

State of New Hampshire HOUSE RECORD

First Year of the 158th Session of the General Court Calendar and Journal of the 2003 Session

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Contains: Reports and Amendments for March 20, Hearings, Work Sessions and Notices

HOUSE CALENDAR

NOTICE

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE:

The House will meet in session on Thursday, March 20, at 1:00 p.m. and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, March 25, 26 and 27 at 10:00 a.m.

I have appointed a Continuing Education Committee consisting of Representatives Paul Spiess, Terri Dudley and Sandra Harris. This committee will coordinate informational sessions on topics of interest to the House. Please watch your calendars for upcoming events.

Chairmen and Vice Chairmen will meet on Tuesday, March 18 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 201, LOB.

Gene G. Chandler, Speaker

NOTICE

There will be a Republican Caucus on Thursday, March 20 at 12:30 p.m. in Representatives Hall.

Rep. David W. Hess, Majority Leader

NOTICE

There will be a Democratic Caucus on Thursday, March 20 at noon in Rooms 305-307 of the Legislative Office Building.

Rep. Peter H. Burling, Democratic Leader

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

consent calendar

COMMERCE

HB 303, relative to life, accident, and health technicals. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Leo W. Fraser, Jr. for Commerce: This proposed legislation, as amended, was introduced at the request of the New Hampshire Insurance Department. The bill makes technical changes in the laws relative to health insurance. First, it clarifies the definition of "covered lives". Second, in the individual health insurance definition it defines "group excess loss insurance". Third, this section just now makes reference to RSA 420-B as the correct section so far as coverage for mental or nervous conditions. The last change amends the effective date from 60 days after passage to January 1, 2004. Section 4,5 and 6 were deleted as not necessary at this time. **Vote 13-0.**

EDUCATION

HB 448, implementing a reasonableness standard for individualized education plans. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Bruce L. Dearborn for Education: The committee did not feel this bill would enhance enforcement of the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The bill would also add additional paper work to an already paper work intensive program, without meeting the desired outcome. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 528, establishing a commission to study computer standards used in public schools in New Hampshire. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Sharon M. Carson for Education: This bill seeks to establish a commission to study computer standards currently in use in New Hampshire public schools. In today's rapidly changing technology based society, we need to make sure that our schools keep pace with these changes. According to the testimony presented to the committee, the Department of Education has not changed the existing minimum standards for over ten years. The Department of Education was a partner in the creation of this Information Technology program and this program is currently in place in a number of High Schools across the State with positive results. The commission created by this bill will also assess this Information Technology program to see if it meets the required technology standards under No Child Left Behind Statute and accept grants, both federal and private, along with donations. **Vote 16-1.**

FINANCE

HB 81-FN-A, setting the rate for the medicaid enhancement tax for the biennium ending June 30, 2005. **OUGHT TO PASS**

Rep. Marjorie K. Smith for Finance: This bill came to the Finance Committee from Ways and Means. As stated in their report, every two years the legislature sets the rate of this tax at the maximum rate allowed by federal Medicaid regulations. This tax should result in revenue to the state of at least \$180 million for the biennium. **Vote 22-0.**

HB 213, relative to reporting requirements for dedicated funds. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Robert L. Wheeler for Finance: The committee agreed that transfers in and out of dedicated funds should be included as reportable actions in dedicated accounts. **Vote 22-0.**

HB 386, establishing a committee to study individual development accounts. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Larry G. Elliott for Finance: This bill establishes a committee to study individual development accounts (IDAs). The

majority of the committee agrees that IDAs need to be studied. However, we feel that the Finance Committee contains enough expertise within its own membership to study this issue over the summer. We believe we can study the tax credit issue, the general fund appropriation fund issue and the use of TANF funds to support IDAs as well as seek outside testimony to aid us in our discussions and deliberations. It is not necessary at this time to pass a bill to direct us to study this issue. **Vote 18-2.**

HB 575-FN, relative to students at state colleges and universities who are registered to vote in New Hampshire. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Kenneth L. Weyler for Finance: The sponsors of this bill believe that our public colleges are encouraging their out of state student population to vote in our local elections. The bill would have been costly to the public colleges by having such voting entitle an out of state student to establish New Hampshire residence, thus in-state tuition rates. After hearing testimony the committee was convinced that there was a problem, but were not convinced that all the culpability lay with the schools. The solution to the problem involved amending HB 575 to tighten up voter identification. Once the committee took that road it led to the province of the Election Law committee, which is already working to accomplish that same purpose with HB 627. The committee felt we could vote HB 575 inexpedient to legislate while allowing HB 627 to accomplish the goal of the sponsors. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 597-FN-A, appropriating funds to the barn preservation fund matching grants program. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Robert L. Wheeler for Finance: The committee felt that the barn preservation program was quite worthy and the leveraging of funds was appreciated, however, since the program was in the previous year's budget this legislative special is not needed. This issue will be addressed in the regular budget process. **Vote 20-3.**

HB 614-FN-L, requiring the state to pay the total expense of fighting forest and brush fires on any state owned park or forest land. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. McKim W. Mitchell for Finance: Currently the state shares the cost of fire suppression with towns on a 50/50 basis. By paying 100% it is estimated that it would increase state expenditures in 2004 to \$10,395 and in 2005 to \$19,231. In lieu of the financial situation the state is in, we felt it would not be appropriate to raise the cost to the 100% level. **Vote 18-5.**

HB 642-FN, relative to police patrolling of the Pleasant Street campus access path in the town of Plymouth. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Frederick W. King for Finance: The prime sponsor of this bill requested that it be found inexpedient to legislate. There is other legislation being offered which deals with the same subject matter. **Vote 22-0.**

HB 757, relative to health care fund grant awards. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Edward D. Densmore for Finance: This bill would expand the review of grant awards from the Health Care Fund. The committee felt that the process of review currently in place provides ample oversight and is not in need of change. **Vote 20-1.**

JUDICIARY

HB 606, establishing a right-to-know study commission. **OUGHT TO PASS**

Rep. James E. Wheeler for Judiciary: The proliferation of technology in local government has called into question what records fall under the right-to-know law. The use of e-mails and conference calls and the accessibility of information on everyone's computer would indicate a need for this study. There was a study committee in a recent session that could not resolve the questions, so some of the members of the study committee have asked for this study commission to really dig into this issue and make some serious recommendations. The committee felt that this was a very important issue and that this bill ought to pass. **Vote 11-0.**

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

HB 764, relative to the state of New Hampshire conforming to public laws enacted by the United States Congress. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Peter H Burling for Legislative Administration: The committee listened to the evidence, studied the bill, but could not find a compelling reasons to pass this statute at this time. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 792, establishing a legislative internship pilot program in the house of representatives. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Karen K. Hutchinson for Legislative Administration: The House already utilizes the assistance of interns from time to time. Since there is nothing to prevent this practice from continuing, the committee believes this bill to be unnecessary. **Vote 14-0.**

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 531, relative to off-site improvements imposed on applicants to a planning board. **OUGHT TO PASS**

Rep. Peter B. Schmidt for Municipal and County Government: This bill provides that a planning board shall, in the course of site plan or subdivision review, have authority to require that a developer be responsible for the payment of the cost of any on-site improvements as well as the developer's proportional share of off-site improvements which are necessitated by the development. Such authority shall not be affected by the adoption of or failure to adopt an impact fee ordinance. This authority, long exercised by past planning boards, was lost as a result of *Simonson v. Derry*. In that case, the Supreme Court held that, in the absence of an impact fee ordinance, a planning board could not impose fair and proportional fees for off-site improvements on a developer whose proposal necessitated the improvements. The committee felt that restoring it via this bill was in the best interest of good planning and fair and reasonable cost allocation. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 616-FN-L, relative to the Hampton real estate trust fund. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. James E. Twombly for Municipal and County Government: In 1975, the general court was requested to create the Hampton Real Estate Trust Fund. At the local level, the town then voted to only use the interest on the fund for reducing the tax rate. Now that the trust fund has an approximate 13 million dollar balance, the Hampton Selectmen requested their representatives to introduce a bill that would allow a change in the intent of the Trust fund and to permit the Town of Hampton to borrow from its own real estate trust for capital improvement projects. Hampton is in an enviable position in that few if any towns/municipalities have the luxury of being able to lend money to themselves. The bill, as amended, requires that the principal of the fund remain intact and that the amortization schedule on any loan not exceed 15 years. Other management restrictions may be found in the amendment. **Vote 13-0.**

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

HB 442, relative to emission control equipment. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Roy D. Maxfield for Science, Technology and Energy: The sponsor of this bill was seeking to exempt certain vintage motor vehicles from emission control compliance requirements. Most of the committee feels that the New Hampshire Department of Safety is best qualified to regulate testing parameters. The Department of Motor Vehicles reviews and adjusts year of manufacture dates for emission testing periodically. **Vote 12-4.**

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 226, relative to a state policy on gambling. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Christopher C. Pappas for Ways and Means: The committee attempted to accommodate the sponsor who wished to amend this bill. However, after repeated attempts failed to produce the amendment, or more information from the sponsor, the committee unanimously voted Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 368, making technical corrections to the statutory list of dedicated funds. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. John M. Gibson for Ways and Means: This bill makes technical corrections to the list of dedicated funds that are now subject to reporting requirements through the State Treasurer to the relevant policy committee of the legislature. The committee supports continued interest in the issue of disclosure and oversight of dedicated funds. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 589-FN-A-L, establishing a tax on purchases of bulk paper stock and establishing a bulk newsprint recycling fund. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Kurt J. Roessner for Ways and Means: Revenues from the tax are estimated to be \$600,000 in FY 2004 and \$1.2 million in

FY 2005 which would be used to create a dedicated fund to be distributed to towns who currently have newsprint recycling programs. The committee agreed with the three newspaper publishers who testified that the tax would place a competitive hardship on their medium. The Dept. of Environmental Services representative also raised other concerns with the bill. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 644-FN-A, relative to selling advertising space on state paychecks, vendor checks, and websites. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Lee M. Hammond for Ways and Means: While the committee appreciated the sponsor's creativity, it believes that this bill would generate very little revenue and the advertising contemplated by it had the potential to offend State employees, vendors, and visitors to the State's web site **Vote 13-0.**

HB 752, relative to the distribution of business tax revenues to the education trust fund. **OUGHT TO PASS**

Rep. Susan W. Almy for Ways and Means: This bill establishes that a flat 33% of both business taxes go into the Education Trust Fund (ETF). The existing distribution mechanism between this and the General Fund is unworkable. 33% represents the proportion of the 2 taxes going into the ETF in FY'02. If economic conditions change at a future time and this formula delivers too much or too little money to the ETF relative to the original formula, it can be adjusted legislatively. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 770-FN-A, establishing a credit against the business enterprise tax for compensation paid to disabled employees. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Daniel M. Hughes for Ways and Means: This bill sought to establish a credit against the Business Enterprise Tax of 25% of compensation paid by employers to employees with physical and/or mental disabilities. The committee felt that this bill has noble intentions but that it raised more questions than answers. Since there was no fiscal note, and the issues raised during the committee discussion were complex, the committee concluded that the bill's concept required an in-depth study. Accordingly, the committee adopted an amendment that establishes a committee to study using tax policy to create incentives to encourage employers to hire disabled individuals **Vote 15-0.**

HB 813-FN-A, establishing a deduction from the business profits tax for investments made in New Hampshire companies. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Jeffrey D. Gilbert for Ways and Means: At the time of this bill's public hearing, its sponsor proposed that the bill be replaced by a different concept that would have required the New Hampshire Retirement System to invest \$25 million in New Hampshire based venture capital firms. The committee believed unanimously that the amendment was non-germane. The bill's first proposal of using tax credits to stimulate investment in New Hampshire companies was one of 3 bills (HB 814 and HB 830) from the same sponsor on the subject of enacting tax credits to promote economic development. The Committee has unanimously voted to retain the sponsor's primary bill on this subject, HB 830, for further study. The committee will include in its study the original concepts of this bill. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 814-FN-A, establishing a credit against the business profits tax for certain insurance, financial services, and health care business organizations. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Jeffrey D. Gilbert for Ways and Means: The committee felt the concept of granting credits against the business profits tax for certain services and business organizations was worth studying. It has agreed to retain a companion bill, HB 830, for further study and to include in the study the concept of targeting business tax credits for certain industries. **Vote 17-0.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

REGULAR CALENDAR

EDUCATION

CACR 1, relating to the support of religious schools. Providing that the language in article 6 of the first part of the New Hampshire constitution, which states that "But no person shall ever be compelled to pay towards the support of the schools of any sect or denomination." shall be deleted from the article and the language in article 83 of the second part of the New Hampshire constitution which states that ": *Provided, nevertheless*, that no money raised by taxation shall ever be granted or applied for the use of the schools or institutions of any religious sect or denomination" shall be deleted from the article.

MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. J.D. Colcord for the **Majority** of Education: The committee has heard testimony on four CACR's. It is the committee's belief that all of the proposed CACR's have some good points. In view of this, the committee retained for further consideration CACR 2 and CACR 13 and will include in our deliberations salient aspects of this CACR. **Vote 14-3.**

Rep. Paul Ingbretson for the **Minority** of Education: The minority felt that as long as these provisions stand, competition, which is the key to revitalizing education, may never become a reality for the state of New Hampshire.

HB 427, making the position of "treasurer" optional for school districts. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Claire D. Clarke for Education: The majority of the committee felt that the intent of this bill was laudable. However, it was more of a local problem and not prevalent in multiple districts **Vote 11-6.**

HB 592-FN, relative to funding the compensation and benefits of teachers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Nancy Scovner for Education: This bill was designed to separate teacher salaries from total school expenses, so they wouldn't be paid from state aid, but paid locally. The committee felt that teachers pay was an integral part of the expense for education and should not be separated. **Vote 15-1.**

ELECTION LAW

CACR 7, relating to state representative and state senate districts. Providing that there shall be 36 senate districts and 4 house districts within each senate district. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Mark S. Derby for Election Law: This CACR would have reduced the size of the House to 144 and increased the size of the Senate to 36, with 4 House districts within each Senate district. While the majority agrees with the sponsor's rationale for enlarging the Senate, it believes that such an initiative should originate in the Senate. As to reducing the size of the House, the majority believes that a smaller House would weaken the citizen-nature of our House of Representatives. While the majority is mindful that the many large House districts have created a number of challenges, the solution is not to reduce the total number of members in the House. **Vote 12-4.**

HB 394, relative to incompatible offices. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark S. Derby for the **Majority** of Election Law: This legislation would add United States senator, United States representative, county sheriff, county attorney, county treasurer, register of deeds and register of probate to the list of incompatible offices for which a candidate may not seek more than one nomination. As it now stands, RSA 655:10, I covers governor, state representative, state senator and executive councilor. It also presently prohibits a candidate from running for state representative and county commissioner. This legislation would not require a sitting elected official to resign his or her seat in order to run for an incompatible office, but it would prevent that official from simultaneously seeking election to an incompatible office and re-election to the official's present office. **Vote 13-4.**

Rep. Charles F. Weed for the **Minority** of Election Law: The minority feels it is not appropriate to pass a bill for the benefit of one office holder.

HB 395, relative to proof of qualifications for voter registration. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark S. Derby for the **Majority** of Election Law: This legislation would amend RSA 654:7-a, II to require that first time voter registrants produce appropriate proof of qualification to vote and sign an affidavit that he or she is a qualified voter and has not voted and will not vote elsewhere in the election at which the registrant seeks to register. Appropriate proof of qualification to vote includes proof of United States citizenship and any other reasonable documentation which indicates the applicant is a United States Citizen, as defined in RSA 654:12(a), as well as proof of domicile as defined in RSA 654:12(c). The majority believes that this legislation will deter and reduce voter fraud and enhance the integrity of the electoral process. **Vote 10-6.**

Rep. David E. Cote for the **Minority** of Election Law: The minority is of the opinion that this bill is unnecessary since first time voters already have the option of signing an affidavit under penalty of perjury. We believe that the provisions of this bill may be

applied in a discriminatory fashion, will unnecessarily discourage voter registration, and unnecessarily increase waiting lines at the polls. There was no showing of voter fraud presented to the committee. Therefore, there is no need to make the current permissive law mandatory.

HB 693-FN, relative to the jurisdiction and constitution of the ballot law commission. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Howard C. Dickinson for the **Majority** of Election Law: This bill is an important part of the ongoing authority the legislature has over the manner and conduct of elections. The legislature created the Ballot Law Commission to make sure that elections were carried out according to the law and to resolve certain election disputes. Since its creation, the law has been updated many times, in the 1940's, 1970's and in the early 1990's. This bill further updates the Ballot Law commission statutes by clarifying the scope and extent of the Commission's authority and by making various changes, which will allow the Commission to better fulfill its intended function. The number of commissioners is increased from 3 to 5 and the appointment process is changed so that the speaker, president of the senate, and governor appoint the members. The Supreme Court would no longer have an appointment. The jurisdiction provisions are tightened up so that the law states exactly the type of election disputes the commission may consider and more clearly specifies which decisions may be appealed to the Supreme Court. The bill also makes it clear that the commission does not have the authority to order second recounts. This bill ensures that the legislatively created Ballot Law Commission functions as the legislature intended it should. **Vote 10-6.**

Rep. Raymond Buckley for the **Minority** of Election Law: This bill is an astonishing example of the abuse of power that one party rule manifests. It destroys the respected, highly regarded quasi-judicial role of the three member Ballot Law Commission. HB 693 recreates the Ballot Law Commission into a five member partisan political body, destroying the sanctity of the Ballot Law Commission. Currently the Ballot Law Commission is constituted with two members appointed by the governor and council and a member appointed by the Supreme Court. HB 693 changes the commission to five members with two members appointed by the speaker of the house, two by the president of the senate and one by governor and council. HB 693 also removes the requirement that one member of the Ballot Law Commission be a lawyer and also prohibits any office holder (at any level) or any election official (at any level) from being a member of the Ballot Law Commission. The Ballot Law Commission has the responsibility to ensure that every person's vote is counted and every candidate has an equal opportunity to run for public office, destroying that sanctity to ensure one party rulings is nothing short of an abuse of power by the majority.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 443, granting prescriptive authority to qualified psychologists. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Judson K. Dexter for Executive Departments and Administration: The committee is aware that technology and training in health care is expanding very quickly and that bills similar to this bill are being looked at by at least 12 other states. However, at this time only one other state, New Mexico, has passed such legislation and to date has not certified a single psychologist to prescribe medications. Two states have passed legislation prohibiting psychologist from prescribing medication, New York and Connecticut. Additionally, every state health care organization in New Hampshire is opposed to this legislation including the Dept. Of Health and Human Services, the NH Board of Pharmacy, the NH Medical Society and Board of Medicine, as well as many others who came forward with written or oral testimony. In fact, licensed psychologists in New Hampshire are divided on this issue. Only 13% support this legislation. 17% are absolutely against this legislation and 70% don't know what they want. The committees heard over four hours of testimony on HB 443 and found that psychologists are not medical doctors and do not currently receive the same in-depth medical training as medical doctors. There appears to be enough qualified prescribers in the medical community to address the needs of New Hampshire citizens, therefor, there is no need for further consideration of this legislation at this time. **Vote 18-2.**

FINANCE

HB 598-FN-A, relative to the agriculture nutrient management program and making an appropriation therefor. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Betsy A. Coes for Finance: Passage of this bill, as amended, will ensure the continuance of the successful Agricultural Nutrient Management Grant Program established in 2001. This program provides technical assistance and small capital grants to owners of agricultural land or livestock to alleviate water pollution problems arising from fertilizer use and animal manure. Funding will come from increasing the fertilizer product registration fee from \$50 to \$75 and will apply \$20,000 to match two grants available for non-profit source pollution and water quality protection through DES. This is an important program for

New Hampshire's struggling small farms. **Vote 23-0.**

HB 720-FN-L, extending the kindergarten aid program. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Elizabeth S. Hager for Finance: The committee feels that it is the obligation of the state to continue to support kindergarten programs that were previously approved and have received less than the promised three years' aid. Under the amendment it is possible for new kindergarten programs to qualify before June 30, 2005. \$1,539,600 would lapse this year if this bill is not passed, but we believe the money is more appropriately used for kindergarten. **Vote 17-4.**

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

HB 190, relative to legislative standing committee review of rules adopted after final objection by the joint legislative committee on administrative rules. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Nelson S. Allan for Legislative Administration: This bill directs the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate to assign the matter of a disputed rule(s) failure to meet "legislative intent" to the respective House and Senate standing committees for disposition. This bill does not provide a timely resolution process or methodology for dissimilar interpretation of "legislative intent" between the House and Senate. The bill also proposed to override house and senate rules for joint resolution introduction and deletes the current 90 day implementation schedule. The potential far ranging unintended consequences convinced the committee that the bill should be Inexpedient to Legislate. A study bill on the legislative rules is currently being "retained" and may be a vehicle to pursue a more in-depth study of this issue. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 344, relative to a supplemental veteran designation for legislative license plates. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Robert J. Letourneau for Legislative Administration: This bill would allow a supplemental veteran designation for legislative license plates. While the entire committee is very sympathetic to the sponsors intent, many are veterans or married to veterans. The majority of the committee felt that legislative plates are exactly that, not anything else. The controversy over license plates would only be exacerbated by doing this and would open the door for other special interest groups to petition the legislature for special designations on their legislative license plates. **Vote 8-5.**

HCR 12, rescinding all requests by the New Hampshire legislature for a federal constitutional convention and urging other states to withdraw similar requests. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Robert J. Letourneau for Legislative Administration: Since the New Hampshire legislature adopted HCR 8 in 1979, a call for a Constitutional Convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced federal budget, this body has reviewed nine attempts to rescind the call. Each of these had failed. While this issue has stirred extensive debate, this body has consistently voted in opposition to this measure. The history of this effort has told us that the majority of the people of New Hampshire wants and expects their federal government to be accountable for their tax dollars just as we are here in New Hampshire. Additionally to rescind this resolution would send the wrong message to Congress and to other states that are also calling for this action that we do not care about this issue any longer. **Vote 12-2.**

HJR 2, requiring the assignment of oversight of state agencies to legislative policy committees. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Peter H. Burling for Legislative Administration: This bill was the subject of passionate and focused debate in committee. Some members felt strongly that passage of this legislation might confuse the power of the Speaker to define the duties of committees. Others were concerned about the provisions in the bill, which deal with administrative rules provisions, which the committee will address, in other legislation. **Vote 14-0.**

STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HCR 7, opposing unfunded and under-funded federal education mandates. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Ken Hawkins for the **Majority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: The majority of the committee felt that we have passed and sent to the United States Congress and United States Senate HCR 3 stating opposition to unfunded mandates. The House has also passed HB 786 that requires the federal government to adhere to the policy of no mandates without funding

that this resolution is redundant. **Vote 12-2.**

Rep. Cynthia P. Sweeney for the **Minority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: The minority feels that while we laud and approve of the "no child left behind" program, we are adamantly opposed to unfunded or underfunded programs being thrust upon this state by the federal government.

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 595-FN-A, establishing an exemption from the electricity consumption tax. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Shawn N. Jasper for Ways and Means: This bill would exempt the first 2,500,000 kilowatt hours of electric energy which a person (corporation) generates for their own use. The tax on electricity is a consumption tax. It is not based on how or where the electricity is generated. The maximum exemption which would be granted under this bill would be \$1,375. This amount would not be a significant factor when deciding whether or not to generate electricity. The loss of revenue to the state could exceed \$166,000 per year. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 701-FN, relative to fees for low-digit number plates. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Peyton B. Hinkle for Ways and Means: This bill calls for a vanity number plate fee to be charged for low-number license plates; i.e. plates numbered from 1 to 9,999. Testimony indicated that many people with low-numbered plates have them as a result of having the plates for many years, and have paid taxes and fees for all that time. This bill would unfairly penalize them for being long-term residents. It was also pointed out that the elderly will find it easier to remember a number that they have had a number of years, rather than have to change numbers due to an increased fee **Vote 11-2.**

HB 773, establishing a committee to study a tuition tax credit program. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Peyton B. Hinkle for Ways and Means: This bill creates a committee to study the benefits of establishing a tuition tax credit program for non-public school education alternatives. The majority of the committee felt it was worthwhile to explore this approach to improving overall education in the state. A primary goal of the study committee will be to assess how such a program can be structured to achieve a balance between revenue receipts and expenditures. **Vote 9-5.**

HB 789, relative to a nonbinding referendum to measure voter support for casino gambling in New Hampshire. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. John M. Gibson for Ways and Means: New Hampshire is not a referendum state. The majority of the committee believes that a non-binding referendum to measure the support for casino gambling is not needed. Given the many polls and ample testimony at public hearings, the majority of the committee believes that the issue of expanded gambling is now best addressed through the legislative process. **Vote 13-3.**

HB 805, establishing a consensus revenue estimating panel. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Rep. Russell F. Ingram for Ways and Means: This bill puts into statute the Governor's revenue estimating panel that was established in 1997 by executive order. It strengthens the independence and effectiveness of the panel. The purpose of the Revenue Estimating Panel is to assist the Governor and the Legislature in providing more consistent and credible long-range trends for the state. The panel consists of members of the House and Senate, the Executive branch, and members of the business and academic communities. The bill requires the panel to issue quarterly reports and sets a term of three years for each of its members. The Governor supports the bill as does the Treasurer and former Commissioner of Revenue, and the former Chairman of the House Ways & Means committee. The committee believes that this bill makes significant improvements to the resources available to the state executive and legislative branches to timely and credibly forecast the revenues. **Vote 12-4.**

HB 809, establishing a committee to study implementing a consumption tax. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. John M. Gibson for Ways and Means: The legislature has grappled with the idea of the consumption tax for the last several years. Establishing a committee to study the implementation of a consumption tax infers that there is a need and support for such a tax. The issue of a consumption tax has been extensively debated on the floor of the legislature and rejected by substantial margins. No new information or ideas were presented to the committee during the public hearing on this bill or thereafter. The majority of the Ways and Means Committee believes that no new study is warranted. **Vote 13-3.**

NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION

This day, Thursday, the 13th of March, 2003, at 3:50 p.m., Representative Raymond Buckley, having voted with the prevailing side, did serve notice that today or some other day as limited by House Rules he would ask the House to reconsider its action whereby it found ***HB 232***, repealing the one-year certificate of eligibility to teach, inexpedient to legislate.

Karen O. Wadsworth, Clerk of the House

L A I D O N T A B L E

HB 836, certifying that John Coughlin was elected as county attorney for Hillsborough county at the 2002 general election. (Adoption of the majority committee report of ought to pass.)

H O U S E D E A D L I N E S

Friday, December 13, 2002, 3:00 p.m.	Last day to file LSR’s with complete information.
Friday, January 17, 2003, 12:00 p.m.	Last day to sign-off on all House bills, including redraft requests.
Thursday, January 30, 2003	Last day to introduce all House bills.
	Last day to amend House Rules by majority vote.
Thursday, March 6, 2003	Last day to report all House bills being referred to a second committee.
Thursday, March 13, 2003	Last day to act on all House bills being referred to a second committee.
Thursday, March 20, 2003	Last day to report all House bills not in a second committee, except budgets.
Thursday, March 27, 2003	Last day to act on all House bills not in a second committee, except budgets.
Thursday, April 3, 2003	Last day to report all remaining House bills.
	Last day to hold public hearings on all House bills retained in committee.
	Last day for committees to report list of retained House bills.
Thursday, April 10, 2003	CROSSOVER -Last day to act on all remaining House bills.
Tuesday, April 22, 2003	Supplemental LSR filing period opens.
Thursday, April 24, 2003, 3:00 p.m.	Last day to file supplemental LSRs withcomplete information.
Thursday, May 8, 2003	Last day to report Senate bills being referred to a second committee.
Thursday, May 15, 2003	Last day to act on Senate bills beingreferred to a second committee.

Thursday, May 29, 2003	Last day to report all Senate bills for action in the first-year session.
	Last day to hold public hearings on all Senate bills retained in committee.
	Last day for committees to report list of retained Senate bills.
Thursday, June 5, 2003	Last day to act on all Senate bills in the first-year session.
Wednesday, June 11, 2003	Last day to form committees of conference.
Friday, June 13, 2003, 3:00 p.m.	Last day to sign-off all supplemental bills, including redrafts.
Wednesday, June 18, 2003, 3:00 p.m.	Last day to sign committee of conference reports.
Tuesday, June 24, 2003	Last day to act on committee of conference reports.
	Last day to introduce supplemental bills.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MONDAY, MARCH 17

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 100, State House

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 712-FN***, relative to long-term care.

9:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 392-LOCAL***, requiring a study by the office of state planning of ways to improve the delivery of information and training to planning board and zoning board members and ***HB 729-FN***, relative to the regulation of tanning facilities.

10:00 a.m. ***HB 671-FN-A***, establishing a contributory defined benefit judicial retirement plan.

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

FINANCE - (DIVISION I), Room 209, LOB

The following budget areas will be addressed in work session:

9:00 a.m. Department of Resources and Economic Development.

10:00 a.m. Department of Revenue Administration.

11:00 a.m. Board of Tax and Land Appeals.

1:00 p.m. Treasury.

2:00 p.m. LCHIP.

2:30 p.m. NH Retirement System.

The division may hold executive session throughout the day, time permitting, on pending bills or budget items.

FINANCE - (DIVISION II), ROOM 212, LOB

The following budget areas will be addressed in work session:

9:00 a.m. NH Community Technical College System.

1:00 p.m. University System.

The division may hold executive session throughout the day, time permitting, on pending bills or budget items.

FINANCE - (DIVISION III), ROOM 210-211, LOB

The following budget areas will be addressed in work session:

9:00 a.m. Office of Health Planning and Medicaid.

10:30 a.m. Office of Program Support.

1:00 p.m. Division of Family Assistance.

2:30 p.m. Division of Juvenile Justice System.

4:00 p.m. Division of Elderly and Adult Services.

5:30 p.m. Division of Child Support Services.

The division may hold executive session throughout the day, time permitting, on pending bills or budget items.

JUDICIARY, Room 208, LOB

10:00 a.m. **CACR 12**, relating to citizen review retention elections for judges. Providing that a judge shall be subject to a citizen review retention election at the biennial election next occurring after he or she has served for 2 years and subsequently at regular intervals which depend on the court in which the judge serves.

11:00 a.m. **CACR 11**, relating to legislative acts as expressions of the sovereign will of the people. Providing that every act of the legislature enacted in accordance with the procedures of the constitution shall be conclusively presumed to be constitutional as the expressed will of the people.

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 **HB 122**, relative to an informed jury.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 304, LOB

10:00 a.m. Full committee work session on **HB 366**, relative to mercury reduction.

11:00 a.m. Full committee work session on **HB 787-FN-A**, relative to renewable energy promotion.

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW, Room 206, LOB

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 620-FN**, providing a right to counsel for indigent parents and other protections in cases involving the guardianship of minors and **HB 674-FN**, relative to legal representation for indigent parties under the Child Protection Act.

9:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 268**, relative to motions for contempt of court orders regarding custody, visitation, or nonpayment of child support.

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

11:00 a.m. Full committee work session on **HB 553**, relative to same-sex civil unions contracted outside of the state of New Hampshire.

1:30 p.m. Full committee informational briefing with Nancy Rollins, DCYF, on the state foster care system.

CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMISSION (RSA 21-K:18), Room 203, LOB

1:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB

8:45 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 470**, relative to health insurance providers.

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 711-FN**, relative to the regulation of retail installment sales of motor vehicles and **HB 744**, relative to motor vehicle accidents involving uninsured motorists.

10:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 646-FN**, relative to liquor licenses and fees, **HB 414**, requiring liquor liability insurance for state liquor licensees and **HB 535**, relative to the definition of billiards/pool hall for purposes of liquor licenses.

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

11:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 680-FN**, relative to services contracts.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB

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

1:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 690-FN**, relative to agricultural crop damage.

EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB

10:00 a.m. **HB 801**, establishing a committee to study the implementation of effective student assistance programs in all schools.

11:00 a.m. **HB 804**, establishing a committee to study the certification of New Hampshire public schools in accordance with International Organization of Standards 9001 guidelines.

1:00 p.m. Rescheduled continued public hearing on **HB 133-LOCAL**, relative to amending certain articles of agreement in the Fall Mountain regional cooperative school district.

2:00 p.m. Rescheduled public hearing on **HB 362-LOCAL**, relative to approval of certain capital and operating costs in the Fall Mountain regional school district.

3:00 p.m. Rescheduled public hearing on **HB 542**, establishing a committee to study replacing the New Hampshire statewide improvement and assessment test with testing which complies with the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

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. Executive session on pending legislation.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 303, LOB

10:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 599-FN-LOCAL***, relative to hazardous waste liability.
11:00 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 100, State House

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 525-FN***, relative to use of certain out-of-state creditable service for eligibility for payment of medical benefits cost.
9:15 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 594-FN-LOCAL***, relative to the return of employer contributions for retirement system members who terminate employment prior to vesting.
9:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 657-FN***, relative to creditable service in the retirement system for the time that teachers were required to take pregnancy and maternity leave.
10:00 a.m. Full committee work and executive session on pending legislation.

FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB

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

FINANCE - (DIVISION I), Room 209, LOB

The following budget areas will be addressed in work session:

9:00 a.m. Adjutant Generals Department.
9:30 a.m. Department of Justice.
10:30 a.m. Bank Commission.
11:30 a.m. Judicial Branch.
1:00 p.m. Department of Agriculture.
1:30 p.m. Veterinary Examiners Board.
2:00 p.m. Department of Labor.
3:00 p.m. Public Utilities Commission.
3:30 p.m. Insurance Department.

The division may hold executive session throughout the day, time permitting, on pending bills or budget items.

FINANCE - (DIVISION II), Room 212, LOB

The following budget areas will be addressed in work session:

9:00 a.m. Division II work and executive session on the budget.

The division may hold executive session throughout the day, time permitting, on pending bills or budget items.

FINANCE - (DIVISION III), ROOM 210-211, LOB

The following budget areas will be addressed in work session:

9:00 a.m. Division III work and executive session on the budget.

The division may hold executive session throughout the day, time permitting, on pending bills or budget items.

FISH AND GAME, Room 307, LOB

10:00 a.m. ***SB 57-FN***, relative to certain accounts within the fish and game fund.

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

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

9:00 a.m. Rescheduled subcommittee work session on ***HB 758-FN***, relative to the criteria for medicaid eligibility.

9:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 709-FN***, relative to nursing homes in receivership.

10:00 a.m. ***SB 104***, relative to state administration of medicaid benefits and services for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

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

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

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB

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

2:30 p.m. ***SB 14***, relative to vacancies in county offices.

Public hearing on a proposed amendment to ***SB 14***, relative to vacancies in county offices. (The proposed amendment allows gifts to be accepted by the Gunstock Commissioners. Copies of the amendment will be available at the Sergeant-at-Arms counter).

3:00 p.m. Continued public hearing on ***HB 723-FN-LOCAL***, relative to the definition of residences in an industrial or commercial zone.

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

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB

10:15 a.m. Executive session on ***HB 25-FN-A***, making appropriations for capital improvements and pending legislation.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Room 305, LOB

10:00 a.m. Continued public hearing on ***HB 339***, establishing a committee to study the use of certain state-owned property along the Baker River.

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

11:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 152***, relative to regulation by political subdivisions of OHRV trails and exempting certain rail trails use from the state trail evaluation process, ***HB 385***, requiring compliance with local ordinances in the establishment of public ATV and trail bike trails on private lands, ***HB 748***, making changes to the laws governing off highway recreational vehicles and ***HB 795***, establishing a committee to study deaths and injuries caused by OHRV use by minors.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 304, LOB

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

TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB

10:15 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 202, LOB

10:00 a.m. Public hearing on a proposed amendment to **HB 705**, establishing a committee to study eliminating the application of the communications services tax to the provision of Internet services. (The proposed amendment extends the temporary rate of the communications services tax and the exemption for wooden poles. Copies of the amendment will be available at the Sergeant-at-Arms counter.)

10:30 a.m. **HB 810-FN-A**, relative to processing excavating and dredging and terrain alteration permits, changing the fees for permits, establishing 2 new positions, and making an appropriation therefor.

10:45 a.m. **HB 280-FN**, relative to the poison information center.

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW, Room 206, LOB

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

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

COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB

10:00 a.m. Continued public hearing on **HB 481**, prohibiting unfair trade practices in the production and sale of milk and dairy products.

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

11:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 694-FN**, relative to tobacco product manufacturers not entering master settlement agreements.

11:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 604**, relative to the filing of federal liens under the uniform federal lien registration act, **HB 827**, establishing a committee to study the costs and benefits to the state of a state-level community reinvestment act for credit unions and non-bank mortgage lenders doing business in this state and **HB 837-FN**, relative to the release of real estate liens.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB

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

EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB

9:00 a.m. Rescheduled subcommittee work session on **HB 139**, establishing a committee to study the collection and reporting of school drop-out, suspension, and expulsion data.

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

ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB

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

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Room 303, LOB

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

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 100, State House

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 585-FN***, allowing teachers of private academies which provide public education to be included in the retirement system, ***HB 686-FN***, relative to health insurance provided through the state and ***HB 302-FN***, relative to disability retirement benefits for group II members injured in the performance of duty.

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

FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB

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

FINANCE - (DIVISION I), Room 209, LOB

The following budget areas will be addressed in work session:

9:00 a.m. Liquor Commission.

10:15 a.m. Department of Employment Security.

10:45 a.m. Judicial Council and Marital Mediators Board.

11:15 a.m. Highway Safety Agency.

1:00 p.m. Department of Safety.

2:30 p.m. Department of Corrections and Parole Board.

The division may hold executive session throughout the day, time permitting, on pending bills or budget items.

FINANCE - (DIVISION II), ROOM 212, LOB

Work and executive session on the following bills:

1:00 p.m. ***HB 135-FN-L***, relative to charter schools.

HB 565-FN-A, establishing a commission to implement the Hampton Beach Master Plan.

HB 590-FN-A, relative to highway fund budget reporting requirements.

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

9:00 a.m. Regular business.

9:30 a.m. Audits: Management letter for the State of New Hampshire for the year ended June 30, 2002.

State of New Hampshire single audit of Federal Financial Assistance Programs for the year ended June 30, 2002.

FISH AND GAME, Room 307, LOB

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

JUDICIARY, Room 208, LOB

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

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, Room 306, LOB

- 8:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 747***, establishing the crime victim employment leave act.
- 9:00 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB

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

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB

- 9:30 a.m. Executive session on ***HB 25-FN-A***, making appropriations for capital improvements and pending legislation.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Room 305, LOB

- 9:30 a.m. Subcommittee work session on ***HB 152***, relative to regulation by political subdivisions of OHRV trails and exempting certain rail trails use from the state trail evaluation process, ***HB 385***, requiring compliance with local ordinances in the establishment of public ATV and trail bike trails on private lands, ***HB 748***, making changes to the laws governing off highway recreational vehicles and ***HB 795***, establishing a committee to study deaths and injuries caused by OHRV use by minors.
- 10:30 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 304, LOB

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

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 202, LOB

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW, Room 206, LOB

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

COMMERCE, Room 302, LOB

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

EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB

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

ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB

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

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 100, State House

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

FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB

- 10:00 a.m. Executive session on pending legislation.
- 11:00 a.m. ***HB 663-FN-A-L***, relative to county and state funding of long-term care medicaid programs.

3:00 p.m. ***HB 608-FN-L***, reducing the education property tax rate and relative to the calculation of adequate education grants.

4:00 p.m. ***HB 717-FN-L***, relative to targeted aid to education.

5:00 p.m. ***HB 746-FN-A***, revising the property tax relief program.

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

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

Work and executive session on the following bills:

9:00 a.m. ***CACR 4***, relating to the use of revenues for educational purposes. Providing that all moneys from the education trust fund be used exclusively for state aid to education.

HB 286, establishing a committee to study certain proposals to fund education in New Hampshire.

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

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

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB

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

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB

10:00 a.m. Executive session on ***HB 25-FN-A***, making appropriations for capital improvements and pending legislation.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT, Room 305, LOB

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

STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, Room 306, LOB

10:30 a.m. Full committee work and executive session on ***HCR 15***, relative to relaxing air quality standards by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 202, LOB

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

FINANCE - (DIVISION I), Room 209, LOB

Work and executive session on the following bills:

9:00 a.m. ***HB 274-A***, making an appropriation for the restoration of the White Island Light Station.

HB 353-FN-A, making an appropriation for the pilot program to study and establish protected instream flows and water management plans on the Lamprey River and the Souhegan River.

HB 643-FN, relative to establishing the family division of the courts statewide.

HB 649-FN-A, establishing a building permit surcharge to fund regional planning initiatives

HB 109-FN, relative to telemarketing practices.

HB 738-FN-A-LOCAL, permitting aid to public water systems to be used for forming or improving regional water systems and making an appropriation therefor.

HB 737-FN-A, relative to the state conservation committee and making an appropriation therefor.

HB 728-FN-A, establishing a dedicated fund for organic certification inspections.

HB 578-FN-A, establishing a program for self-certification by small quantity hazardous waste generators and making an appropriation therefor.

HB 577-FN-A-LOCAL, relative to implementing the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and relative to rulemaking by the secretary of state.

HB 702-FN, relative to payment of medical benefits costs for disabled group II members of the retirement system.

HB 719-FN-A, relative to the duties, function, and operation of the Pease development authority.

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

FINANCE - (DIVISION II), ROOM 212, LOB

Work and executive session on the following bills:

9:00 a.m. **HB 724-FN-LOCAL**, extending the effective date of the Skyhaven airport transfer plan.

HB 786-FN-LOCAL, relative to the participation of the state and its political subdivisions in the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

HB 751-FN-LOCAL, implementing an alternative school building aid grant formula, establishing size and cost standards for the construction of new school facilities, and permitting high school vocational technical education programs which lease space to be eligible for school building aid grants.

HB 621-FN-A-LOCAL, establishing an early childhood literacy program.

HB 619-FN-A, expanding opportunities for dropout prevention and dropout recovery and making an appropriation therefor.

2:00 p.m. Work and executive session on the budget.

FINANCE - (DIVISION III), ROOM 210-211, LOB

Work and executive session on the following bills:

9:00 a.m. **HB 663-FN-A-LOCAL**, relative to county and state funding of long-term care medicaid programs.

10:30 a.m. **HB 677-FN**, increasing the number of reserved student slots in medical programs, and establishing a loan forgiveness program for physicians who practice in underserved areas, and making an appropriation therefor.

HB 788-FN-A, transferring the duties of health services planning and review board.

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

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TASK FORCE ON FAMILY LAW (HB 447, Chapter 250:1, Laws of 2002), Room 204, LOB

12:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

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

Work and executive session on the following bills:

9:30 a.m. **HB 608-FN-LOCAL**, reducing the education property tax rate and relative to the calculation of adequate education grants.

HB 717-FN-LOCAL, relative to targeted aid to education.

HB 746-FN-A, revising the property tax relief program.

MONDAY, MARCH 24

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB

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

FINANCE - (DIVISION I), Room 209, LOB

10:00 a.m. Work and executive session on the budget and pending legislation

FINANCE - (DIVISION II), ROOM 212, LOB

10:00 a.m. Work and executive session on the budget and pending legislation

FINANCE - (DIVISION III), ROOM 210-211, LOB

10:00 a.m. Work and executive session on the budget and pending legislation

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting and hearing.

PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE DELIVERY OF LOCAL ASSISTANCE (HB 1109, Chapter 184:1, Laws of 2002), Room 301, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 21-P:51), Room 205, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

EXAMINE AND ACCESS THE STATUS OF CIVIC EDUCATION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE (HB 1151, Chapter 188:2, Laws of 2002), Room 207, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TASK FORCE ON RE-ESTABLISHING THE LAWRENCE, MA TO MANCHESTER, NH AND THE CONCORD TO

LEBANON RAIL SERVICE (HB 258, Chapter 271:1, Laws of 2001), Room 203, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

EDUCATION, Room 207, LOB

10:00 a.m. Rescheduled public hearing on ***SB 22***, amending the duties of the public higher education study committee.

10:45 a.m. Rescheduled public hearing on ***SB 26***, removing the penalty against teachers who fail to keep registers.

11:30 a.m. Rescheduled public hearing on ***SB 51-FN***, relative to membership on the New England Board of Higher Education.

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

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

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

GOVERNOR’S COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND TREATMENT (RSA 12-J), Rooms 201-203, LOB

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

ETHICS COMMITTEE (RSA 14-B:2), Room 103, State House

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

GUARDIANS AD LITEM BOARD (RSA 490-C:1), Room 102, LOB

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, aPRIL 21

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

COUNTY DELEGATION NOTICE

Merrimack County Delegation will meet on Thursday, **March 20th** at 7:00 p.m. to adopt the 2003 Merrimack County Budget and to consider appropriations of not more than one million (\$1,000,000) and authorization of bonds in the amount of not more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to finance upgrades to the Waste Water Treatment Facility in Boscawen. This meeting will take place at the McDonnell Administration Building, 4 Court Street, Concord.

Rep. William E. Leber, Chairman

Merrimack County Delegation

COUNTY DELEGATION NOTICE

The members of the Rockingham County Delegation will meet on Wednesday, **March 19** at 6:00 p.m. in the Hilton Auditorium at the Rockingham County Complex in Brentwood to approve the 2003 County Budget.

Rep. David A. Welch, Clerk

Rockingham County Delegation

REVISED FISCAL NOTES

The following HBs and SBs have revised fiscal notes: HBs 65, 69, 91, 104, 177, 258, 447, 483, 603, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 617, 618, 619, 621, 622, 623, 624, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 637, 638, 639, 640, 644, 646, 659, 661, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 669, 670, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 687, 688, 690, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 701, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 716, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 730, 732, 735, 738, 739, 741, 743, 746, 751, 758, 760, 772, 783, 784, 785, 787, 788, 796, 802, 803, 810, 813, 814, 823, 824, 826, 828 and 830. SB 14.

Karen O. Wadsworth, Clerk of the House

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.

Natalie S. Flanagan, PO Box 959, Atkinson, New Hampshire 03811-0959.

Thomas E.P. Rice, PO Box 1006, Laconia, New Hampshire 03247-1006.

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

Karen O. Wadsworth, Clerk of the House

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.

From time to time the Speaker receives reports and audits from various committees, commissions, and departments. On the chance that some of these reports might be of interest to a member, I will periodically list the report that are received in the Speaker’s office and available for viewing.

Reports most recently received include:

NH Dept. of Transportation’s Bridge and Program Status Report

Department of Environmental Services' 2002 Solid Waste Report

Report of the Certificate of Need Task Force dated January 2003

Gene G. Chandler, Speaker

Members of the NH House are encouraged to utilize the complimentary ski privileges afforded them. Upon presentation of proper credentials at the ticket window, legislative members may receive a lift ticket for their personal use and one for a guest. The elected official must be present to personally present the credentials unless prior arrangement is made with Commissioner Bald. (*Lift tickets are to be picked up at Guest Services or the Ticket Window at Cannon.*)

Gene G. Chandler, Speaker

The House Republican Alliance will meet each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. at the Upham Walker House, Park Street (across from the State House).

Rep. Michael A. Balboni

The Main Street Republicans will meet every Thursday at 8:30 a.m. at the Upham Walker House, Park Street (across from the State House).

Rep. Paul D. Spiess

Bobby Stephen's 25th Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration benefiting Jobs for NH Graduates will be held Monday, **March 17** at the Executive Court Banquet Facility in Manchester beginning at 4:30 p.m. Tickets for dinner and dancing can be purchased at the door for \$30.00.

Gene G. Chandler, Speaker

New Hampshire's Housing Challenge

The Main Street Republicans and the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority are co-hosting a legislative luncheon and educational forum on Wednesday, **March 19th** from noon to 1:15 p.m. at the Tuck Library. All legislators are invited. The guest speaker, Peter Francese, will present demographic information on population growth trends and related housing and economic issues. Providing work force housing is an emerging issue that has long term impact on economic growth. Please join us for lunch. RSVP to Becky Pinard at the NHHFA (310-9282) by March 17th.

Rep. Paul D. Spiess

In celebration of the YMCA Youth in Government Program and Legislative Awareness Day, all legislators are cordially invited to join the New Hampshire State Alliance of YMCAs at St. Paul's Church Conference Center across the street from the State House on Thursday, **March 20th**, during the session day lunch break for an informal luncheon reception. Sandwiches, hot and cold drinks, and dessert will be provided.

Rep. Larry A. Emerton

All legislators and guests are invited to attend the Rockingham County Republican Committee Lincoln Day Dinner celebrating A Salute to Our Republican Leadership. Governor Benson, Senator Sununu and Congressmen Bass and Bradley will be the guests of honor (unfortunately a scheduling conflict will prohibit Senator Gregg from attending). The dinner will be held at Yoken's Restaurant on Sunday, **March 23rd**, beginning with a cocktail hour at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$35 each and can be ordered from any Rockingham County Republican Town Committee member, the Dinner's Chairwoman, Rep. Mary Griffin (432-0959), or the Vice Chairman, Rep. Al Weare (474-9454).

Rep. Mary E. Griffin

Financing Community Based Long Term Care

Guest speaker is David Braddock, Associate Vice President for Research at the University of Colorado and Executive Director of the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities. This event is sponsored by Rep. Peter Batula and Senator Jane O'Hearn and is funded through NH's Real Choice Systems Challenge Grant. This event will take place at St. Paul's Church, across from the State House, in Concord on Tuesday, **March 25**. There are two opportunities to attend: A breakfast will be served from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. and a luncheon will be served from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Rep. Peter L. Batula

The Strafford County GOP committee will hold its monthly meeting at the Gateway Restaurant in Somersworth on Tuesday, **March 25th** at 7:00 p.m.

Rep. Phyllis L. Woods

The American Red Cross in New Hampshire cordially invites all legislators and staff to its annual breakfast on Thursday, **March 27**, 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. in the State House cafeteria.

Rep. Elizabeth S. Hager

The University of New Hampshire Alumni Association and Parents Association are pleased to invite members of the New Hampshire General Court to the annual UNH Legislative Breakfast on Thursday, **March 27** from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at the New Hampshire Historical Society Tuck Library, Park Street, Concord.

Rep. Marjorie K. Smith

In recognition of "Save Your Vision Month", the NH Optometric Association invites legislators and staff to a reception on Thursday, **March 27**, at 4:30 p.m. at the Barley House on Main Street in Concord.

Rep. David W. Hess

All legislators are invited to attend the next meeting of the Emergency Management System Joint Legislative Oversight Committee to learn more about bioterrorism, public health emergency preparedness initiatives, and the New Hampshire Smallpox Plan. Many efforts have already been made to inform and educate local public health departments, EMTs, fire departments, police departments, health care providers, and the general public regarding these issues. However, more remains to be done if local officials are to understand how state public health officials plan to respond to bioterrorist acts. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, **March 28th** at 10:00 a.m. in Room 205, LOB

Rep. Peter L. Batula

Arts Awareness Day for the Legislature will be held on Thursday, **April 10**. There will be a breakfast for legislators at the NH Historical Society, Tuck Library, 30 Park Street, Concord from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Theme: The arts are important to NH and to the State's economy. This event is sponsored by NH Citizens for the Arts, a nonpartisan, statewide, grassroots advocacy group. To become a member or for more information, call 225-1998.

Rep. Peter H. Burling

The Department of Transportation will hold the following meeting:

March 17 – Berlin City Hall Auditorium, 168 Main Street, Berlin, 7:30 p.m. Councilmen meeting, Berlin, NH Route 110.

March 26 – Randolph Town Hall, 10:00 – noon, Jefferson Town Hall 2:00-4:00 p.m. Informal discussion, Jefferson-Randolph, reconstruction safety improvements and shoulder widening from NH 115 intersection east approximately 5.0 miles to Durand Road.

March 26 – Jefferson Town Hall, 698 Presidential Highway, Jefferson, 6:30 p.m. Public informational meeting, Jefferson-Randolph, reconstruction safety improvements and shoulder widening from NH 115 intersection east approximately 5.0 miles to Durand Road.

April 15 – Hudson Town Hall, 12 School Street, Hudson, 7:00 p.m. Combined public officials/public informational meeting, Hudson, NH 102, West Road and Robinson Road intersection improvements, turn lane, signal and truck lane.

April 30 – Nashua City Hall Auditorium, 229 Main Street (use Elm Street door), Nashua, 7:00 p.m. Public hearing (Commission), Nashua, Park and ride facility and potential for future construction of a rail platform-station to provide commuter rail connections into MA.

Rep. Edwin O. Smith, Chairman

Public Works and Highways Committee

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 **March** 2003. 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
March 17	9:30	Peter Woodbury Elementary School – Bedford	4/23
March 17	11:00	East Kingston Elementary School	4/30
March 18	9:30 & 11:00	Maple Avenue Elementary School - Goffstown	4/50
March 18	12:30	Henniker Elementary School	4/18
March 19	9:30 & 11:00	Maple Avenue Elementary School – Goffstown	4/50
March 19	10:00 & 11:30	Moultonborough Central	4/60
March 20	9:30 & 11:00	Maple Avenue Elementary School - Goffstown	4/50
March 20	12:30	Maplewood Elementary School-Somersworth	3&4/40
March 21	9:30, 11:00 & 12:30	Jaffrey Grade School	4/40
March 21	11:00	Sarah Porter School – Langdon	3&4/19
March 24	10:30	Charlestown Primary School	4/40
March 24	12:30 & 1:45	Stratham Memorial School	4/64
March 25	9:30 & 11:00	Seabrook Elementary School	4/50
March 25	1:00	Hearts For Home Homeschool- Concord	4-8/20
March 26	9:30 & 11:00	Seabrook Elementary School	4/40
March 26	12:30 & 1:30	Paul School – Sanbornville	4/66
March 27	9:30 & 11:00	Symonds Elementary School – Keene	4/57
March 28	9:00 & 10:15	Conant Elementary School – Concord	4/60
March 28	12:30 & 1:45	Stratham Memorial School	4/44
March 31	9:30 & 11:00	Hillsboro Deering Elementary School	4/44

March 31	10:00 & 11:15	Bakersville Elementary School – Manchester	4/46
March 31	12:30 & 1:30	Cutler School – West Swanzey	4/60

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

AMENDMENTS

(LISTED IN NUMERICAL ORDER)

2003-0055h

Amendment to HB 213

Proposed by the Committee on Finance - C

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 State Treasurer and State Accounts; Reporting Requirements for Dedicated Funds; Disclosure of Transfers. Amend RSA 6:12-e, I(b) to read as follows:

(b) The amount of revenue deposited into the fund, account, or trust, and the amount expended from, *transferred into, and transferred out of* said fund, account, or trust during the prior 2 fiscal years.

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires dedicated fund reports to include the amount of revenue transferred into or out of the fund, account, or trust during the prior 2 fiscal years.

2003-0471h

Amendment to HB 303

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce - C

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 4 with the following:

5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2004.

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill makes certain technical corrections in the laws relating to life, accident, and health insurance.

2003-0441h

Amendment to HB 368

Proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means - C

Amend RSA 6:12, I(b)(18) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

~~[(18)]~~ **(18)** Money received under RSA ~~[341-A:18]~~ **434:36**, which shall be credited to the apple marketing account.

Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by inserting after subparagraph (210) the following new subparagraphs:

(211) Moneys deposited in the lab certification fund under RSA 485:46.

(212) Moneys deposited in the drug free school zone signs fund under RSA 193-B:7.

(213) Moneys deposited in the education credentialing fund under RSA 186:11, X.

(214) Moneys deposited in the trapping education funds under RSA 207:17, II and RSA 210:25.

(215) Moneys deposited in the department of fish and game's stamp and permit fund under RSA 214:9-e, IV.

(216) Moneys deposited in the restitution for illegal taking fund under RSA 207:55, III.

(217) Moneys deposited in the radiation user and laboratory fees fund under RSA 125-F:8-b.

(218) Moneys deposited in the New Hampshire emergency response and recovery fund under RSA 21-P:46.

(219) Moneys deposited in the national guard's chargeable transient quarters (QTC) and billeting fund and the army national guard state training center program management fund under RSA 110-B:32-a.

(220) Moneys deposited in the Connecticut Lakes headwaters tract monitoring endowment fund under RSA 216:7.

(221) Moneys deposited in the Connecticut Lakes headwaters natural stewardship endowment account under RSA 216:9.

(222) Moneys deposited in the Connecticut Lakes headwaters tract road maintenance endowment fund under RSA 216:10.

(223) Moneys deposited in the department of cultural resources donations fund under RSA 21-K:4-a.

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Renumbers the list of dedicated funds in RSA 6:12.

II. Adds references to existing dedicated funds that were previously omitted from RSA 6:12.

III. Removes statutory references to the inventor's assistance program fund, the New Hampshire heritage trust fund, and the disabled person's employment fund.

2003-0575h

Amendment to HB 394

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Election Law - R

Amend RSA 655:10, I as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. No person shall file declaration of candidacy or primary petitions for nomination at the primary for incompatible offices. For the purposes of this section, incompatible offices shall include the offices of governor, **United States senator, United States representative**, representative to the general court, state senator, [and] councilor, **county sheriff, county attorney, county treasurer, register of deeds, and register of probate**. If any person shall file for [such] incompatible offices, the secretary of state shall advise the person of the provisions hereof and said person shall then advise the secretary of state which of said offices he **or she** wishes to retain in order to seek said nomination. If a filing fee has been paid for a declaration of candidacy which [he] **the person** declines, the fee shall be returned to [him] **the person**. No person shall seek or hold the position as a member of the general court and county commissioner at the same time. ~~[No person shall hold 2 of the offices mentioned in RSA 655:9 at the same time, and the acceptance of one of them shall be a resignation of the others.]~~

2003-0485h

Amendment to HB 528

Proposed by the Committee on Education - C

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 Duties. The commission shall study computer standards used in public schools in New Hampshire. The commission shall:

I. Evaluate the New Hampshire Information Technology Pathway program and determine if it would be appropriate to adopt

such program in the public schools.

II. Determine if the New Hampshire Information Technology Pathway program meets the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

III. Study increasing the number of credit hours required for computer education at the elementary and secondary school levels.

IV. Apply for, receive, and expend any available federal, state, or private funds.

V. Accept donations, gifts, equipment, or other items which may assist the commission in the completion of its charge.

2003-0303h

Amendment to HB 598-FN-A

Proposed by the Committee on Finance - R

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following and renumbering the original section 2 to read as 3:

2 Fertilizers; Registration. Amend RSA 431:4, I to read as follows:

I. Each brand and grade of fertilizer shall be registered in the name of that person whose name appears upon the label before being distributed in this state. The application for registration shall be submitted to the commissioner on a form furnished by the commissioner and shall be accompanied by a fee of [~~\$50~~] **\$75** per grade of each brand sold.

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides for funding for the agricultural nutrient management program through June 30, 2005, and requires the commissioner to apply through the department of environmental services for a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

This bill also raises the fee for fertilizer registration.

2003-0626h

Amendment to HB 616-FN-LOCAL

Proposed by the Committee on Municipal and County Government - C

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Hampton Real Estate Trust Fund; Principal and Interest. Amend 1975, 314:1 as amended by 1983, 3:1 to read as follows:

314:1 Authorization for Real Estate Trust Fund. The town of Hampton may, at any regular or special meeting, provide that the proceeds of sales of land or interests in lands, other than land or interests in land acquired by taking for non payment of taxes or land under the administration of the town's conservation commission, shall be paid over to the town's trustees of trust funds, to be invested and reinvested by them. The trustees are authorized to obtain the services of a bank or professional management company. [~~The income from the fund shall be paid annually or more often into the town's general fund.~~] The principal of the fund shall remain intact. ***The principal of the trust fund may be used to finance capital improvements of the town when authorized in accordance with the procedures under RSA 33:8. The amount of money borrowed shall be paid back to the real estate fund plus interest. The rate of interest shall be the prevailing bank rate charged to municipalities as determined by the trustees of the fund. The amortization schedule on any loan shall not exceed 15 years. The total of all loans shall not exceed 75 percent of the fund's value. Income from the trust may be retained in the trust fund in anticipation of future projects or it may be paid into the town's general fund as determined by the town's legislative body.***

2003-0550h

Amendment to HB 693-FN

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Election Law - R

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 Number of Recounts. Amend RSA 660:3 to read as follows:

660:3 Number of Recounts. Any candidate for whom a vote was cast for any office at a state general election shall be entitled to apply for only one recount under this chapter, and the declaration made by the secretary of state under RSA 660:6 shall be final, subject to a change in the result following an appeal to the ballot law commission, as provided in RSA ~~[665:6, H]~~ **665:8, II. If more than one candidate for the same office in the same district applies for a recount under this chapter, and a recount is completed, such applications shall not result in a second recount.**

2003-0597h

Amendment to HB 720-FN-LOCAL

Proposed by the Committee on Finance - R

Amend the bill by replacing sections 1-2 with the following:

1 Public Kindergarten Programs; Per Pupil Reimbursement. Amend 1999, 65:9, I(a) as amended by 2000, 289:2, as amended by 2001, 158:37 to read as follows:

I.(a) If a school district implements a public kindergarten program during school year 1999-2000 through school year ~~[2002-2003]~~ **2004-2005** inclusive, the school district maintaining such a kindergarten program shall receive reimbursement at the rate of \$1200 per pupil from the education trust fund created in RSA 198:39 for each fiscal year through June 30, ~~[2003]~~ **2005**.

2 Adequate Education Grants; Footnote Added. Amend 2001, 130:1, 06, 03, 02, 02, 04, class 91 to read as follows:

06 EDUCATION FISCAL YEAR 2002 FISCAL YEAR 2003

03 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

02 OFFICE OF THE DEP COMMISSIONER

02 FINANCIAL AID TO DISTRICTS-ST.

04 ADEQUATE EDUCATION GRANTS

90 HARDSHIP GRANTS 5,000,000 5,000,000

91 ADEQUATE EDUCATION GRANTS* 882,630,084 899,495,135

TOTAL 887,630,084 904,495,135

*** The total appropriated in Class 91 includes \$1,972,800 for fiscal year 2002 for kindergarten aid and \$2,625,600 in fiscal year 2003 for kindergarten aid. The amount appropriated for kindergarten aid in fiscal year 2003 shall not lapse until June 30, 2005.**

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill extends kindergarten aid through June 30, 2005 for those school districts which implemented a public kindergarten program during school year 1999-2000 through school year 2005-2005 inclusive.

2003-0617h

Amendment to HB 770-FN-A

Proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means - C

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT establishing a committee to study using tax policy to create incentives to encourage employers to hire disabled persons.

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

1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study using tax policy to create incentives to encourage employers to hire disabled persons.

2 Membership and Compensation.

I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

(a) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house.

(b) Three members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the committee.

3 Duties. The committee shall study using tax policy to create incentives to encourage employers to hire disabled persons. The committee shall examine tax incentive programs of other jurisdictions which are designed to encourage hiring of disabled persons.

4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named house member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate president, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2003.

6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This act establishes a committee to study using tax policy to create incentives to encourage employers to hire disabled persons.

2003-0625h

Amendment to HB 773

Proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means - R

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 Duties.

I. The committee shall study the benefits of establishing a tuition tax credit program and the financial impact of granting a credit against state taxes for tuition paid to nonpublic schools or to qualifying nonprofit student scholarship programs. Such a program may:

(a) Allow parents of students to choose a nonpublic school education and to receive a credit against the statewide education property tax, the interest and dividends tax, or the business profits tax; and

(b) Allow other taxpayers to receive a similar credit by contributing to a qualifying nonprofit student scholarship organization which pays the tuition for eligible nonpublic school students.

II. The committee shall examine various scenarios related to eligibility levels, tax credit caps, household income thresholds, and estimated participation in order to determine financial impact on the state, the nonpublic school education programs, and the taxpayers of New Hampshire. A principal goal of the committee shall be to assess how and if such a program can be structured to be combined revenue expenditure balanced to state and local government obligations for funding public education.

2003-0618h

Amendment to HB 805

Proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means - R

Amend RSA 17-Q:4 and 17-Q:5 as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing them with the following:

17-Q:4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the panel shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The panel shall adopt rules for its procedures and meetings. Six members of the panel shall constitute a quorum. In conducting its business, the panel may solicit relevant information and testimony from a variety of sources, including:

I. The legislative budget assistant.

II. The commissioner of the department of revenue administration.

III. The commissioner of administrative services.

IV. The commissioner of the department of transportation.

V. The commissioner of the department of safety.

VI. The commissioners of the state liquor commission.

VII. The commissioner of the department of insurance.

VIII. The commissioner of the department of health and human services.

17-Q:5 Report. The panel shall provide quarterly reports of its findings and recommendations on November 1, February 1, May 1, and August 1 to the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate president, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, the chairs of the house and senate ways and means and finance committees, and the state library. The first such report shall be filed on November 1, 2003.