of men. (House Nonconcurrent; C-of-C 2/17/00)

HB 640-FN, relative to grievance procedures of managed care organizations. (House Concurred 2/17/00)

HB 690-FN-L, relative to charter schools and open enrollment districts. (SJ 2/3/00)

HB 1105, ratifying article 9 of the 1999 Seabrook annual town meeting and the 1999 Epping annual town meeting. (House Concurred 2/10/00)

HB 1161, making technical changes to the New Hampshire Aeronautics Act and establishing a committee to study revisions to the state aeronautics laws. (SJ 3/30/00)

HB 1198, establishing a procedure for the 2001 voter checklist verification. (House Nonconcurrent; C-of-C 3/23/00)

HB 1200-FN, relative to the application of education property tax hardship relief to estate planning trusts and relative to eligibility for hardship relief. (House Nonconcurrent; C-of-C 3/23/00)

HB 1264-FN, relative to the unlawful use of theft detection shielding devices. (SJ 3/30/00)

HB 1287, relative to the membership of the water council. (House Concurred 3/23/00)

HB 1301, relative to regional appointments to the state committee on aging. (SJ 3/30/00)

HB 1374, extending the reporting date for the sex offender issues study committee. (House Concurred 3/29/00)

HB 1378, establishing a task force to conduct an ongoing study of the feasibility of re-establishing passenger rail service on the Eastern Line from Newburyport, Massachusetts to Kittery, Maine. (House Concurred 3/23/00)

HB 1409, establishing a committee to study the feasibility of reestablishing the Lawrence, Massachusetts to Manchester, New Hampshire rail service line and the Concord to Lebanon Northern passenger rail service line. (House Concurred 3/23/00)

HB 1413, relative to the rights of ownership of cemetery plots or burial spaces. (SJ 3/30/00)

HB 1435, establishing a committee to study the immediate and long-term impact of changing methodology of communications and information technology as it applies to the right-to-know law. (House Concurred 3/29/00)

HB 1455, relative to the authority of the fish and game department for the electronic issuance of licenses, permits, stamps, and tags. (House Concurred 3/23/00)

HB 1588, relative to the authority of the department of transportation regarding rail safety inspections. (SJ 3/30/00)

HCR 21, urging the federal government to increase the pay to military personnel. (House Concurred 3/23/00)

HJR 6, encouraging the revitalization of the northern rail line from Concord to Lebanon. (House Concurred 2/3/00)

COMMITTEES OF CONFERENCE

HB 75, changing the number required for a quorum on the commission for human rights. (Reps. O'Neil, Mercer, Zolla and Murphy; Sens. Cohen, Larsen and Roberge)

HB 97, relative to the right to farm. (Reps. Babson, K. Marshall, Patten and Phinizy; Sens. Below, Wheeler and Krueger)

HB 228, clarifying permissible political expenditures. (Reps. Clegg, Horton, Letourneau and Clemons; Sens. Trombly, Eaton and McCarley)

HB 553-FN-A, establishing a commission on the status of men. (Reps. Sapareto, Zolla, Boyce and Burkush; Sens. Cohen, Larsen and Brown)

HB 1198, establishing a procedure for the 2001 voter checklist verification. (Reps. Clegg, Horton, Stritch and Buckley; Sens. Trombly, Disnard and Eaton)

HB 1200-FN, relative to the application of education property tax hardship relief to estate planning trusts and relative to eligibility for hardship relief. (Reps. Major, Anderson, Nichols and Wallin; Sens. McCarley, Gordon and Larsen)

SB 135-FN, relative to water supply land protection grants. (Sens. Russman, Johnson and Pignatelli; Reps. Royce, Whalley, Downing and Stone)

SB 143, relative to penalties for incest. (Sens. Pignatelli, Squires and Brown; Reps. Welch, Lozeau, Tholl and Knowles)

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. (Sens. J. King, F. King and Wheeler; Reps. Dyer, Mercer, Holbrook and Lynch)

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

MONDAY, APRIL 10

COMMISSION ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (HB 532, Chapter 135:3, Laws of 1999), Room 207, LOB

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

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

1:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB

2:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 1624**, relative to administrative rules concerning sales of pari-mutuel pools.

FISCAL COMMITTEE (RSA 14:30-a), Room 102, LOB

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee of the Fiscal Committee of the General Court for requesting proposals on tax simulation and forecasting models. Non-public session.

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TAX EQUITY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION (HB 117, Chapter 17:55, Laws of 1999), Rooms 210-211, LOB

1:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

CAPITAL BUDGET OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (RSA 17-J:2), Room 201, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW, Room 206, LOB

10:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***SB 448***, establishing a guardians ad litem board.

COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB

10:00 a.m. ***SB 369***, establishing a committee to conduct a study on the need for standards to protect health information privacy.

11:00 a.m. ***SB 418***, relative to liquor liability insurance coverage.

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

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB

10:00 a.m. ***SB 444-FN***, relative to methadone maintenance treatment and ***SB 445-FN***, relative to methadone maintenance treatment.

1:30 p.m. ***SB 419-FN-L***, establishing the crime of negligent storage of a firearm.

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

EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB

10:00 a.m. ***SB 360***, adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention act

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

2:00 p.m. Full committee work session on school accountability.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 303, LOB

10:00 a.m. Continued public hearing on ***SB 307***, relative to biosolids and short paper fiber.

11:00 a.m. Public hearing on proposed amendment to ***SB 403-FN-A***, making an appropriation to the department of agriculture, markets, and food for the inspection of apiaries and honeybee swarms. (Copies of the proposed amendment are available from the Sergeant-at-Arms office.)

1:00 p.m. Continued public hearings on ***SB 443***, relative to veterinarian reimbursement for the animal population control program.

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

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB

9:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***SB 414-FN***, reorganizing the divisions of the department of corrections.

10:00 a.m. Full committee executive session on pending legislation.

FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB

9:00 a.m. Revenue Estimates

10:00 a.m. **HB 2000-FN-L**, relative to a 10-year transportation plan.

Executive session on pending legislation to follow.

FINANCE (DIVISION IV), Rooms 210-211, LOB

1:00 p.m. Work and executive session on the following bills:

HB 1626-FN, establishing a program to rebate certain excessive property tax payments of eligible taxpayers.

HB 1628-FN-A-L, establishing a reformed public school financing system for ensuring educational adequacy for all children; establishing a state public education assistance system funded solely with state tax revenues, and making an appropriation therefor.

CACR 23, relating to the responsibility and authority of the general court to determine the content, extent, and funding of a public education and the use of monies received from the enactment of a new personal income tax. Providing that (a) If the general court enacts a new personal income tax, all monies received from such income tax and all the interest received on such monies shall, after deducting the necessary costs of administration, be appropriated and used exclusively to fulfill the state's duty to cherish the interest of public schools under article 83 of part second, and no part of such monies shall be transferred or diverted to any other purpose whatsoever. (b) The general court shall have the authority to determine the content, extent, and funding of a public education and that the state may fulfill its responsibility to provide to all citizens the opportunity for a public education by exercising its power to levy assessments, rates, and taxes, or by delegating this power, in whole or part, to a political subdivision; provided that upon delegation, such assessments, rates, and taxes are proportional and reasonable throughout the state or the political subdivision in which they are imposed.

CACR 39, relating to the funding of public education. Providing that the state shall fund an amount not less than 30 percent of the total annual statewide cost of public education for kindergarten through grade 12 and that the general court shall have the power to apportion this amount by statute; that the state shall support access to a continuum of educational opportunities including early childhood and postsecondary education at a financial level to be deemed appropriate by statute; and that beginning April 1, 2001, no property tax in any form shall be used to fund the state's obligation to cherish and support public education.

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

10:00 a.m. **SB 367**, establishing a prescription drug access study committee.

1:15 p.m. Continued public hearing on **SB 324**, relative to personal care services and providers.

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

JUDICIARY, Room 208, LOB

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **SB 358**, relative to court reporting services.

10:00 a.m. **SB 308**, relative to the adoption of a minor child by the natural grandparents and relative to de novo appeals to the superior court in abuse and neglect proceedings before the family division in Grafton and Rockingham counties.

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

1:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on **SB 338**, relative to trustee process.

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION, Room 203, LOB

11:30 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB

9:30 a.m. Continued public hearing on **HB 1625**, requiring the attorney general to initiate a declaratory judgment action concerning record title matters related to the Green Hills subdivision in the town of Raymond.

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

10:00 a.m. Interim study full committee work session on **HB 1590**, relative to prohibiting a zoning ordinance from a residential preexisting nonconforming property owner's ability to rebuild after a fire loss and **HB 536**, authorizing municipalities to exempt from the local property tax personal property employed in the generation and production of electric power.

11:00 a.m. Interim study full committee work session on **HB 1389-LOCAL**, relative to the Nute High School and library trustees.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 304, LOB

10:00 a.m. Public hearing on proposed amendments to **HB 1618**, relative to requiring legislative approval for mergers, acquisitions, or restructuring of certain electric utility corporations. (Copies of the proposed amendments will be available from the Sergeant-at-Arms Office.)

At the conclusion of the public hearing, full committee work session on **HB 1618**, relative to requiring legislative approval for mergers, acquisitions, or restructuring of certain electric utility corporations and **SB 376**, relative to the jurisdiction of the public utilities commission to determine consequential damages.

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

TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB

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

WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES, Room 307, LOB

10:00 a.m. Interim study subcommittee work session on **HB 1152**, relative to the establishment of crossbow hunting seasons.

10:30 a.m. **SB 399-FN-A**, making an appropriation to the fish and game department for the purposes of the wildlife damage control program.

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW, Room 206, LOB

11:15 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB

1:30 p.m. **SB 316**, relative to "most favored nation" or "equally favored nation" provisions in insurance provider contracts.

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

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB

10:00 a.m. ***SB 439-FN***, relative to motor vehicle offenses resulting in serious bodily injury.

10:45 a.m. ***SB 452***, increasing to \$25 per game date the amount operators of bingo games may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

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

EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB

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

ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB

1:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on ***SB 447-FN***, relative to campaign contributions and expenditures.

1:30 p.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 303, LOB

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

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 202, LOB

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

FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB

1:15 p.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

FINANCE - (DIVISION I), Room 212, LOB

1:00 p.m. Work and executive session on ***HB 735-FN-A***, establishing a contributory judicial retirement plan.

FINANCE (DIVISION IV), Rooms 210-211, LOB

9:00 a.m. Work and executive session on the following bills:

HB 1626-FN, establishing a program to rebate certain excessive property tax payments of eligible taxpayers.

HB 1628-FN-A-L, establishing a reformed public school financing system for ensuring educational adequacy for all children; establishing a state public education assistance system funded solely with state tax revenues, and making an appropriation therefor.

CACR 23, relating to the responsibility and authority of the general court to determine the content, extent, and funding of a public education and the use of monies received from the enactment of a new personal income tax. Providing that (a) If the general court enacts a new personal income tax, all monies received from such income tax and all the interest received on such monies shall, after deducting the necessary costs of administration, be appropriated and used exclusively to fulfill the state's duty to cherish the interest of public schools under article 83 of part second, and no part of such monies shall be transferred or diverted to any other purpose whatsoever. (b) The general court shall have the authority to determine the content, extent, and funding of a public education and that the state may fulfill its responsibility to provide to all citizens the opportunity for a public education by exercising its power to levy assessments, rates, and taxes, or by delegating this power, in whole or

part, to a political subdivision; provided that upon delegation, such assessments, rates, and taxes are proportional and reasonable throughout the state or the political subdivision in which they are imposed.

CACR 39, relating to the funding of public education. Providing that the state shall fund an amount not less than 30 percent of the total annual statewide cost of public education for kindergarten through grade 12 and that the general court shall have the power to apportion this amount by statute; that the state shall support access to a continuum of educational opportunities including early childhood and postsecondary education at a financial level to be deemed appropriate by statute; and that beginning April 1, 2001, no property tax in any form shall be used to fund the state's obligation to cherish and support public education.

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

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

1:15 p.m. Rescheduled public hearing on **SB 323**, relative to ambulatory surgical facilities in service areas of rural hospitals.

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

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, Room 306, LOB

9:00 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

LONG-RANGE CAPITAL PLANNING AND UTILIZATION (RSA 17-M), Room 201, LOB

8:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB

10:30 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Room 305, LOB

10:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **SB 330**, establishing a committee to study the impact of water withdrawals on instream flows.

11:00 a.m. Full committee executive session on pending legislation.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 304, LOB

10:00 a.m. Full committee work session on **HB 1618**, relative to requiring legislative approval for mergers, acquisitions, or restructuring of certain electric utility corporations and **SB 376**, relative to the jurisdiction of the public utilities commission to determine consequential damages.

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

UPDATING NEW HAMPSHIRE LAWS RELATED TO FENCES STUDY, (HB 1154, Chapter 62:1, Laws of 1998), Room 301, LOB

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 304, LOB

Immediately following the House session executive session on pending legislation, if needed.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

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

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, APRIL 17

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY WAITLIST FUND ALLOCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, (RSA 171-A:1-b), Room 206, LOB

9:30 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.

TAX EQUITY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION (HB 117, Chapter 17:55, Laws of 1999), Rooms 210-211, LOB

1:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

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

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB

10:00 a.m. ***SB 425-FN***, relative to the private activity bond limit.

10:30 a.m. ***SB 383***, requiring the department of health and human services and insurers to make prompt payments.

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

ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB

10:00 a.m. ***SB 303***, relative to campaign contributions by business organizations.

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB

10:00 a.m. ***SB 409-FN***, relative to health insurance coverage of qualified clinical trials.

1:00 p.m. ***SB 310***, relative to New Hampshire state-chartered banks and interstate banking.

1:30 p.m. ***SB 454***, relative to penalties for engaging in the business of retail installment sales of motor vehicles after failure to renew a retail seller's license.

2:00 p.m. ***SB 353***, relative to sales of insurance by financial institutions.

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

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB

10:00 a.m. Rescheduled public hearing on ***SB 302***, relative to certain employment requirements for liquor licensees.

11:00 a.m. Rescheduled public hearing on ***SB 420-FN***, increasing the penalty for people convicted of purposeful cruelty to animals taking place in front of children and with intent to intimidate them and relative to criminal threatening.

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

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 303, LOB

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

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

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, APRIL 24

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

9:00 a.m. Continued meeting.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES, Room 307, LOB

9:00 a.m. Interim study subcommittee work session on ***HB 1152***, relative to the establishment of crossbow hunting seasons.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

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

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

COUNTY DELEGATION NOTICE

Belknap County Delegation will meet on Tuesday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the County Complex to discuss the Gunstock budget.

Rep. Gordon E. Bartlett, Chairman

Belknap County Delegation

The New Hampshire Supreme Court has announced that typewritten memoranda on the questions presented by the request of the Senate for an opinion of the justices on the constitutionality of **SB 365-LOCAL**, "AN Act relative to the adoption of bonds or notes in certain school districts and municipalities," may be furnished by any legislator, attorney, organization, interested party or member of the public on or before April 17, 2000. An original and twelve copies of any memorandum must be filed with the clerk's office.

Date: March 17, 2000 Howard J. Zibel, Clerk of the Supreme Court

Pursuant to RSA 326-B:12, the Joint Health Council will meet at the NH Board of Nursing, Room 17, 78 Regional Drive, Building 2, Concord, on Monday, May 1 at 5:30 p.m.

Karen O. Wadsworth, Clerk of the House

Interested Legislators are invited to stop by the Cyber room on the 4th floor of the LOB for a demonstration of the new email system. Members will be able to sign up for an email account to receive some training on how to use the new system. Information Systems staff will be available Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the week of 4/10/00. We will be in the Cyber room between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Please call 271-2180 to arrange a more convenient time or for additional information.

Stan Kelly, Manager, Information Systems

New Hampshire Department of Transportation Commissioner, Leon Kenison, has issued his annual notification of spring load limits to commercial users of the state highway system. Once again, frost penetration of our state highway system has been serious. With the advent of warmer weather many roads will be subject to pavement breakup as the frost leaves the underlying base material. The maximum allowable gross vehicular weight on the posted road sections is 30,000 pounds gross weight, or the cumulative width in inches of all tires contacting the road surface multiplied by 300 pounds, whichever weight is less.

Rep. Edwin O. Smith, Chairman

Public Works and Highways Committee

REVISED AMENDED FISCAL NOTES

The following HBs have a revised or amended fiscal note: HBs 86, 239, 273, 305, 1200, 1234, 1238, 1251, 1264, 1265, 1419, 1450, 1459, 1485, 1494, 1511, 1521, 1522, 1535, 1536, 1537, 1539, 1540, 1541, 1543, 1544, 1546, 1547, 1548, 1549, 1551, 1553, 1554, 1555, 1556, 1557, 1558, 1559, 1560, 1561, 1562, 1563, 1564, 1566, 1567, 1568, 1569, 1571, 1572, 1573, 1575, 1584, 1586, 1587, 1591, 1595, 1602, 1606, 1608, 1612, 1616, 1621 and 2000.

Leo J. Callahan, Assistant Clerk

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.

Attention Bookworms. The New Hampshire Order of Women Legislators (OWLS) have their "bring-a-book" and "buy-a-book" table in the basement of the LOB. Those funds are used for the OWL scholarship fund, so drop by and roost a while.

Rep. Donald B. White

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. Please join us for a discussion of the Legacies and Succession Tax, RSA 86.

Rep. Paul A. McGuirk

The Strafford County Republicans will meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Gateway Restaurant, Somersworth.

Rep. Robert E. McKinley

The New Hampshire Center for Constitutional Studies will host a Constitutional Conference on Saturday, April 8 at Madden's Restaurant in Derry. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. The program begins at 9:15 a.m. Rep. Tony Soltani will be the featured speaker. Enrollment is \$9.50 per person. Please reserve your spot ASAP by calling 679-5977.

Rep. Ronald J. Nowe

Legislators are invited to visit the Second Annual Volunteer Fair at Eagle Square on Wednesday, April 12 from noon to 6:00 p.m. supported by the NH Association of Volunteer Administrators. There will be volunteer recruitment and entertainment. This event is being held during National Volunteer Week. If anyone wishes to speak about volunteerism at the fair, contact Bill Brown at Riverbend (228-1551) or talk to him at the event.

Rep. Susan B. Durham

The House will be celebrating New Hampshire Tartan Day at our session on April 13th. We will also honor the four members of the General Court who have passed away during the past year. Members are encouraged to wear a tartan on that day. The British Consul General, George Fergusson, will be visiting that day. From 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. there will be a reception in the Executive Council Chambers. Everyone is welcome.

Rep. Stephen G. Avery

Sen. Fred King and Sen. Beverly Hollingworth are holding an informational forum on education funding on April 13th at 7:30 p.m. at Nashua City Hall. All are invited to attend.

Rep. Christine M. Konys

Questions and answers I have compiled results of questionnaires that I sent out. Join me and your fellow representatives in Rooms 201-203, LOB immediately after session on April 13th for an analysis. I will be taking input for future questionnaires.

Rep. Kenneth L. Weyler

Members of the House and Senate are cordially invited to learn more about a daughter of New England and a native of New Hampshire, Mary Baker Eddy, the first New Hampshire woman to be inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. A special reception honoring Mary Baker Eddy will be held on April 16 at 2:00 p.m. at the Museum of New Hampshire History in Concord. Featured scholar, Gillian Gill, author of the recent biography, Mary Baker Eddy, will be speaking about Mrs. Eddy's life.

Please RSVP reception attendance to Carol at 226-3189, ext. 221.

An exhibit, "This is woman's hour " – The Life of Mary Baker Eddy, will also be on display in the museum April through June 2000. The exhibit tells the story of a woman who rose above personal battles with illness and 19th century society's strictures on womanhood to become a well-recognized author, healer, teacher and publisher, founding The Christian Science Monitor at age 87.

Rep. Donnalee Lozeau

All legislators are invited to attend a panel discussion on current racial and ethnic minority health care issues in New Hampshire. The meeting will be held on April 17th at 10:30 a.m. in Room 302, LOB.

Rep. Martha Fuller Clark

As provided in RSA 14-A:4 there will be a health screening for members on **Wednesday, April 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Rooms 305 through 308, LOB**. Our State House nurses, along with the Department of Health and Human Services have coordinated this event. Oral cancer, diabetes, glaucoma, and hypertension screenings and nutritional counseling will be among

the services available to each member. All members are encouraged to attend.

Speaker Donna Sytek

Legislators for Limited Spending will meet on Wednesday, April 19th at noon in the Upham Walker House. Mr. Jack Kenney, well-known journalist, will be the guest speaker. Bring your lunch. Coffee will be served.

Rep. Sylvia A. Holley

The House Republican Alliance will meet at the Upham Walker House (Park Street across from the State House) at 8:30 a.m. on the following Thursdays: April 20, May 4 and May 18. Refreshments will be served.

Rep. Paul M. Mirski

The American Diabetes Association will be holding its annual "Tour De Cure" bike ride across the Seacoast on Sunday, May 7th to raise funds to fight this terrible disease. Riders can chose a 25, 50, 70 or 100 mile ride. If you are interested in riding or would like to pledge your support, please contact Rep. Marc Pappas at 666-4663 or call Mary Beth at the American Diabetes Association at 627-9579.

Rep. Marc P. Pappas

Executive Departments and Administration Committee Reunion: The committee is planning its annual reunion on Wednesday, May 10th at 11:30 a.m. at the Cat n' Fiddle Restaurant, Manchester Street, Concord. Current or former members of the committee should note that if they have lost their invitations or need a new one, they should drop by Room 202, LOB as soon as possible.

Rep. Howard C. Dickinson

The Department of Transportation will hold the following meetings:

April 11 – Meeting Room Epping Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Epping, 7:00 p.m. Public officials meeting, Epping, replacement of the NH 87 bridge over the Lamprey River.

April 17 – Candia Town Hall, 74 High Street, Candia, 7:00 p.m. Selectmen's meeting, Candia, NH 43/NH 27 intersection improvements.

April 18 – PDA, Portsmouth, 7:00 p.m. Corridor Advisory Committee, Route 16.

April 19 – Dover City Hall Auditorium, 288 Central Avenue, Dover, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing (Commission), Dover-Rollinsford, Oak Street intersection with Broadway and Rollins Road in the City of Dover and Town of Rollinsford.

- April 20 – Cabot Motor Inn, 200 Portland Street, Lancaster, 6:00 p.m. Study Advisory Committee meeting, Route 2.
- April 26 – Stratford Town Hall, Route 3, Stratford, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing (Commission) Stratford, US Route 3 near Hollow Road.
- May 1 – Wolfeboro Public Library, PO Box 710, 259 South Main Street, Wolfeboro, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing (Commission), Wolfeboro, NH Route 28/NH Route 109 (Center Street) replace bridge over Smith River.
- May 9 – NHDOT, 1 Hazen Drive, Room 103, Concord, 11:00 a.m. Commission meeting, Plaistow, Kingston Road Bridge over B&M RR.
- May 9 – NHDOT, 1 Hazen Drive, Room 103, Concord, noon. Commission meeting, Plaistow-Atkinson, NH Route 121 bridge over B&M RR and Little River.
- May 25 – Center of NH, Manchester, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Second Annual Bike/Pedestrian Conference.

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 **April 2000**.

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. **Our schedule is tightly booked for the remainder of the school year. Please contact the Visitors’ Center concerning school tour booking information.** Thank you for your continued participation with your School Visitation Program.

Kenneth Leidner, Director

DATE	TIME	GROUP	CLASS/Size
April 10	9:00	Kimball Elem – Concord	4/30
April 10	10:00	St. Elizabeth Seton – Rochester	4/40
April 10	11:00	East Kingston Elem	4/35
April 10	12:30	Broken Ground Elem – Concord	4/25
April 11	9:00	UNH Social Work Students	30
April 11	10:00	D.J. Bakie Elem – Kingston	4/40
April 11	11:30	Henniker Elem	4/25
April 12	9:30 & 11:00	Symonds Elem – Keene	4/60
April 12	9:30	French Exchange Students	HS/10
April 12	1:15	Leadership Concord	Adults/25
April 13	9:30	Bessie Rowell Elem – Franklin	4/40
April 13	11:00 & 12:30	Barrington Elem	4/60
April 14	9:30	Bessie Rowell Elem – Franklin	4/40

April 14	11:00 & 12:30	Barrington Elem	4/60
April 14	4:00	B.S.A. Troop 81 - Concord	12
April 17	9:00	Kimball Elem - Concord	4/30
April 17	9:30 & 11:00	Garrison Elem – Dover	4/75
April 17	12:30	Broken Ground Elem – Concord	4/25
April 18	9:30	Greenland Central School	4/35
April 18	11:00	Bristol Elem.	2-4/45
April 19	9:30	Swasey Central School-Brentwood	4/38
April 19	11:00	Bristol Elem. School	2-4/45
April 19	2:00	Hampstead Seniors	Adults/40
April 20	10:00&11:30	Antrim Elem. School	4/45
April 21	10:00&11:30	Pollard Elem.-Plaistow	4/42
April 24	9:30	Granite State Ambassadors	Adults/25
April 24	11:00&12:30	John Fuller Elem.-No.Conway	4/70
April 25	9:30&11:00	Ray School-Hanover	4/80
April 25	1:00	P.E.O.	Adults/15
April 26	9:30&11:00	Hanover St. Elem-Lebanon	4/90
April 26	12:30	Seminary Hill Elem.-W.Lebanon	4/60
April 27	9:30	Groveton Elem.-Gorham	4/40
April 27	11:00	Lisbon Regional	4/31
April 27	2:00	NH Nurses Assoc.	Adults/40
April 28	10:00	Cub Scouts Troop 68	10
April 28	11:00	Stark Village School	4/20
April 28	12:30	Lancaster School	4/45

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

AMENDMENTS

(LISTED IN NUMERICAL ORDER)

2000-4052h

Floor Amendment to HB 1521-FN-LOCAL

Proposed by Reps. Hoadley and Ward

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

1 Statement of Purpose. The general court finds that in order to implement New Hampshire's policy of providing all pupils with the opportunity to acquire an adequate education, it is necessary to monitor, evaluate, and publicly report the progress of pupils, schools, and districts. School improvement and accountability is best addressed at the local school district level with broad community participation in the development, implementation, and evaluation of locally developed education improvement and assessment plans. The state may provide support for accountability by implementing a process for identifying school districts that may not be meeting established quality standards and may be in need of assistance. The annual report card on the condition of education statewide and the resulting recommendations will provide the information necessary for identifying any specific problems that may exist and the remedies that may be desirable. It is the intent of the legislature during the 2003 session to revisit the issue of accountability in education by reviewing the progress and results of the policies implemented under RSA 193-E and to determine, by June 30, 2003, whether appropriate further remedies are needed to assist local school districts in meeting the quality standards and to further determine what those remedies might be.

2 New Subdivision; School District Comprehensive Improvement and Assessment Program. Amend RSA 193-E by inserting after section 3 the following new subdivision:

School District Comprehensive Improvement and Assessment Program

193-E:4 Definitions. In this subdivision:

I. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of education.

II. "Department" means the department of education.

III. "Plan" means the comprehensive improvement and assessment plan as defined in RSA 193-E:5.

IV. "State board" means the state board of education.

193-E:5 School District Quality Standards; Comprehensive Improvement and Assessment Plan. In order to implement New Hampshire's policy of providing all pupils with the opportunity to acquire an adequate education, each school district shall implement the following quality standards:

I. By July 1, 2001, each district shall file its current plan with the department. Each school district shall prepare and implement its plan in accordance with a staggered schedule established by the department such that all plans shall be filed no later than June 1, 2007. Each plan shall be developed through a process involving parents, teachers, employers, and other community members. The department shall comment to the district on the plan in a timely fashion. Every 5 years following the filing of the initial plan, each school district shall file an updated plan developed through the process outlined in this paragraph. Districts may reference the statewide education improvement and assessment plan established in RSA 193-C:3, in preparing the plan. At a minimum, the plan shall include:

(a) Curriculum and proficiency standards for all pupils.

(b) School and district performance goals based on reported data on educational indicators listed in paragraph II of this section.

(c) Procedures for aligning curriculum, instructional practices, and pupil and programmatic assessments, including annual reporting of results.

(d) Local assessment measures which focus on individual pupil performance.

(e) Role of support services and programs.

(f) Role of instructional leadership.

(g) Strategies to promote family and community involvement.

(h) Staff supervision and evaluation and performance-based professional development.

(i) Procedures for ongoing review and evaluation of the plan.

(j) Pupil behavior and conduct codes.

(k) Procedures detailing how the school district budget reflects the goals of the plan.

(l) Provisions for addressing individual school needs.

II. By September 1, 2002, and annually thereafter, each school district shall report to the department its data for the previous school year on its school and district performance and demographic indicators. The requirements for data keeping and the form of the report shall be established in accordance with rules adopted by the state board.

(a) Performance and demographic indicators shall include the following areas:

(1) Attendance, tardiness, truancy, transfer, and drop-out rates.

(2) Length of school day and length of instructional time.

(3) School environment indicators, such as safe-schools data.

(4) Proportion of graduating pupils going on to post-secondary education, military service, and the workplace.

(5) Performance on state tests administered pursuant to RSA 193-C and other standardized tests administered at local option.

(6) Extent to which pupils meet behavior conduct codes.

(7) Extent to which teachers are certified in all areas in which they teach.

(8) Extent to which teachers and staff engage in performance-based professional development to promote pupil learning.

(9) Frequency and resulting actions of staff supervision and evaluations.

(10) Extent to which district schools implement components of effective family/community involvement standards including communicating, parenting, pupil learning, volunteering, school decision-making and advocacy, and collaborating with the community.

(11) Frequency and resulting actions of supervision and evaluations of instructional and administrative leaders.

(12) Teacher and administrator turnover rates reported by area of certification and by elementary, middle, junior high, and high school levels.

(b) In addition, local districts shall report on locally developed performance indicators and assessment measures.

III. Each elementary, middle, junior high, and high school in the school district shall meet the standards for school approval adopted by the state board.

IV. Beginning December 1, 2003, and annually thereafter, the commissioner, in accordance with rules adopted by the state board pursuant to RSA 541-A, shall determine whether each school district is meeting the quality standards established in paragraphs I–III of this section. The commissioner, annually, shall provide a report of such determinations to the governor and council, the speaker of the house, the senate president, the chairpersons of the house and senate education committees, the state board, and the attorney general.

V. No later than December 1, 2002, and annually thereafter, the department shall issue a report on the condition of education statewide and on a district-by-district and school-by-school basis. This report shall include demographic and pupil performance data including, but not limited to, school and district performance on state tests administered pursuant to RSA 193-C, other standardized tests administered at local option by at least 25 percent of school districts, and data provided under paragraph II of this section, as well as other relevant statistics including English as a second language pupils, special education pupils, and pupils eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Comparisons with state averages and with the condition of each district and school in comparison with previous years shall be provided, including, but not limited to, statewide rankings of each district and school on the state tests administered pursuant to RSA 193-C and on other standardized tests administered at local option by at least 25 percent of school districts. The report shall be organized and presented in a manner that is easily understood by the public and that assists each school district with the identification of trends, strengths, and weaknesses and the development of its local education improvement and assessment plan.

VI. Within 90 days of the issuance of the annual report on the condition of education as required in paragraph II of this section, each school district shall provide an opportunity for public discussion of the report at a meeting of the governing body called for

the exclusive purpose of reviewing the report. If requested by a school district, a representative from the department of education or the state board of education shall make every reasonable effort to be in attendance at the public meeting to present the report to the public. Additionally, the department of education shall determine a priority list for districts that may have significant areas of concern based on the annual report on the condition of education and shall exercise every reasonable effort to attend the public meetings in those identified school districts within the 90 days on a priority basis. At least 7 days advance public notice shall be given. A written report of the public input and recommendations made at this meeting shall be made and retained by the school district governing body for future use. Within 60 days of the meeting, each school board shall issue a written response to the annual report at a regularly noticed and scheduled meeting and make any recommendations the board deems appropriate.

VII. Any school district, school, or teacher that demonstrates a best practice worthy of recognition shall also receive formal recognition from the state board and the governor. Such school districts, schools, or teachers shall be eligible to receive funds from any school improvement funds administered by the department. Such funds shall be used to disseminate best practices throughout the state.

193-E:6 Request for Assistance.

I. A school district, in response to the annual report on the condition of education, may request from the department school improvement assistance on behalf of the district as a whole or on behalf of one or more schools in the district. Within 30 days of such request, the commissioner may, based on the availability of resources, provide appropriate assistance to the district. The commissioner shall prioritize any assistance based on the determinations made in the annual report on the condition of education. The commissioner shall work with local school board and school district officials in determining the assistance specific to the district's needs.

II. If any assistance provided by the department of education includes the use of a technical assistance advisor, the commissioner shall appoint a technical assistance advisor who shall be authorized to access any school improvement funds administered by the department of education, subject to rules adopted by the state board.

193-E:7 Request for Assistance by School District Legislative Body. If a school district has not submitted a request for assistance by the time of the annual school district meeting in a town, or by April 30 in a city, then the majority of the appropriate legislative body of the school district may vote to direct the governing body to submit a request for assistance pursuant to this section. If a majority of the legislative body votes in favor of requesting assistance, then that assistance shall be requested and provided in accordance with RSA 193-E:6.

193-E:8 School Improvement Funds. The department and the local school districts shall collaborate in an initiative to apply for grant money from any source that may be available to address school improvement issues. This collaborative effort should target funds which will be used to remedy specific areas at the local school district level identified as in need of improvement in the annual report on the condition of education.

193-E:9 Rulemaking. The state board shall, pursuant to RSA 541-A:

I. No later than July 1, 2001, adopt rules relative to data keeping, the form of the school district report required under RSA 193-E:5, II, the annual report on the condition of education statewide required under RSA 193-E:5, V, the scheduling of the local public meetings for the presentation of the annual reports under RSA 193-E:5, VI, and the access to any school improvement funds administered by the department of education under RSA 193-E:5 and 193-E:6. In developing these rules, the state board shall solicit advice and information from educators at all levels, including those within the university system, business people, government officials, legislators and legislative committees, community representatives, parents, and members of the public.

II. No later than July 1, 2002, adopt rules relative to the criteria and procedures for determining compliance with quality standards. In developing these rules, the state board shall solicit advice and information from educators at all levels, including those within the university system, business people, government officials, legislators and legislative committees, community representatives, parents, and members of the public.

193-E:10 Audit; Report. Beginning July 1, 2002, and every 2 years thereafter until July 1, 2006, the provisions of this subdivision, and all rules and procedures adopted by the department pursuant to the authority granted in this subdivision, shall be the subject of a performance audit, pursuant to RSA 14:31-a, IV, prepared by the audit division of the office of legislative budget assistant. After the July 1, 2006 audit, the joint legislative performance and audit committee established under RSA 17-N:1 shall determine and approve the scope and timing of any further audits of this program. A report of such audits shall be submitted to the speaker of the house, president of the senate, and the governor no later than December 1 of the year in which

the audit is performed.

3 New Paragraph; Statewide Improvement and Assessment Plan; Review Required. Amend RSA 193-C by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

V. By June 30, 2002, and every 5 years thereafter, the state board shall review and update the statewide education improvement plan developed in accordance with RSA 193-C that describes how the department will help schools and school districts improve pupil achievement, through a process that provides opportunities for public input from parents, employers, educators, and other citizens. The plan shall include goals and strategies for the delivery of technical assistance and professional development, the sharing of best practices, the modification or expansion of existing programs, and the establishment of new programs.

4 Statewide Improvement and Assessment Program; Legislative Oversight Committee; Duties Amended. Amend RSA 193-C:8 to read as follows:

193-C:8 Duties of the Legislative Oversight Committee; Report. ***The oversight committee shall:***

I. ~~[The oversight committee shall review]~~ Review the development and implementation of the program to ensure that they are in accordance with legislative policy. Implementation of the program shall be in conjunction with the committee's review.

II. Review all of the provisions of RSA 193-C and 193-E, relative to an adequate public education and school district accountability, and file a report of such review to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the governor, and the chairpersons of the house and senate education committees every 2 years.

III. Prepare any legislation that is needed as a result of the review of the progress and results of the policies implemented under RSA 193-E by the legislature during the 2003 legislative session.

5 New Paragraph; State Board of Education; Duties of the State Board; Review of School Approval Standards Inserted. Amend RSA 186:11 by inserting after paragraph XXXV the following new paragraph:

XXXVI. REVIEW OF SCHOOL APPROVAL STANDARDS. No later than June 30, 2003, and every 5 years thereafter, the state board of education shall review and update as necessary school approval standards based on input from parents, employers, educators, and other citizens. No later than 60 days from the date of each review, the state board of education shall submit a report of its findings, including recommendations for proposed legislation, to the chairpersons of the house and senate education committees. At the discretion of the committee chairpersons, a public hearing on the report may be scheduled.

6 Department of Education; Biennial Budget. The department of education shall include in its budget for the biennium ending June 30, 2003, the costs necessary to provide assistance to the school districts under RSA 193-E.

7 Review of School Accountability. During the 2003 legislative session, the legislature shall revisit the issue of accountability in education by reviewing the progress and results of the policies implemented under RSA 193-E. By June 30, 2003, the legislature shall determine whether appropriate further remedies are needed to assist local school districts in meeting the quality standards and shall further determine what those remedies might be. The legislature shall base its evaluation and determination of necessary further action on the results of the monitoring, evaluating, and reporting procedures established in 193-E and reports by the department of education on the assistance that may have been provided to the school districts and the results thereof.

8 Repeal. RSA 194:23-d, relative to state financial aid to public elementary or high schools, is repealed.

9 Prospective Repeal. RSA 193-E:3, relative to the delivery of an adequate education, is repealed.

10 Effective Date.

I. Section 9 of this act shall take effect December 1, 2002.

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

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

- I. Requires each school district to prepare and implement quality standards and a local education improvement and assessment plan.
- II. Establishes procedures for the department of education to identify local school districts which are in need of assistance.
- III. Requires the department of education and local school districts to collaborate to secure grant money from any source available to address school improvement issues.
- IV. Requires the legislature to revisit the issue of school accountability in the 2003 legislative session.

2000-4041h

Amendment to HB 1627

Proposed by the Committee on Public Works and Highways - C

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

- 1 Certain Land in the Town of Rindge. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, an approximately 0.11 acre portion of land along Old New Ipswich Road now owned by Cambridge Boy Scout Camp, Inc., with certain property rights possessed by the state pursuant to the land conservation investment program under RSA 162-C, identified in the city’s records as tax map 7, lot 27, may be exchanged with a like portion of land owned by the town of Rindge for the purpose of improving the road alignment of Old New Ipswich Road in Rindge, New Hampshire.
- 2 Findings. The general court hereby affirms its long-term commitment to preserving the natural beauty, landscape, rural character, and natural resources of New Hampshire consistent with the enabling legislation of the land conservation investment program. The general court, however, recognizes that in this specific instance, the exchange of an approximately 0.11 acre portion of protected land for the above described purposes will not impair any of the conservation values for which a conservation easement was purchased. The land used by the town of Rindge in connection with the relocation of the road will be compensated for by the town of Rindge deeding a parcel of equal size to the Cambridge Boy Scout Camp, Inc., subject to the terms of the existing conservation easement held by the state of New Hampshire. As such, the general court finds that in this instance, this legislation balances the public purposes of providing a safe travel lane along Old New Ipswich Road, with the need to ensure that the public’s investment in conservation lands is not diminished over time.
- 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes the exchange of an approximately 0.11 acre portion of land currently owned by Cambridge Boy Scout Camp, Inc. with a like portion of land owned by the town of Rindge for the purpose of improving the road alignment of Old New Ipswich Road in Rindge.

2000-4030h

Amendment to SB 210-FN-LOCAL

Proposed by the Committee on Education - R

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

- 2 New Paragraph; Liability for Education of Children in Homes for Children or Health Care Facilities; Liability for Costs Amended. Amend RSA 193:29 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraph:

VI. For the purpose of determining liability for all costs of special education or special education and educationally related services pursuant to RSA 186-C:19-b, II, the sending district shall be liable to the department of education for either the average per pupil cost as estimated by the department of education or for the actual prorated cost of special education and any educationally related services as defined in RSA 186-C:2 provided by the receiving district, whichever is greater.
- 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the state to pay the full cost of special education services provided to all court-ordered, out-of-district placements of special education pupils, and requires that the sending district reimburse the department of education for all such cost.

2000-4024h

Amendment to SB 432-FN-A

Proposed by the Committee on Education - C

Amend RSA 189:14-f, I-a as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I-a. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph I of this section, a teacher who submits written evidence to the state board of education demonstrating that he or she has successfully completed the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification course and who has met the requirements of RSA 189:14-f, I(a) and (b) shall be granted the credential of master teacher. Teachers receiving the master teacher credential under this paragraph shall be subject to the provisions of paragraph III of this section.

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 New Section; Teachers; National Board Certification Course. Amend RSA 189 by inserting after section 14-f the following new section:

189:14-g National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification.

I. A teacher possessing a valid professional standards certificate from the state board of education who has obtained a written recommendation from their local superintendent may apply, through the division of educational improvement, department of education, to take the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification course (NBPTS). A teacher applying through and selected by the division of educational improvement, department of education shall be eligible to receive reimbursement from the department of education for the course fee.

II. Beginning July 1, 2001, the department of education shall, from existing budgetary allocations, reimburse the course fee for a maximum of 10 teachers per fiscal year who successfully complete the NBPTS course. The department is hereby authorized to expend funds for the purpose of reimbursing NBPTS course fees in accordance with this section.

III. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a teacher possessing a valid professional standards certificate from the state board of education from taking the NBPTS course as may be desired. Such teachers shall be financially responsible for all costs associated with obtaining the certification and shall be eligible to receive the master teacher credential pursuant to RSA 189:14-f, I-a.

IV. A teacher who successfully completes the NBPTS certification course shall be required to perform a minimum of 3 years of full-time teaching at a primary or secondary public school in New Hampshire.