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HOUSE RECORD

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Contains: Corrected Committee Reports

ADDENDUM TO HOUSE CALENDAR NO. 11

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 CONSENT CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

HB 338, relative to grounds for termination of parental rights. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Daniel Itse for Children and Family Law. Currently, RSA 169-C:24-a requires the state to file a petition for the termination of parental rights when the parent has been convicted of murder of another child of the parent, a sibling or step-sibling of the child, the child's other parent or in certain other circumstances. This bill extends the filing requirement for termination of parental rights not for children born after the parent's conviction as well as those children born before the conviction. This section only requires a filing to be made by the state. The determination as to whether parental rights will be terminated is still one to be made by the court in each individual case; judges are free to decide that parental rights should not be terminated if circumstances warrant such a conclusion. **Vote 13-1.**

REGULAR CALENDAR - PART ONE

EDUCATION

HB 386-FN, relative to technical corrections to the education tax credit statute. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for the **Majority** of Education. This bill makes minor technical corrections to the education tax credit statutes which are providing scholarship opportunities for low and middle income children to attend non-public schools. Changes to current statute include removing certain restrictions on carrying forward contributions, expanding the time period for businesses to submit education tax credit applications and donations, and authorizing the use of scholarships for distance education, tutors, and college courses for high schoolers. **Vote 11-6.**

Rep. Mary Heath for the **Minority** of Education. The minority finds that HB 386 further reduces the revenue going into the general fund from the business tax. Questions remain as to the oversight of the manner in which these funds are used and the question persists as to the use of state funds for religiously affiliated purposes.

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HB 435-FN, relative to funding of the national guard scholarship fund. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Skip Rollins for the **Majority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The majority believes in order to have a well trained force that seeks quality applicants, we must ensure they are educated. This will keep up and maintain our National Guard to be more proficient in their duties. This scholarship fund will be used as a recruitment tool, along with ensuring we maintain a quality educated force. Per the

amendment, the money will be drawn from the Treasury and will not take monies from operations of the Air & National Guard. **Vote 16-2.**

Rep. Elizabeth Edwards for the **Minority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The bill's sponsor repeatedly described this bill as a "win-win," but any bill that spends money is, by its nature, "win-lose." Dollars spent on another benefit for military members can't be spent on one of the many underfunded needs in this state.

REGULAR CALENDAR - PART TWO

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 272, relative to the election of county commissioners in Carroll county. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Carolyn Matthews for the **Majority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill concerns the method of electing county commissioners in Carroll county. As in other counties, Carroll County elects commissioners from the district in which they reside. Unlike some other counties, the voters in the entire county subsequently vote on each commissioner. Some counties provide that only the voters in a particular district will vote to elect their commissioner. Counties of different sizes should be entitled to base their voting methods on their own circumstances. The method of electing county commissioners in Carroll County has not seemed to be a problem due to its small size. The committee heard testimony that the overwhelming majority of elected representatives in Carroll County support keeping county commissioner districts and elections as they are, and that his legislation is unnecessary. **Vote 9-4.**

Rep. Clyde Carson for the **Minority** of Municipal and County Government. In eight counties, the county commissioners sign up to run for office within their district and are voted on by their district. Carroll county is an exception, where the county commissioners sign up to run in their district, but are voted on by the entire county. Using this logic, state representatives would sign up to run in their district, but be voted on by their entire county.