

State of New Hampshire HOUSE RECORD

First Year of the 157th Session of the General Court
Calendar and Journal of the 2001 Session

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Contains: Additional Reports and Amendments for March 22

ADDENDUM TO HOUSE CALENDAR

thursday, march 22

additional regular calendar

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

CORRECTED COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 293 authorizing the production of industrial hemp. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Harold P. Melcher for the Majority of Environment and Agriculture: The majority of the committee felt that regardless of the undemonstrated claims of the economic value of hemp crop, it's even more unlikely environmental benefits and the botanical relationship with marijuana, one clear, relevant issue stood out. Hemp is federally illegal without a DEA permit. The bill makes no provision for that but would put the Commissioner of Agriculture up against breaking federal law with every permit he granted. **Vote 7-6.**

Rep. Derek Owen for the Minority of Environment and Agriculture: The minority for the passage of HB 293 felt that there is still no way hemp should be confused with marijuana. There is no way to produce paper, cloth, rope, food or personal body products, or animal foods or bedding from marijuana plants. Hemp leaves are no substitute for marijuana in that one would

only get a headache from smoking it. The 1937 Marijuana Tax Act was not meant to prohibit the growth of hemp, but was meant to derive income from the growth of marijuana. The definition of marijuana does not include the stalks or fiber. The growing of hemp would need a license from the Department of Agriculture, Foods and Markets and also would require the grower to be responsible for annual testing and reporting for THC at harvest time. All this bill does is to allow NH growers to grow hemp if the Drug Enforcement Agency issues a permit. It does not intend to circumvent any Federal laws.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 649-FN, relative to compensation for time lost by state employees injured in the line of duty. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. William R. Zolla for Executive Departments and Administration: This bill will allow the state to pay in addition to workmen’s compensation the difference in pay up to the base salary of the state police employee provided the injury is due to a hostile or overt act. The amendment extends this benefit to all state employees. Employees who are injured, but not by a hostile or overt act, will be eligible for workmen’s compensation from the state and the difference between it and the employees base salary will be paid from the employees vacation and sick time. **Vote 12-1.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS

2001-0426h

Corrected Floor Amendment to HB 270-FN

Proposed by Reps. Dickinson and Burling - R

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

1 General Court; Travel Allowance to Members. Amend RSA 14:15-a, I, (b)(1) and (2) to read as follows:

- (1) For the first 45 miles, [~~\$.38~~] **\$.77** per mile, ***provided that no member’s reimbursement amount shall be less than \$8;*** and
- (2) For all miles in excess of 45 miles, [~~\$.19~~] **\$.38** per mile.

2 Application. The rules for travel allowance for members of the general court provided for in RSA 14:15-a, I(b)(1) and (2) as amended by section 1 of this act shall be used for the calculation of reimbursement to members beginning on or after December 4, 2002.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect December 4, 2002.

2001-0434h

Amendment to HB 649-FN

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - R

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

- 1 New Section; Compensation for State Employees Injured in Line of Duty. Amend RSA 21-I by inserting after section 43 the following new section:

21-I:43-a Compensation for State Employees Injured in Line of Duty. A state employee who is injured in the line of duty by a hostile or overt act that requires the employee to be hospitalized or renders the employee temporarily unable to perform the duties of his or her position shall not be charged annual leave or sick leave for the time lost due to the injury. During such time, the employee shall remain on the active payroll. The executive head of the employee’s agency shall make the determination as to whether an injury is in the line of duty and due to a hostile or overt act, and, after approval by the governor and council, the determination shall be final. The compensation provided for in this section shall be in addition to any other compensation or

remedy available to the employee.