



State of
New Hampshire

HOUSE RECORD

First Year of the 165th General Court

Calendar and Journal of the 2017 Session

Web Site Address: www.gencourt.state.nh.us

Vol. 39

Concord, N.H.

Friday, March 3, 2017

No. 14

Contains: Reports and Amendments; House Deadlines; Meetings and Notices

HOUSE CALENDAR

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE:

The next House session will be **Wednesday, March 8th, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.** The House will also meet on **Thursday, March 9th at 9:30 a.m.** (Please note Thursday's earlier time.)

In this calendar, under the Labor Committee, you will see the report for HB 520, relative to right to work. The House did vote to indefinitely postpone SB 11 on February 16th while the bill had already been disposed of by the committee. The vote to indefinitely postpone means that we cannot consider the subject matter again during the biennium unless 2/3 of the House votes otherwise. However, because the committee has issued a report on this bill, it does need to appear in the calendar. When we arrive at this bill during session, the question before the body will be "Shall the House consider HB 520?" A *yes* vote means we would consider the report, and a *no* vote means we would not. In order for the yes vote to pass, it would require 2/3 of those present and voting to vote in the affirmative. A no vote means that the House will not consider the bill and it dies in a "miscellaneous" status in the records.

Also in this calendar (following the 2017 House Deadlines), you will see the text of HR 9, affirming revenue estimates. The Ways and Means Committee brought forward HR 9 under House Rules with a unanimous vote this week. We will discuss and adopt these revenue estimates at the next session.

For planning purposes, please note that there will be no legislative activity scheduled on Tuesday, March 14th, Town Meeting Day.

Reimbursement for travel to Concord will be limited to Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, unless prior approval has been received from the Speaker or if you are a member of a statutory committee that meets on Mondays or Fridays.

Shawn N. Jasper, Speaker

NOTICE

There will be a meeting of chairs and vice chairs on **Tuesday, March 7th at 9:00 a.m.** in Rooms 202-204 of the Legislative Office Building.

Shawn N. Jasper, Speaker

NOTICE

There will be a Republican caucus on **Wednesday, March 8th at 9:00 a.m.** in Representatives Hall.
There will be a Republican caucus on **Thursday, March 9th at 9:00 a.m.** in Representatives Hall.

Rep. Dick Hinch

NOTICE

There will be a Democratic caucus on **Wednesday, March 8th at 9:00 a.m.** in Rooms 210-211, LOB.
There will be a Democratic caucus on **Thursday, March 9th at 9:00 a.m.** in Rooms 210-211, LOB.

Rep. Stephen Shurtleff

NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION

On February 16, 2017 at 4:05 p.m., Representative John Sytek, having voted with the prevailing side, served notice of reconsideration on the motion of **Inexpedient to Legislate** on **HCR 4, urging Congress to propose the Regulation Freedom amendment to the United States Constitution**, which the House passed on a voice vote.

Paul C. Smith
Clerk of the House

NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION

On February 16, 2017 at 10:28 p.m., Representative Jody McNally, having voted with the prevailing side, served notice of reconsideration on the motion of **Inexpedient to Legislate** on **HB 365-FN, relative to awarding attorney's fees under the right-to-know law**, which the House passed on a roll call vote of 207-166.

Paul C. Smith
Clerk of the House

NOTICE

ALL reports, scheduling and notices are due in the House Clerk's Office by **3:00 p.m. on WEDNESDAYS**. Reports and scheduling shall be turned in to House Committee Services for processing ***no later than 1:00 p.m.*** on Wednesday. Please be sure to complete that work in a timely fashion to meet the Calendar deadline.

CLOSES AT 3:00 p.m. ON:

Wednesday, March 8, 2017
Wednesday, March 15, 2017
Wednesday, March 22, 2017

AVAILABLE ON:

Friday, March 10, 2017
Friday, March 17, 2017
Friday, March 24, 2017
Paul C. Smith, Clerk of the House

2017 HOUSE DEADLINES

Thursday, March 9, 2017	Last day to act on HBs not in a second committee, except budget bills
Thursday, March 16, 2017	Last day to report all HBs, except budget bills
	Last day to report list of retained HBs
Thursday, March 23, 2017	Last day to act on all HBs, except budget bills
Thursday, March 30, 2017	Last day to report budget bills
Thursday, April 6, 2017	BUDGET CROSSOVER. Last day to act on budget bills
Thursday, April 27, 2017	Last day to report Senate Bills going to a second committee
Thursday, May 4, 2017	Last day to act on SBs going to a second committee
Thursday, May 25, 2017	Last day to report all remaining SBs
	Last day to report list of retained SBs
Thursday, June 1, 2017	Last day to act on SBs
Thursday, June 8, 2017	Last day to form Committees of Conference
Thursday, June 15, 2017	Last day to sign Committee of Conference reports
Thursday, June 22, 2017	Last day to act on Committee of Conference reports

HOUSE RESOLUTION 9

A RESOLUTION affirming revenue estimates for fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

SPONSORS: Rep. Major, Rock. 14

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen

A RESOLUTION affirming revenue estimates for fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Whereas, the House Ways and Means Committee has considered what the unrestricted revenue estimates should be for fiscal years 2017, 2018, 2019 and has presented those estimates to the House of Representatives; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the House wishes to go on record as affirming the following revenue estimates for fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Committee estimates are based on current law and economic conditions. Committee estimates will be updated in March, April, May, and June to reflect current conditions and economic forecasts.

	FY 2017		FY 2018	FY 2019
GEN'L & EDUCATION				
TRUST FUND:	Official	Committee	Committee	Committee
(Dollars in Millions)	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Business Profits Tax	\$339.800	\$381.000	\$390.900	\$398.300
<u>Business Enterprise Tax</u>	<u>225.300</u>	<u>254.000</u>	<u>260.600</u>	<u>265.600</u>
Subtotal	565.100	635.000	651.500	663.900
Meals & Rooms Tax	307.500	314.000	329.700	346.200
Tobacco Tax	221.700	215.500	215.000	214.500
Liquor Sales	144.200	144.000	146.800	148.700
Interest & Dividends Tax	96.000	94.100	96.000	98.000
Insurance Tax	114.400	115.800	120.000	120.000
Communications Tax	58.400	49.000	45.400	42.000
Real Estate Transfer Tax	126.400	139.000	151.000	160.000
Court Fines & Fees	13.800	13.400	13.400	13.400
Securities Revenue	42.800	44.500	45.500	46.500
Utility Consumption Tax	6.000	6.000	6.000	6.000
Beer Tax	13.000	13.000	13.200	13.200
Other	70.300	75.000	75.000	75.000
Lottery Transfers	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000
Racing & Charitable Gaming	2.500	2.700	3.000	3.000
Tobacco Settlement	39.000	40.000	35.000	35.000
Utility Property Tax	41.800	42.000	43.000	43.000
Statewide Property Tax	363.100	363.100	363.100	363.100
Medicaid Recoveries	10.400	9.100	9.100	9.100
TOTAL GEN'L & EDUCATION				
TRUST FUNDS	\$2,311.400	\$2,390.200	\$2,436.700	\$2,475.600
	FY 2017		FY 2018	FY 2019
HIGHWAY FUNDS:	Official	Committee	Committee	Committee
(Dollars in Millions)	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Road Toll	\$125.900	\$126.600	\$126.300	\$126.100
Motor Vehicle Fees	113.500	113.100	114.600	115.700
Miscellaneous	<u>0.900</u>	<u>0.300</u>	<u>0.200</u>	<u>0.200</u>
TOTAL HIGHWAY FUNDS	\$240.300	\$240.000	\$241.100	\$242.000
	FY 2017		FY 2018	FY 2019
FISH AND GAME FUNDS:	Official	Committee	Committee	Committee
(Dollars in Millions)	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Fish & Game Licenses	\$8.500	\$9.600	\$9.600	\$9.600
Fines & Miscellaneous	<u>1.800</u>	<u>1.800</u>	<u>1.800</u>	<u>1.800</u>
TOTAL FISH & GAME FUNDS	\$10.300	\$11.400	\$11.400	\$11.400

BILLS LAID ON TABLE

HB 102, relative to mandatory headlamp use. (Pending Question: Inexpedient To Legislate)

HB 381-FN, relative to cruelty to non-captive wildlife. (Pending Question: Adoption of majority committee report of Inexpedient To Legislate)

HB 603-FN-A, establishing the John and Molly Stark student debt reduction program and making an appropriation therefor. (Pending Question: Adoption of majority committee report of Inexpedient To Legislate)

HB 621-FN-A-LOCAL, establishing a road usage fee and making an appropriation therefor. (Pending Question: Ought To Pass)

HCR 3, rescinding all applications by the New Hampshire legislature for a federal constitutional convention and urging other states to withdraw similar requests. (Pending Question: Adoption of majority committee report of Inexpedient To Legislate)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8 CONSENT CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

CACR 2, relating to natural rights of children. Providing that children have a natural right to be protected by their parents. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kimberly Rice for Children and Family Law. The legislature has considered similar amendments multiple times. The committee believes this will have unintended consequences and again rejected this concept. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 397, relative to juvenile justice procedures. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mary Beth Walz for Children and Family Law. This bill, as amended, continues reforms to our juvenile justice system. It prohibits the handcuffing of juveniles in public places except where there is no private entrance to a courthouse. It prohibits a prosecutor, law enforcement officer, or other municipal employee from advising a juvenile or the juvenile's parent or guardian to waive the right to counsel. Finally, it codifies an annulment procedure passed in 2015, but never placed in statute. This will make it possible for lawyers to find the law. **Vote 12-2.**

HB 499, relative to the age at which certain persons may marry. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mary Beth Walz for Children and Family Law. The committee concluded New Hampshire should require both males and females be eighteen before marriage. Recognizing the physical and emotional immaturity of teens, the committee concluded there is no good reason for an exception. There was concern that a teen could be coerced into a marriage. The committee learned that many marriages are between a very young female and a much older male, a fact that raised serious concerns. Finally, this bill as amended corrects a constitutional infirmity with our current law. **Vote 11-0.**

HB 629-FN, establishing a preference for the appointment of the child's grandparent as guardian of the minor in certain cases. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Lucy Weber for Children and Family Law. This bill was brought because of the number of children who are now being raised by grandparents as a result of a parent's substance abuse or dependence. First, the bill requires the department of health and human services to provide a grandparent who petitions for guardianship of a grandchild with a brochure describing benefits available to a child under guardianship. Second, when a grandparent petitions for guardianship based on a parent's substance abuse or dependence, the burden of proof is on the petitioner to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that a guardianship of the minor is in the best interest of the minor. Third, in a guardianship case involving the parent's substance abuse or dependence, courts will be required to give preference to a grandparent who seeks to be appointed as the guardian. Finally, in guardianship based on substance abuse or dependence, the burden of proof for the termination of the guardianship is also by a preponderance of the evidence, and the burden does not shift to the guardian. **Vote 12-0.**

COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

HB 99, relative to applicability of alcoholic beverage advertising restrictions. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Bart Fromuth for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill, with the amendment, effectively removes the Liquor Commission from the role of label approval for beer sold exclusively in NH and gives automatic approval on the basis of successful federal approval process. It also repeals the requirement that new entrants into the state must submit a sample to the Liquor Commission for testing. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 140-FN, relative to sales and samples provided by wine manufacturers. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kermit Williams for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill allows New Hampshire wine manufacturers to open an off-site tasting room, where they can offer samples and sell their products, subject to the same tax rates as they pay when they sell their products on the premises of the winery. The amendment allows wine makers to cooperate with other New Hampshire manufacturers and share the off site tasting room operation and costs, allowing smaller wineries to participate in this economic opportunity. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 152-FN, relative to direct shipment of beer. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Bart Fromuth for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill requires NH wholesale distributors to resell any beer available for purchase in the United States to on-premise and off-premise licensees upon their request. At present, licensees can only purchase those beers that are offered by the NH distributors. Under current law a licensee can make a request to the NH distributors but if that request is denied, they are prohibited from serving the requested product to their customers since they have no legal means to order it. This bill places choice in the hands of the licensee and the consumer rather than the NH distributors. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 250, establishing a commission to assess the benefits and costs of a “health care for all” program for New Hampshire. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. David Luneau for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill, with the amendment, establishes a committee to consider and recommend changes to the state’s insurance laws, including but not limited to the portability, availability and renewability of health coverage, universal access to health care for all individuals residing within New Hampshire, a public option to reduce the cost of health insurance, and any other issues the committee deems relevant. The committee will also recommend changes necessary to minimize market disruptions in the event the federal government’s Affordable Care Act is revised or repealed. The committee’s report will be due November 1, 2018. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 295, relative to medical payments coverage under motor vehicle liability. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Donald Flanders for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill is an attempt to limit an insured’s right to direct how the medical payment can be used under his motor vehicle liability policy. Each year we see a similar bill which is generally introduced by medical service providers, because the service providers want to be able to bill the auto insurance company directly. We oppose this bill as it would limit a policy holder’s control on how much he can use these funds. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 308, requiring propane companies to file notice with the register of deeds of underground propane tanks. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Richard Abel for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill would require any propane dealer who installs an underground propane tank to record, in the registry of deeds for the county in which the property is located, a notice indicating the size and location of the tank. The committee believes this is unnecessary as the information is disclosed to a property buyer on the seller’s real estate disclosure form, and a propane dealer who owns the tank may voluntarily record this information with the Register of Deeds. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 310, relative to insurance group-wide supervision. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Edward Butler for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill is a request of the Insurance Department and is a recent addition to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Model Law related to holding companies, which authorizes the NH Insurance Commissioner to act as the group-wide supervisor for any internationally active insurance group that is domiciled in our state. The Hanover Insurance Group is domiciled in New Hampshire. This group has international operations in the United Kingdom and Bermuda. This bill is necessary in order to assure other states and foreign regulatory authorities that NH has the necessary authority in our laws to be the group-wide supervisor for this internationally active insurance group. Without this authority, the insurance regulator in Bermuda or the United Kingdom could challenge New Hampshire for the position of supervisor. The department would prefer not to have foreign authorities regulating a New Hampshire group. If passed, this bill will add a new section to the statutes: RSA 401-B:7-a. The committee amendment is also a request of the Insurance Department and adds references to RSA 401-B:7 regarding Supervisory Colleges, as well as this new section on Group-wide Supervision, to the holding company confidentiality law to ensure any confidential information obtained by the department under these conditions remains confidential. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 321, establishing a commission to study a public option for health insurance. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. David Luneau for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. A committee is established by HB 250, with the committee amendment, to among other things, study and consider a public option for health insurance, and make recommendations for changes to the state’s insurance laws. This approach renders HB 321 unnecessary. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 329, establishing a committee to study balance billing. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. David Luneau for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. An insured patient who obtains medical services at an in-network provider, such as a hospital, may end up having services performed by a doctor who is not a member of the carrier’s network. Under current law, there is nothing to prevent such providers from billing an insured patient for the difference between the provider’s normal charge and the amount the provider was paid by the patient’s insurance carrier. Balance billing, as it is known, often can follow an emergency procedure, but it can happen following any medical procedure. The committee recognizes as a problem that patients should not be billed for procedures that otherwise would be covered by their insurance. The study committee would seek input from all interested parties in order to propose a solution. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 330-FN, relative to form and rate filing fees. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Donald Flanders for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill is a request of the Insurance Department to establish a flat fee for the form and rate filings of advisory organizations. Insurance companies pay retaliatory fees in New Hampshire for form and rate filings. If an insurer joins an advisory organization, one of the services provided is the organization files form and rates on behalf of the member companies. The issue had arisen whether the department should calculate the retaliatory fees for insurers who file through

an advisory organization. This clarification creates efficiencies for the Insurance Department, advisory organizations and insurance companies while also providing the maximum protection to consumers through the promotion of the use of the most well vetted forms, which are advisory organization forms. The amendment lowers the fee to \$20 per form and rate filing, as a result of feedback from the industry in discussions with the Insurance Department. **Vote 18-1.**

HB 331, relative to the standard of review for government requirements on commercial enterprises. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Barbara Biggie for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill's text includes the maxim of law "expressio unius exclusio alterius" which would become the sole standard of review for government requirements on commercial enterprises. A legal definition of phrases in the bill "expressio unius est exclusio alterius" and "inclusio unius est exclusio alterius" found in the Merriam-Webster Law Dictionary both state "a principle in statutory construction: when one or more things of a class are expressly mentioned others of the same class are excluded." There would be no other considerations allowed in decision-making. Enacting this legislation as chapter law would require changing most statutes dealing with business. The committee agreed unanimously that this is not a practical or necessary change to New Hampshire laws. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 343, relative to disapproval of forms. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Donald Flanders for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill is a request of the Insurance Department. This is a housekeeping measure to clarify in statute the commissioner's authority for the approval and disapproval of forms for both individual and group life insurance policies. The current statutes for these policies explicitly grant the commissioner the authority to disapprove forms filed with the department; the authority to approve these forms has always been implied. This bill just makes the intent of the current statutes crystal clear in granting the authority to the commissioner to do what is already being done with regards to approving and disapproving forms. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 358-FN, repealing the loitering restrictions on premises of liquor licensees. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Barbara Biggie for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill repeals an entire section of the liquor laws that prohibits both loitering and unlawful activity on the premises of a liquor licensee. The amendment retains the provision which allows the Liquor Commission to enforce the prohibition on licensees using his or her premises, or allowing the premises to be used, for any purpose contrary to law and deletes the reference to loitering. The amendment was unanimously adopted and the full committee supports the amended bill. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 375, relative to the penalties for failure to deliver goods under the Uniform Commercial Code. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Richard Abel for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill would create penalties for failure to deliver goods under the Uniform Commercial Code. The committee believes this bill to be well-intentioned but found the current Uniform Commercial Code already successfully addresses commercial activities and provides suitable penalties as needed. Additionally, the bill would make any violator automatically (ipso facto) guilty without the ability to defend oneself through due process. For these reasons the committee found the bill Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 443, prohibiting prescription drug manufacturers from offering copayment reimbursement. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. David Luneau for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill would prohibit pharmaceutical companies from offering coupons to patients to cover the out-of-pocket insurance copayment for high-cost prescription drugs. Testimony from patients validated the practice that makes certain drugs accessible to patients who otherwise could not afford their medication. Testimony from doctors validated that there are no generic drugs or effective lower-cost alternatives to these medications. While the high cost of prescription medicine is a concern to all of us, this approach would only hurt patients and not solve the problem. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 455-FN, relative to the practices of pharmacy benefit managers. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Edward Butler for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill will prevent pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs administer prescription drug programs for health care insurance plans) from imposing or requiring costly accreditation processes in order for pharmacies to dispense specialty drugs. Specialty drugs are those that are often more expensive than many prescription drugs and have other requirements, such as special storage needs or monitoring requirements. After a specialty compounding pharmacy in Massachusetts made errors that caused many deaths, the NH Board of Pharmacy increased its oversight to insure the safety of New Hampshire's pharmacies that compound and sell specialty drugs. Under current health insurance law, all providers and hospitals are required to be board certified. Our state's Board of Pharmacy inspects all pharmacies in NH every year. The inspections are unannounced and rigorous. The Committee felt that the requirements of third party accreditation are unnecessary and not worth the expense to the independent NH pharmacies. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 457-FN, relative to consumer credit division entities. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Costable for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This is a banking department bill that makes changes in several statutes. The bill clarifies certain reporting requirements, adds terms which were inadvertently missed in previous legislation, clarifies policy for destroying original documents and clarifies exemptions under RSA 399-A. The bill also reaffirms that the department does not regulate commercial lending, including small loans defined by RSA 399-A. The amendment removes sections from the bill that require money transmitters to be registered through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System (NMLS). **Vote 20-0.**

HB 473, relative to the sale of gift certificates. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kermit Williams for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill makes modifications to a provision in the Consumer Protection Act, which prohibits issuing gift certificates with expiration dates. The bill raises the amount where a gift certificate must eventually be escheated to the state as abandoned property from \$100 to \$250. Gift certificates under that value never expire, and remain the responsibility of the retailer. The bill also changes the definition of a gift certificate from a written document to a broader promise for goods and services in exchange for payment. This covers 21st century gift options, which are often electronic cards or even just an online number on a website. The committee believes that prepaid calling cards, which were discussed during debate on the bill, are the purchase of a product, not a stored value for a future purchase, and therefore are not a gift certificate, so an exemption for them is unnecessary. The amendment changes the date for the modification of the abandoned property process to match the effective date of this legislation. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 482, requiring social media companies to remove subscriber information at the subscriber's request. **IN-EXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Costable for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This is a bill that sets requirements for social media sites to delete a user's account within 24 hours of the user's request. Through testimony we found that most social media sites allow for accounts to be modified or deleted already and placing the enforcement with the Attorney General could have a chilling effect for companies located in New Hampshire. **Vote 18-2.**

HB 501, relative to access to minutes of meetings of condominium unit owner's associations. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kermit Williams for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill requires that minutes of meetings held by condominium associations or their boards of directors be taken during the meeting and then made available to the condominium owners in a timely fashion. The amendment allows the minutes to be distributed in electronic fashion. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 502, relative to the availability of condominium financial information to unit owners. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Laurie Sanborn for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill requires condominium associations to make financial information and meeting minutes available to unit owners. The amendment clarifies acceptable ways that the financial information must be presented in an effort to make it consistent, timely and understandable to unit owners. It also states that individual accounts of delinquent unit owners will not be shared unless a lien for nonpayment of fees has been recorded. As such, the bill provides important transparency and information for condo unit owners who deserve to understand the real expenses of the association to which they pay fees and assessments. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 510, relative to medical insurance covering automobiles. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Hunt for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill is similar to HB 295 which the committee also found Inexpedient to Legislate earlier this year. Both HB 295 and HB 510 are attempts to limit an insured's right to direct how medical payments made under his motor vehicle liability policy can be used. Each year we see a similar bill which is generally introduced by medical service providers, because the service providers want to be able to bill the auto insurance company directly. We oppose this bill because it would limit a policy holder's control on how he can use these funds. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 527, relative to confidentiality of forms and rates. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Donald Flanders for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill is a request of the Insurance Department to clarify that form and rate filings shall be available to the public on the date of approval or the effective date, whichever is later. The bill provides for the one exception of qualified health plans, which are effective January 1st but the public needs access for the open enrollment that begins in November. The original bill tied this open enrollment period to the Affordable Care Act (ACA). To ensure this bill retains the force of law regardless of what happens to the ACA, the proposed amendment removes reference to any specific open enrollment period that is mandated by prevailing law, whether state or federal. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 549-FN, relative to beverage vendor fees. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. John Hunt for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. The intent of this legislation is to remove a perceived barrier for out of state beverage manufacturers (beer brewers) to offer some of their labels in NH. The bill replaces the current flat \$750 fee with various fees on a sliding scale based on the amount of beer produced

by the brewer. With this change, a small brewer can bring a single label to the state for a fee as low as \$100. The amendment reduces the fee for the largest brewers (four brewers fit the definition) by \$10,000 so that their new fee is in line with what they are paying today. There was some concern by some committee members that the fiscal note was not revenue neutral and generated too much of a surplus. The committee felt that since we do not know for sure how this change will effect the marketplace, it was a good start, and if necessary, the fees could be adjusted in future years. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 600-FN, relative to requirements for certain alcoholic beverage licenses. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Costable for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. The bill as amended eliminates restrictions on being employed by a liquor licensee based on former felony convictions and character. The bill as introduced also eliminated restrictions on a business owner's ability to obtain a liquor license. The amendment eliminates restrictions for employees only. This bill has previously passed the House on consent but did not survive the legislative process. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 611, relative to portability, availability, and renewability of health coverage. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. David Luneau for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Under the committee amendment to HB 250, a committee will be established to, among other things, study and consider the portability, availability and renewability of health care coverage and make recommendations for changes to the state's insurance laws. This approach renders HB 611 unnecessary. **Vote 21-0.**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 97-FN, relative to the use of drones. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Larry Gagne for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill regulates the use of drones by government agencies and individuals. This bill establishes criminal penalties and civil remedies for violations of the law. The committee agreed that the penalties and civil remedies which are contained in this bill are appropriate. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 106, relative to corroborating evidence in sexual assault prosecutions. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Robert Renny Cushing for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill stands to leave NH with the weakest sexual assault statute in the nation. The committee heard from prosecutors that, if passed, the state would be unable to convict a sexual offender (against an adult or child) who does not have a prior record of sexual assault, unless there was an eyewitness to the assault or DNA evidence to corroborate a sexual assault victim's testimony. However, the committee heard from medical professionals and law enforcement that, unlike what we see in an episode of CSI, DNA is not available in most sexual assault cases, as evidence is easily lost from the body in general daily activities, such as eating, drinking, brushing teeth, changing clothes, bathing, or using the bathroom. Additionally, experts provided testimony stating that most sexual assaults happen behind closed doors without eyewitnesses, leaving little opportunity for corroborating evidence in these cases. Passage of this bill would send a chilling message to victims of sexual assault - that they are less credible than victims of any other crime and that their sworn testimony is not to be believed. According to a research collaborative project of the University of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services, and the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the rates of sexual assault in NH are higher than those nationally. According to their research, 22.7% of women in NH have been the victim of a sexual assault, with 19.5% having been the victim of sexual assault with penetration. These figures represent 112,909 NH women who have experienced sexual assault. These rates of sexual assault are significantly higher than those found in the National Violence Against Women Survey, in which 17.6% of women reported having been sexually assaulted, and 14.8% reported being a victim of sexual assault including penetration. Sexual assault impacts men and women of all age groups in NH, but young women and children of both genders are at greatest risk for sexual violence. The high prevalence of sexual assault in NH has serious consequences that affect the health and well-being of communities. Research shows that victims of sexual violence more often report poorer health, are at significantly increased risk for mental health and substance abuse problems, and are negatively affected economically. Sexual assault is already a significantly underreported crime due to many reasons including fear, shame and trauma. Statistically, only 1 in 3 sexual assaults are ever reported to law enforcement. Numerous people testified that, if passed, this bill would lead to a decline in reported sexual assaults and allow sexual predators to go free. This bill was opposed by survivors of childhood and adult sexual assault, the NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and their 13 member programs, the NH Association of Chiefs of Police, the NH Police Association, the NH Troopers Association, teachers, numerous local law enforcement agencies, psychologists, medical professionals, sexual offender treatment providers, the General Foundation of Women's Club-NH, the County Attorneys Association, the NH Civil Liberties Union, the Department of Corrections, and the NH Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 280, relative to attendance at an auction of property or contraband from a criminal forfeiture. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Richard O'Leary for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill provides that no interested person shall be prohibited from appearing and placing a claim on property subject to forfeiture. A subcommittee was convened to investigate and understand the impetus for this bill. We spoke to the U.S. Marshal and Deputy U.S. Marshal. They both knew of the case, as the Marshals provided security for an I.R.S. auction. The citizen was told to sit on one side of the court, the bidders who put up \$10,000 were seated in the jury box away from the general public, behind the jury gates. The citizen was not a bidder and did not have the \$10,000 fee. The citizen crossed the gate and refused to stay in his section. For security reasons he was asked to leave. The committee does not believe this bill has merit. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 283, defining bodily injury in the criminal code. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Shannon Chandley for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill attempted to narrowly define "bodily injury" in the criminal code. Supporters of the bill claimed that some bodily injuries, such as bruises, were not worthy of the misdemeanor charge while opponents argued that the proposed changes were at odds with efforts to protect victims of abuse and assault. The committee considered other definitions of "bodily injury" in current use but found those lacking in clarity and specificity. The committee concluded that the language of current law is sufficient and proven. **Vote 14-1.**

HB 285, relative to the imposition of concurrent and consecutive sentences. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Robert Renny Cushing for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. In recent years the committee has revisited mandatory sentencing and the removal of discretion from judges to use their best judgment on a case-by-case basis to issue a just and appropriate sentence for individuals convicted of crimes. Last year the legislature took the first step to returning discretion in sentencing to judges and passed a bill removing some mandatory minimum sentences. This bill would limit the ability of a judge to decide if sentences should run concurrently or consecutively, and the committee believes this would be counter to the desired policy of providing discretion to judges in sentencing. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 448, relative to certain ignition interlock violations. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Shannon Chandley for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill, as requested by the Department of Safety, allows for an extension of the time period an individual is required to use an ignition interlock device (IID) under certain circumstances. As set forth in the bill, the time may be extended when there is an unauthorized removal of the IID, when an individual has a greater than .025 result for a rolling retest or when a person refuses to take a rolling retest. The bill also allows for an extension of the IID period when there is unauthorized removal of the IID and makes it a violation to tamper with, circumvent or disconnect the IID. The bill, in addition, allows the Department of Safety to hold an IID violation hearing after license reinstatement, if necessary. **Vote 18-2.**

HB 474-FN, limiting the use of cell site simulator devices by law enforcement agencies. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. John Burt for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill restricts the use of cell site simulator devices. These are devices that mimic or "spoof" cell towers in order to locate or track a person's cell phone. The amendment applies the restriction to individuals and businesses, as well as law enforcement officials, but allows the devices to be used if the cell phone owner consents, if a warrant is obtained or if there is an emergency. When law enforcement uses the device, any data retained must relate to the subject of the warrant or emergency. A violation is a class A misdemeanor and may be subject to a fine not to exceed \$10,000. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 526, relative to rules relating to prison rehabilitation programs and inmate health. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Frank Sapareto for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill would have amended the mission statement of the Department of Corrections relating to standards for the management and operation of rehabilitation programs. The committee wanted to ensure that the inmates and parolees were included in the objectives of the department. The committee was satisfied that the current mission statement is inclusive of all involved and no further explanation was necessary. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 626-FN, relative to annulment of criminal records. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Shannon Chandley for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. One provision of this bill, the restriction on re-filing a further petition for annulment after denial, was addressed in the previously passed HB 516. The other elements of the bill, including a provision for annulments of arrests prior to the enactment of the annulment statute, were deemed by the committee to be costly and unworkable. The committee agreed that the process in place is sufficient and the decision to annul is best left to the discretion of the court. **Vote 19-2.**

HB 634-FN-A, repealing the penalty assessment on criminal offenses. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Laura Pantelakos for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill would repeal the penalty assessment on criminal offenses. The committee believes that repealing the penalty assessment would adversely affect the entities which rely on the fund and is therefore unnecessary. **Vote 20-0.**

EDUCATION

HB 122, relative to withdrawal from a cooperative school district. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Terry Wolf for Education. The state encouraged the development of cooperative school districts in the 1960s, often combining rich and poor towns and providing more educational opportunities for students. Towns have changed in the last fifty years and some communities would like to withdraw from their cooperative district. This issue is complicated and last year the legislature approved a commission to address the withdrawal process and its many complexities. This bill, as amended, makes slight changes to the process and adds clarity. It also adds the opportunity for a minority report to be submitted. The commission will continue its work and submit a report by November 1, 2017. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 210, relative to a code of ethics for certified educational personnel. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Terry Wolf for Education. The State of New Hampshire is one of few states that have not established a code of ethics that identifies and promotes responsibilities that apply to the certification of educational personnel. The committee finds that this bill, as amended, serves a meaningful purpose, and through this legislation it shall be the State Board's responsibility to further establish and enforce a code of ethics for certified educational personnel, and that the New Hampshire Code of Ethics shall address four key certified educator responsibilities that include responsibility to: (1) the students, (2) the educator profession and professional colleagues, (3) the school community, and (4) the use of technology as it relates to students, professional colleagues and the school community. The New Hampshire Code of Ethics is created as a set of principles in which the professional certified educator accepts responsibility when practicing within the education profession. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 216, relative to the procedure for expulsion of certain pupils. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Victoria Sullivan for Education. This bill, as amended, requires schools to make educational assignments available to students during suspension when that suspension is 10 days or less. The committee finds that this is a step in the right direction when it comes to providing educational support to suspended students. The hope is they will return to school without falling too far behind their peers. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 226, relative to documenting the improvement of non-proficient readers. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Joseph Pitre for Education. This bill, as amended, changes the statewide assessment program goals for third grade pupils and requires a school district to submit documentation to the Department of Education showing that the district has implemented a reading instructional program for third grade pupils who tested as "not proficient" on the reading component of the statewide assessment. Best practice reading instruction programs will then be shared among school districts. **Vote 17-1.**

HB 304, relative to implementation of alternative academic standards by a local school board. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. James Grenier for Education. This bill, as amended, clarifies the authority of school boards to implement, or not implement, state board of education adopted academic standards. If a school board chooses not to implement state school board adopted academic standards, then the local school board shall determine and approve local academic standards that meet or exceed state academic standards. This bill further specifies neither the state Board of Education nor the Department of Education shall require any school or school district to implement academic standards such as "Next Generation" science standards or Common Core standards. **Vote 16-2.**

HB 339, relative to reimbursement of transportation costs for students attending a career and technical education center. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Joseph Pitre for Education. The state reimburses transportation costs and a portion of tuition to the sending districts for students who attend an approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) program outside of the district in which they reside. This currently does not apply to sending districts whose students reside within the district where the CTE is located. This bill changes the definition of "sending district" in RSA 188-E:2, VIII (a) to read "[t]he school district in which a regional career and technical education student resides." This change would allow districts to be reimbursed for all CTE students even those who reside in the same district as the CTE center. Obviously, there would not be a tuition cost if the CTE center is in the same district, but there are transportation costs to which these districts should be entitled. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 341, repealing the provisions for tax exemption for certain chartered public school facilities. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Robert Elliott for Education. This bill would repeal the local option to reduce the taxes attributable to a chartered public school facility renting or leasing its building or facilities from a property owner which is not exempt from property taxes. If passed, this bill would result in possible increased operating costs for already financially strapped charter schools. Therefore, the bill hampers a much needed educational choice for students and parents by creating a financial hindrance that would impede the progress of charter schools. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 391, relative to checklists in other districts. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for Education. This bill repeals statutory provisions related to cooperative school district adoption of a town checklist. The bill removes a conflict in the statutes that allows a single town school district to adopt a checklist other than the checklist of the town. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 396, relative to student assessment data privacy. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for Education. This bill deals with student personally identifiable information. The committee found that much of the bill is already in statute. The bill does raise the issue of student data at the local district level which might require additional future legislation. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 412, relative to the pre-engineering technology curriculum. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Terry Wolf for Education. Students who have exposure to computing and engineering are more likely to pursue STEM areas upon graduation. Experts state that 80% of the new jobs that will be created in the next decades will require math and science skills. This bill broadens access to pre-engineering and technology related curriculum and changes it from 6-12 to K-12. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 556, requiring schools to post the state telephone numbers to report child abuse. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Victoria Sullivan for Education. This bill, as amended, requires public schools to post the telephone number operated by the Division of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to receive reports of child abuse or neglect and instructions on how to access the DCYF web site in a public area and in a clear and visible location. The committee unanimously agrees to recommend this bill ought to pass with amendment. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 583-FN, relative to the calculation of average daily membership in residence and average daily membership in attendance. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. James Grenier for Education. This bill would have mandated that the Department of Education (DOE) would only calculate average daily membership (ADM) once at the end of each school year. The goal of the bill was to lessen the workload on DOE and this goal is well taken; however DOE testimony indicated a need to calculate ADM counts more than once per year. There are both preliminary and final calculations done each year. These ADM numbers are used for adequacy grants and for apportioning cooperative district payments. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 607-FN-A, establishing a New Hampshire student access grant program. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. James Grenier for Education. This bill, as amended, will re-establish a program essentially the same as a previous Student Access Grant Program discontinued in 2011 during the budget process. This bill will provide financially challenged students who meet specific eligibility requirements to receive up to \$1,000 per year for up to four years. The student must be recognized as a New Hampshire scholar and have maintained a 2.5 grade point average on a scale of 4.0. The student must be Pell Grant eligible and be a graduate of a secondary New Hampshire school. The cost of administering this program will be very minimal. This bill, as amended, authorizes the receiving post-secondary public school to address eligibility of the student and report to the higher education commission for a one-time payment for all eligible students. There will be a need for initial minimal rulemaking by the higher education commission. **Vote 16-2.**

ELECTION LAW

HB 309, relative to valid student identification cards for voting purposes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Yvonne Dean-Bailey for Election Law. While this originally seemed like a simple fix and a reasonable way to clarify the use of expiration dates in voter identification statutes, the revision is not needed. Many schools already post their expiration dates and this small change could interfere with schools who are looking to add their expiration dates to student ID cards before the 2018 grace period. The sponsor of the legislation agrees that this is the best motion for this legislation. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 537, relative to campaign contributions. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Marjorie Porter for Election Law. RSA 664:4 imposes limitations on the making of campaign contributions. Maximum amounts which can be given for the primary election, and then for the general election, are clearly stated in the statute. However, it is unclear whether these limits also apply to the pre-declaration,

exploratory stage. This ambiguity has resulted in the Attorney General being forced to determine contribution limits for this early phase. Both the Secretary of State and the Attorney General have been asking the legislature to address these ambiguities since 2010. This bill does just that, by amending RSA 664:4, V to clearly state that the limits which apply to the primary and general election phases also apply to the pre-declaration phase. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 642-FN, relative to eligibility to vote and relative to student identification cards. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Yvonne Dean-Bailey for Election Law. This bill as proposed addressed four topics: student identification cards, modifying the definition of domicile, eliminating same day registration and closing primary elections to only the members of each party. In addition to the structural problems, the bill has a large fiscal note, requires additional staff and requires the integration of outside state agencies into our current electoral process. The sponsor agreed that this bill is unwieldy and joined the committee in unanimously supporting the motion of Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 20-0.**

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB 342, establishing a commission to study the transition of certain regulatory authority to the department of environmental services from the Environmental Protection Agency. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Stephen Darrow for Environment and Agriculture. This bill seeks to establish a commission to study the transition of certain regulatory functions from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). The current regulatory authority that the bill pertains to is contained within the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The NPDES permit program addresses water pollution by regulating the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the United States. This bill would examine only one part of the program, the municipal separate storm sewer system general permit (MS4) which applies to 60 communities in New Hampshire. The shift from EPA to NHDES would allow our towns and cities to work directly with the local NHDES instead of the federal EPA. This would result in more accurate data being used and more timely responses. In fact, most states already do this. New Hampshire is one of only four states who do not currently have this authority. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 594-FN-LOCAL, establishing a registry for persons convicted of animal cruelty. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Barbara Comtois for Environment and Agriculture. There are already existing statutes that deal with this issue. Also, the FBI is gathering this information into a database in corroboration with local agencies. **Vote 17-0.**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 82, relative to hair braiding. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Peter Hansen for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill simply defines hair braiding and explicitly exempts people who braid hair from the requirement to obtain a cosmetology license. Since hair braiding is not taught in cosmetology schools, but rather passed down in families, there is no need for any license. Data from other states has shown that there are no public health issues with unlicensed braiding. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 204-FN, relative to bonds for public employees. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Schmidt for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would permit certain state inhabitants to have access to bonds issued to indemnify public and municipal employees, and give the bonding company an equitable remedy of subrogation. The committee, by strong majority, believes the bill has questionable workability, and is also not necessary. **Vote 18-2.**

HB 323, relative to powers and duties of the assessing standards board. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mark Proulx for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill gives the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) the ability to use the most recent edition of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP). The USPAP defines the procedures for how assessments are done. It will be incorporated into the DRA's assessment review process. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 334, relative to an exemption from licensure by the board of medical imaging and radiation therapy. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Carol McGuire for Executive Departments and Administration. As amended, this bill exempts regulated health professionals from the requirement for medical imaging licenses. Many professionals, including doctors, dentists, midwives and nurses use medical imaging as a part of their practice, and should not require an additional, redundant license to continue in their practice. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 373, relative to rulemaking on forms for allied health professionals and relative to information on court cases concerning the validity of administrative rules. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Carol McGuire for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill transfers rulemaking authority from individual boards to the Board of Directors of Allied Health Professionals, so that one common application form can be used. It also requires feedback from the Merrimack County Superior Court when cases involve rules. The committee amendment simplifies the reporting requirement, at the request of the courts, and ensures that existing forms continue in effect. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 468-FN, relative to licensure of mental health practitioners from other states. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Dianne Schuett for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill accelerates the process for mental health practitioners from other states to become licensed in New Hampshire. The bill requires licensure within 60 days, providing the other states' licensure standards are substantially equivalent to, or higher than those of New Hampshire. The committee believes this will avoid losing qualified professionals to other states and help to fill the extreme shortage of practitioners needed to treat mental health and opioid addicted clients. **Vote 19-1.**

HB 517, relative to the function and organization of the department of administrative services risk management unit and division of personnel. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Polly Campion for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill clarifies the duties of the Risk Management Unit, Division of Personnel, and Office of the Commissioner of Administrative Services, by updating the relevant statutes to reflect operational changes that have occurred since 1985. It establishes within the Department of Administrative Services, a Risk Management Unit, a Bureau of Health and Benefits, a Bureau of Property, Casualty and Worker's Compensation and a Bureau of Finance. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 538-FN, requiring temporary licensure of a person holding an occupational or professional license granted in another state or country. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Polly Campion for Executive Departments and Administration. As amended this bill improves access to information about licensing requirements for applicants for occupational and professional licenses. Licensing boards will post on their websites, information relative to reciprocal licensure or certification for persons holding a current and valid license or certification in another state. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 540-FN, relative to funding for climate change adaptation. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mark Proulx for Executive Departments and Administration. The committee amendment, which replaces the entire bill, was requested by the Department of Environmental Services. This bill, as amended, repeals RSA 125-L, relative to the voluntary greenhouse emissions reductions registry, as it is outdated and has been replaced. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 542-FN, relative to retired members employed in a part-time position by retirement system employers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Sytek for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would require the payment of the employer's portion of the retirement cost on the wages of any New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) retiree working part-time for a participating employer (such as a town or a school district). However, the wages of a non-NHRS retiree would not trigger a similar cost to the employer. Because of some fairness issues involved and because this situation is addressed in another bill, HB 561, which the committee passed, the sponsor agreed that this bill was unnecessary. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 543-FN, relative to part-time employment by a retiree for a retirement system employer. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Sytek for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would prevent a New Hampshire Retirement System retiree from part-time employment with that retiree's pre-retirement employer. The committee felt that this was unreasonably restrictive. For example, a school could not use a retired teacher as a substitute. Apart from the impact on the retiree, the school and its students would be deprived of the services of a knowledgeable, experienced substitute. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 546-FN, requiring a business impact assessment as part of the rulemaking process and relative to objections to proposed agency rules under the administrative procedure act. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jacalyn Cilley for Executive Departments and Administration. While most members were sympathetic to the issue of costs that may accrue to businesses from the imposition of new laws or of rules, it was determined that in the vetting process of a new law, all stakeholders have the opportunity to share their concerns including any costs that will be imposed by the law. In addition, the majority of agencies do assess costs to businesses and engage such stakeholders prior to the rulemaking process. Lastly, the committee determined that the "impacts" upon businesses entail more than simply costs and are simply too complicated a task to realistically enact. **Vote 19-1.**

HB 561-FN, relative to contributions by employers of part-time employees receiving retirement system pensions and relative to enforcement of provisions concerning retired members working part-time after retirement. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. John Sytek for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill, as amended, does two things. First, it provides a mechanism for the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) to take action against

an employer or retired employee who exceeds part-time hours limits. At the present time, the NHRS has no recourse in such cases. Second, it addresses a situation by which a participating employer might try to avoid paying the employer's cost of retirement contribution for a full-time employee. Such stratagems might include dividing a full-time position into two or more part-time positions or filling a full-time position (when vacated) with a so-called part-time or interim employee. The bill provides that in such cases the employer must pay the employer portion for any positions that involve substantially similar responsibilities and duties. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 575-FN, relative to the certification of acupuncture detoxification specialists. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Peter Hansen for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill allows the Board of Acupuncture to certify individuals as acupuncture detoxification specialists. Passage of this bill will bring another source of aid to the substance abuse victims, assisting them to achieve substance free living. The certification allows the practitioner to perform acu-detox in accordance to standards of the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association. The committee amendment limits this certification to certain qualified individuals. **Vote 19-1.**

HB 586-FN, relative to the regulation of certain professions by the office of professional licensure and certification. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Peter Schmidt for Executive Departments and Administration. This is primarily a housekeeping bill. It fixes multiple inaccurate references in the previous statute enacted to create the Office of Professional Licensing and Certification, as well as other minor technical corrections. The committee amendment deletes a new body art facility license, from the bill as introduced, and the inspector associated with it. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 595-FN, relative to positions in the corporations division of the secretary of state's office. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Peter Schmidt for Executive Departments and Administration. This is a housekeeping bill that abolishes certain vacant, classified positions in the Corporations Division of the Secretary of State's office and establishes certain new classified positions in that office, so that the Secretary of State can acquire needed staffing capabilities. The committee amendment adds another position, but remains budget neutral. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 618-FN, eliminating the bureau of certificate of title and providing for the criminal prosecution for its supervisor. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Carol Roberts for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would eliminate the Bureau of Certificate of Title and would decrease state revenue by over \$9 million in the first year. Additionally vehicle titles prove ownership, and include technical information about the vehicle to further define it, its gross vehicle weight, motive power, and purchase price when new. **Vote 19-1.**

HB 650-FN, relative to procedures of the board of psychologists. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Peter Schmidt for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill as amended is part of an ongoing process by the House ED&A Committee to reform and improve the laws regulating the Board of Psychology. It balances privacy protections for New Hampshire citizens, as well as psychologists. The bill significantly improves procedures involving complaints against therapists, while maintaining patient confidentiality. **Vote 20-0.**

FINANCE

HB 409, relative to the reporting of the higher education fund within the state operating budget. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kenneth Weyler for Finance. The original intent of this bill was to include the budgets of the Community College System and the University System in the state budget document. There was a belief that the legislature needed more oversight on these budgets. The reality is that, if these functions were added, it would have increased the state budget by over a billion dollars. Furthermore, the decisions on these budgets would still be made by the respective boards of trustees, not by the legislature. The bill as amended requires that all the information in these two budgets is available to legislators upon request. **Vote 25-0.**

HB 414-FN-A, limiting parental liability under a CHINS petition in certain circumstances. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Betsy McKinney for Finance. This bill addresses the rare instance when a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) child has died before the parents have completed court-ordered payments for services. These payments, which are based on ability to pay, run for the term of service and four years after services. The bill provides that, if the recipient of services dies, future payments will stop. The amendment assures that only sums due after death are eliminated. **Vote 26-0.**

HB 423-FN, relative to funding for fire standards instruction. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kenneth Weyler for Finance. In the first year of the session, the Finance Committee is focused on the biennial budget. We will see several bills that affect spending in various departments. Although we appreciate the sponsors giving us a view of a program we might not otherwise encounter, we never lose sight of the

fact that there are many competing interests for every dollar. Priorities and needs are always in flux, and we must respond. So, like most of the other bills now before us, we vote to mark this one Inexpedient to Legislate, and include the issues in our review of that department. **Vote 22-0.**

HB 584-FN, relative to chartered public school funding. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Daniel Eaton for Finance. The objective of this bill was to use a percentage of the most recently available statewide average cost per pupil for public school pupils to fund charter schools. The bill set the per pupil funding level at 55%. The Governor's budget includes the same methodology for funding charter schools using a gradual increase from 48% to 54%. The Finance committee will address the funding for charter schools within the budget. **Vote 24-1.**

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

HB 158, adding opioid addiction to qualifying medical conditions under therapeutic use of cannabis. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. William Marsh for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The committee prefers to allow the DHHS Cannabis Program committee, chaired by Chief Medical Officer Dons Lotz, perform its function of reviewing existing evidence and making informed recommendations regarding what additional qualifying conditions should be approved. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 159, adding fibromyalgia to qualifying medical conditions under therapeutic use of cannabis. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mariellen MacKay for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The committee voted in favor of adding chronic pain to the Therapeutic Cannabis statute by recommending that HB 157 Ought to Pass. The committee felt that this disorder would be covered under the condition of chronic pain, and therefore felt adding this seemed redundant. We therefore recommend that this bill be found Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 197, adding myelitis disorder or disease to the definition of "qualifying medical condition" for the use of cannabis for therapeutic purposes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jerry Knirk for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill is not necessary. Myelitis is a spinal cord disease which is already a qualifying medical condition. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 222, relative to the use of cannabis for therapeutic purposes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. William Marsh for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The committee was opposed to removing the 3 month requirement of a Provider - Patient relationship before making a referral to the therapeutic cannabis program. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 362, prohibiting certain immunization requirements for noncommunicable diseases. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Charles McMahon for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The bill as amended provides a definition for non communicable diseases to RSA 141-C:20-a. Further it retains a parent's right of determining the efficacy of health care decisions relative to childhood vaccination choices. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 400, establishing a task force to determine the level of service to be provided to clients of community mental health centers. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Martin Bove for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill directs the Commissioner of Health and Human Service to develop a 10 year plan for Mental Health Services, submit it by July 1, 2018, and provide quarterly reports to the HHS oversight committee updating it on the progress of development and implementation of the plan. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 450, relative to the membership of the New Hampshire commission on deafness and hearing loss. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mary Freitas for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill revises the membership of the New Hampshire commission on deafness and hearing loss by adding members of agencies who work in the deaf and hard of hearing community **Vote 19-0.**

HB 484, establishing a commission on the seacoast cancer cluster investigation. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Martin Bove for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. Representative Martin Bove for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill proposes to form a commission to address a pediatric cancer cluster in a 5 town area of the Seacoast of New Hampshire. The cancer cluster consists of 2 rare cancers, rhabdomyosarcoma and pleuropulmonary blastoma (PPB) in children. HB 484 addresses this localized problem which represents a public health emergency - the first identified ever in the State of New Hampshire by the Department of Health and Human Services. We have to act quickly to attempt to identify a cause. If we can avoid only one more case of a child getting cancer this commission would be a success. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 511, establishing a commission to study creating a public health oversight program. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mindi Messmer for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill is a response to constituent requests for Department Health and Human Services to pro-actively act to determine whether threats to public health from environmental exposures exist. This is a state-wide measure to address constituents exposed in Merrimack/Litchfield and Pease and address a statewide emerging contaminant threat. The bill also seeks to establish protocols to educate doctors and other healthcare professionals on health effects, diagnostic and treatment approaches for exposures to environmental exposures. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 572-FN, extending the suspension of prior authorization requirements for a community mental health program on drugs used to treat mental illness. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. James MacKay for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This legislation continues the moratorium on prior authorization on drugs used by community mental health centers. This continues the protection concerning a very serious problem that updated the ability of community mental health centers to provide care to seriously ill patients. Issues as to the working out of permanent understandings and protocols concerning prior authorization of medication are referred to the Health and Human Services Oversight Committee for review and recommendations. **Vote 21-0.**

JUDICIARY

HB 137, relative to qualifications of referees in the superior courts and circuit courts. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for Judiciary. This bill sought to require court referees who are not former or retired judges be commissioned as justices of the peace as officers of the state and ensure that they have some accountability to the General Court. While sympathizing with the intent, the committee felt that referees could never be sanctioned by the General Court because only judges make official rulings, so their accountability would continue to be under internal court procedures. **Vote 13-2.**

HB 260, relative to allodial title and violations of the oath of office. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Dan Hynes for Judiciary. This bill would recognize allodial land rights and would have a public servant dismissed from office for diminishing such rights. Recognizing allodial land rights would completely disrupt how land rights have been recognized throughout our state's history. It would prohibit towns and cities from collecting property taxes or regulating in any manner how the land is to be used. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 288, relative to the statutory construction of the phrase "under oath." **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Claire Rouillard for Judiciary. This bill amends RSA 21:52 (Under Oath) which currently allows documents electronically filed with the court and signed "under oath" to be satisfied by electronic signature "under the penalty of perjury." The amendment will allow "state agencies" the same "under oath" option. Forms that require a notary acknowledgment or notarization are not included or approved for electronic signature filings. The electronically signed form must include "the penalty for perjury may include a fine or imprisonment or both." **Vote 14-1.**

HB 292, relative to a jury trial for the execution of a tax lien. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for Judiciary. The bill intends to allow jury trials over tax liens. The committee felt that the tax burden for potentially hundreds of tax lien jury trials would be excessive to the taxpayers. There are currently several ways to appeal tax liens. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 305, clarifying lessee liability for month-to-month leases. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Dan Hynes for Judiciary. This bill clarifies notice requirements for month to month tenancies. Under existing case-law a tenant must give 30 days notice to terminate. If the tenant does not provide appropriate notice they will be responsible for the next month's rent. This bill codifies case-law into statute to make it easier for tenants to understand their legal obligations. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 311, relative to including court personnel in judicial performance evaluations. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Linda Kenison for Judiciary. This bill would include all court personnel in judicial performance evaluations. The judicial performance evaluations process should not be applicable to all court personnel. This bill is unnecessary and unworkable. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 434, relative to damages in landlord-tenant actions. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Charlotte DiLorenzo for Judiciary. The majority of the committee believes this bill is unnecessary. The awarding of a money judgment does not preclude either party from recovering damages more than the awarded amount of \$1,500 in small claims court. If the limit on landlord tenant damages were increased to \$3,000, parties would be entitled to a jury trial in superior court. Superior court dockets are overloaded and it would be a waste of a jury's time to try a case involving money damages. District courts are competent to make decisions on matters involving damages. **Vote 12-1.**

HB 439, applying the rape shield law to all state courts. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Claire Rouillard for Judiciary. This bill, as amended, codifies a New Hampshire Supreme Court decision, *State v Mazzaglia* (2016), which held that proffered evidence excluded in sexual assault and related offenses shall remain under seal and exempt from public disclosure unless and until the New Hampshire Supreme Court overturns the trial court's evidentiary ruling, in which case only the evidence that the Supreme Court rules admissible would be subject to public disclosure. **Vote 15-0.**

HB 460, relative to minutes under the right-to-know law. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Jason Janvrin for Judiciary. This bill as amended provides that a committee or board of the state or any of its subdivisions must, when a member perceives a violation of any part of RSA 91-a, note in the minutes of that meeting that the member objected to the perceived violation. If the meeting is in non-public session, the same objection must appear in the public minutes of the body and cannot be sealed. The bill further provides that the person or persons who object are then immune to penalty under RSA 91-A:8 if the body over rules the objection and the violation continues even when the objecting party continues to participate in the meeting. This is very similar to an objection in a court of law. When the objection is overruled, the objecting party may take "exception" and continue participating in the meeting without penalty. **Vote 11-2.**

HB 490, relative to certain citizens having standing to sue school boards. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jason Janvrin for Judiciary. This bill asserts that any taxpayer shall have legal standing to sue the school board of the school district in which he or she resides. The sponsor of this bill has requested that this bill be found Inexpedient to Legislate and the committee concurs. **Vote 15-0.**

HB 545, relative to immunity from prosecution for persons involved in an alcohol or drug-related emergency. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Dan Hynes for Judiciary. This bill as amended repeals the sunset provision regarding immunity from prosecution for drug or alcohol related emergencies. The law has been effective in preventing overdose deaths. It will continue to save lives and should therefore be permanently adopted. **Vote 16-1.**

HB 635-FN, requiring a non-client public protection and recovery fund to be administered by the supreme court. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Dan Hynes for Judiciary. This bill would require a non-client protection recovery fund. The committee was not able to determine what a non-client protection fund is or how much it would cost. Further, it was felt to be unfair to collect fees from attorneys, judges and court clerks to fund it. **Vote 14-0.**

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

HB 95, establishing a committee to study the feasibility of transferring authority over the university system of New Hampshire's budget to the general court. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Lucy Weber for Legislative Administration. The bill as introduced would have established a committee to study transferring authority over the budget for the university system of New Hampshire to the general court. While committee members were concerned about the potential effects of such a transfer, including a detrimental effect on the university system's bond rating, members were concerned both about how taxpayer funds are expended, and how to achieve greater transparency about the use of taxpayer funds. Committee members also believed that these concerns should be addressed not only with respect to the university system, but with respect to the community college system as well. As the amended title makes clear, the bill as amended extends the committee's study of expenditures and accountability to both systems. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 110, requiring members of the press corps covering the proceedings of the general court to wear a name tag. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Sherman Packard for Legislative Administration. The committee felt that most press corps members almost always wear some form of identification or identify themselves. It is also sometimes very difficult to determine if a person recording a committee meeting is from the press or just a citizen. Further, concerns were raised on the issue of freedom of the press. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 139, limiting the authority of delegates to Article V conventions. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Lucy Weber for Legislative Administration. This bill would codify the number of delegates and alternates to an Article V convention, how those delegates and alternates are chosen, and requires the removal of any delegate supporting any unauthorized amendment. The authority to determine what constitutes an unauthorized amendment and to remove a delegate appears to have been delegated to the sole authority of the Secretary of State. It is unclear whether the determination of the number of delegates to an Article V convention would be a matter for determination by the individual states or by the Congress. Because calls for an Article V convention have been brought on differing subjects, and have proposed varying degrees of specificity as to what may be considered, committee members were concerned that determination of what was an unauthorized action might be a subjective determination. Delegation of this decision to the absolute authority of the Secretary of State might or might not be advisable, based on the circumstances at the time. The committee concluded that this legislation was premature. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 213-FN, relative to the mileage reimbursement rate for legislators and prohibiting deductions from compensation or mileage reimbursement of representatives. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Catt Sandler for Legislative Administration. This bill would replace the current mileage reimbursement method with a rate of \$.54 per mile, for the foreseeable future. Because the price of gas fluctuates frequently, and unknown factors may come into play, the committee felt this bill was unnecessary and less efficient than the two current methods of reimbursement. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 232, relative to reporting of a legislator's personal interest in legislation. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kathleen Hoelzel for Legislative Administration. This bill would add the disclosure of "personal interest" to the financial disclosure form that all state legislators are required to complete per RSA 14-B:8. With the adoption of the latest Legislative Ethics guidelines on February 15, 2017 this bill is now moot. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 243, relative to the seal of the general court. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brad Bailey for Legislative Administration. This bill would allow the NH House, Senate or both bodies to adopt the first state seal, which depicts a fish, tree and bundle of arrows, as the seal of the General Court. The bill would also restrict the use of this seal to current and former members of the New Hampshire House and Senate and legislative staff. Committee members believe the first state seal belongs to the people of New Hampshire, and it should not be so restricted. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 244, relative to the right of attendance by general court members at legislative proceedings. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Robert Nigrello for Legislative Administration. This bill would explicitly add attendance at a proceeding in a civil case, summons to appear in a civil action and service on a jury to the reasons that a state legislator could not be kept from attending a legislative session. The committee discussed Part II Article 21 of the NH constitution addressing legislators going to, returning from or attendance of legislative proceedings and whether it presented any problems. The committee members agreed the NH constitutional language is appropriate to conduct legislative business effectively. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 300, requiring state employees and state public officials to display identification badges when attending meetings and hearings of the general court. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Catt Sandler for Legislative Administration. RSA 98-F:1 (adopted in 2005) already requires state employees appearing in their official capacity with respect to proposed legislation to wear their employee identification badges. For this reason, the committee thought this bill was unnecessary. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 327, relative to the content of fiscal notes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brad Bailey for Legislative Administration. This bill requires the Legislative Budget Assistant to describe the effect of a bill in qualitative terms rather than use the term "indeterminate" in a fiscal note prepared for a bill. The prime sponsor of the bill did not attend the committee meeting scheduled. In addition, no other people were in attendance to speak in favor, or against, the bill. Therefore, the committee was unable to ask any questions and determined that the bill should be found Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 394, relative to public employees testifying before legislative committees. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Lucy Weber for Legislative Administration. This bill would have prohibited all public employees from testifying at the legislature during working hours unless one of three conditions had been met: 1) the committee chair specifically requested the public employee to testify, and the chair's written request was provided to the committee clerk, or 2) the public employee was explicitly authorized to represent the employer in the matter testified about, and written documentation of the authorization was given to the committee clerk, or 3) the public employee used personal or vacation time to testify, and written verification of the use of personal or vacation time was provided to the committee clerk. The bill would apply to every public employee at every level, state, county and local. Committee members noted a number of concerns about the bill. First, because of the definition used of "public employee," there was concern that some directly appointed public employees might not actually be covered by the wording of the bill. Second, in a number of cases, there is a degree of ambiguity as to who qualifies as the employer from whom authorization may be obtained. Third, there was concern about how to ascertain what the "working hours" of any given employee were. Finally, as to the local entities, committee members believe that this is a matter of policy to be decided entirely at the local level, not by mandate from the legislature. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 406, establishing a committee to study procedures for a New Hampshire constitutional convention. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Armand Forest for Legislative Administration. The committee believes that this bill, although well intentioned, is not necessary at this time. The last time voters were asked if they would like to have a constitutional convention was just 4 years ago. Only 36% of voters favored having a convention at that time. There is a clear process for the constitution to be amended without having a convention. The legislature can pass, with a 3/5 majority, a constitutional amendment concurrent resolution, and the question can appear on the ballot in the next general election. The last time the State Constitution was amended was in 2006. Because of

the other avenues available to New Hampshire citizens to amend the constitution as needed, and the reality that the last convention was held in 1984, we believe it is not necessary to establish this study committee at the cost of taxpayers at this time. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 429, relative to the authority of the judiciary to review provisions of certain education statutes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kathleen Hoelzel for Legislative Administration. This bill would allow the legislature to define which children are educable and which are not. Such decisions would not be reviewable by the courts. One principal of democracy, especially as it relates to fundamental rights is that an aggrieved person has an opportunity to seek redress through the courts. This bill would undermine that basic tenet of democracy. This bill is an effort to cut, eliminate or otherwise defund public education and eviscerate the Claremont decisions. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 475, relative to honoring Jessie Doe and Mary L.R. Farnum, the first women elected to the New Hampshire house of representatives. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Lucy Weber for Legislative Administration. This bill honors the first two women to be elected to the NH House, taking their seats in 1921 - Jessie A. Doe, a Republican from Rollinsford, and Mary L. R. Farnum, a Democrat from Boscaawen. Because of the timing of passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, both of these accomplished women ran successful write-in campaigns, and later, they together founded the Order of Women Legislators. The bill directs the Joint Legislative Historical Committee to give priority to obtaining appropriate portraits of the two women for placement in the State House. The bill does not contain an appropriation for the portraits. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 541-FN, relative to the compensation of members of the general court. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Phyllis Katsakiores for Legislative Administration. This bill would have the State Treasurer secure silver coins to compensate legislators. 200 silver coins would be equal to over \$3,000.00 for each member and over \$4,000.00 for each presiding officer in compensation. The committee felt that this change in the way state legislators are compensated would be too cumbersome and too expensive. **Vote 12-0.**

HCR 6, urging the New Hampshire general court to investigate whether a member of the general court who is a paid employee of an advocacy group is in violation of article 7 of the second part of the New Hampshire constitution. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Phyllis Katsakiores for Legislative Administration. This concurrent resolution urges the General Court to investigate whether a member who is a paid employee of an advocacy group is in violation of the state constitution. This issue was addressed by our most recent amendment to the Legislative Ethics laws, that was acted on recently. **Vote 14-0.**

HCR 8, urging the adoption of rules for the operation of an Article 5 convention. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Skylar Boutin for Legislative Administration. This concurrent resolution urges adoption of procedural rules developed by the Assembly of State Legislatures to govern an Article V convention. An Article V Convention is a convention called by the states for the purpose of proposing amendments to the US Constitution. The bill is premature and unnecessary. There would be adequate time, if an Article V Convention were called, for determining rules for the convention. **Vote 13-0.**

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 121, relative to the maximum optional fee for transportation improvements charged by municipalities when collecting motor vehicle registration fees. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Franklin Sterling for Municipal and County Government. Municipalities currently have the option to add an amount up to a maximum of \$5.00 to the cost of motor vehicle registrations for transportation related infrastructure improvements. The maximum amount was set in 1997 and has been used by many municipalities to improve their town roads and bridges as well as provide transportation amenities for their residents. Some communities don't use this at all and it is entirely up to the legislative body to allow it in the amount specified, and only for reasons specified. It is felt that allowing an increase from \$5 to a maximum of \$10 would be reasonable when compared to overall cost increases since 1997. The bill would help offset some of the associated construction cost escalators realized over the past two decades. These are local dollars used for local projects approved by the legislative body. This is true local control. This bill does not increase any fee as it is not mandatory, but simply sets a cap. **Vote 19-1.**

HB 131, relative to the costs for notice of changes in a zoning district. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Richard Tripp for Municipal and County Government. As amended, this bill provides that the petitioner for zoning amendments to the planning board shall be responsible for the cost of noticing 100 or fewer abutters of the public hearing on the amendment. **Vote 17-3.**

HB 265, relative to accessory dwelling units. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Carolyn Matthews for Municipal and County Government. This bill cleans up language in the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) bill that was passed last year (SB 146) and will become effective June 1st this year. It is necessary to help municipalities who are in the process of changing their zoning ordinances prior to the effective date. This bill removes the mandate that ADUs must be allowed in manufactured housing and condominiums and townhouse type dwellings, but allows municipalities to include ADUs in these dwellings if they wish. The amendment defines “manufactured housing” and condominiums by referencing statute, and prohibits condominium conveyances of ASU’s unless allowed by the municipality. **Vote 19-1.**

HB 303-LOCAL, relative to filling vacancies in the office of county commissioner. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Franklin Sterling for Municipal and County Government. The original intent of this bill was to remove any doubt that the entire county delegation would be voting to elect a candidate to fill a vacancy in the office of county commissioner. Existing statute left this practice in doubt. Hillsborough County, due to its size, wishes to have only the delegates from the district in which there is a vacancy vote on a replacement. Since only district voters initially elect a commissioner, the delegation feels only representatives from the district that has a vacancy should vote on a replacement. The amendment specifies that Hillsborough County will fill a vacancy by a vote of the delegation members from the district that has a vacancy. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 316, relative to a statewide property tax exemption for commercial and industrial construction. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Frank McCarthy for Municipal and County Government. This is a business and tax base growth bill. It allows a community to exempt some commercial and industrial construction costs from being assessed for taxes. The exemption shall specify the annual percentage, but cannot exceed 50 percent per year, for a maximum period of ten years following the new construction. This allows a municipality to attract growth or new businesses with a tax break. Although it will not result in a total increase in the final tax revenues in the first year, it will still increase total collected taxes. Once adopted by the local legislative body, the percentage rate and duration of the exemption shall be granted uniformly within that municipality to all projects for which a proper application is filed. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 325, permitting certain towns to appoint a town clerk. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Franklin Sterling for Municipal and County Government. This bill allows newer charter towns to appoint a town clerk rather than elect one. There are only eight communities in NH that would qualify to adopt this process. A similar bill which would have applied to all municipalities was defeated in 2014 (HB1266). The committee felt that selectmen and town clerks are specified in the NH Constitution and should remain an elected office, especially when the town clerk is charged with so much authority in elections. The office should remain a elected position. A constitutional amendment might be required to enact such a change. Some towns already elect a town clerk but also hire someone to do registrations and other town clerk duties. The committee felt this bill should not go forward. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 411-LOCAL, relative to calculation of collection dates for local property taxes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jane Beaulieu for Municipal and County Government. This bill modifies dates of calculation of property taxes and creates problems with different municipalities who have different fiscal years and differing annual meetings. The bill specifies that property values used for tax purposes would be the assessed valuations determined in the prior year so that budgets can be adopted using known values. The bill would not account for assessed values of new construction or renovations which would grant those property owners a one year exemption resulting in the remaining tax payers bearing the burden of budget increases. Changes due to market shifts or economic recessions would be delayed by a year and applied in a year where not needed. This bill appears to conflict with the purpose and intent of the mandatory minimum 5-year revaluation currently mandated of all communities. The bill also introduces conflicts in dates when tax bills are due and other issues too numerous to list in this commentary. This bill is not enabling and would mandate that all communities comply with the new process. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 419-FN-LOCAL, relative to real estate leased for a public charter school. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jane Beaulieu for Municipal and County Government. Public Schools sometimes occupy space in a taxable property. This bill would require a municipality to calculate the pro-rata share of taxes attributed to that school space and refund that portion of taxes. The bill states that the school needs to make the application, and the refund goes to the school and not the property owner. The committee felt that this process, determination of liability for taxes, and tax exemption should be left up to the community and their assessing departments. RSA 79-H already establishes a procedure whereby cities or towns can optionally give property tax breaks to chartered public schools which lease taxable real estate, as well as to their landlords. This bill undermines the authority of municipal government and singles out charter schools while doing nothing for other public schools. **Vote 18-2.**

HB 437, relative to the authority of municipal law enforcement officers. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Carolyn Matthews for Municipal and County Government. The purpose of this legislation is to make sure that current practice is supported by law in order to protect police officers from liability. If a law enforcement officer has a person in custody and that person needs medical help and has to be transported out of town, that officer should continue to be a police officer in the other community even if never appointed as one by that governing body. Police officers crossing town boundaries have usually been considered to have police powers in the neighboring community but the statutes are not clear on this. This bill would remove any doubt and deals only with prisoners needing medical attention. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 456, relative to petition articles in the warrant of a cooperative school district. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Timothy Josephson for Municipal and County Government.

This bill seeks to provide that a cooperative school district can put a warrant on the ballot to establish a budget committee. Testimony at the hearing reveals this is already allowed in statute by RSA 32:14 and there is no need for this bill. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 483, prohibiting the issuance of a summons or warrant for failure to license a dog. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brian Stone for Municipal and County Government. This bill would prohibit a court summons from being issued to someone who has failed to license their dog. Currently, someone who did not pay the fine for failure to license their dog would be in contempt of court. This bill removes that enforcement mechanism without providing another, and the state would be unable to enforce dog licensing requirements. Dog licensing fees partially fund the New Hampshire Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, which assists in important efforts to monitor and control animal diseases in our state, including rabies. Rabies vaccinations are an important part of the dog licensing process. While rabies amongst humans is low in New Hampshire, if pet owners failed to license their dogs and vaccinate them, humans may contract the disease from pets. Rabies is a fatal disease in humans. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 491-LOCAL, relative to default budgets. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Bruce Tatro for Municipal and County Government. This bill is the same subject, default budgets, as HB 182. The committee voted to retain HB 182 to be worked on this summer by a subcommittee and the outcome will render HB 491 moot. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 495, relative to amendments to warrant articles. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Timothy Josephson for Municipal and County Government. This bill would prohibit petitioned warrant articles from being amended from the floor at SB2 deliberative sessions. By prohibiting the amendment of petitioned warrant articles, it would undermine the legislative body present at the deliberative session. Additionally, there would be nothing preventing the governing body from submitting all warrant articles as petitioned, thereby further undermining the democratic process. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 498, relative to certification requirements for holding the office of sheriff. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. James Belanger for Municipal and County Government. This bill had great intentions of requiring some degree of law enforcement training to elected sheriffs. Sheriffs already have the option of attending training. The bill went too far when it required that an elected sheriff would be removed from office for not passing that training and be replaced by an appointment of a substitute by the governing body. Elected officials are elected by the legislative body and not subject to removal for failing a training course. What if the state representatives were subject to such a test to remain in office? **Vote 20-0.**

HB 503-LOCAL, relative to notice to property owners regarding changes in assessments of property values for tax purposes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jane Beaulieu for Municipal and County Government. Properties in municipalities are re-assessed when building permits are issued, or on a routine basis based on local options. Between major revaluation efforts, some properties receive review and their assessments may change with the property owner when tax bills are issued. This bill would require a municipality to notify the property owner that the property assessed value has changed and provide details related to that. This bill is an unfunded mandate. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 514, relative to alternate members of an elected planning board. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Franklin Sterling for Municipal and County Government. This bill that specifies that alternate "ex officio" members to an elected planning board from any town board must be members of the board they will be coming from and must be residents of the town. Most towns in NH already do that but this bill makes sure it is in writing. Ex officio has been considered to be someone coming from a particular board. An ex officio member from the board of selectmen, for example, should always be a member of the board of selectmen. This bill simply clarifies that. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 530-FN-LOCAL, relative to charges for services by the register of deeds. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Steven Rand for Municipal and County Government. This bill would mandate the maximum amount to be charged by a registrar of deeds for copies and services rendered either online or in person. The cost of services varies from county to county, and charges enable a county to improve their data files, especially in the area of electronic media created from paper documents. This bill would cap the costs at \$1 per copy. Testimony was received that some counties now charge the \$1 but others charge \$2.00. The committee felt that the amounts charged should continue to be determined on a county basis, as approved by the commissioners and the delegation during budget setting time. This bill could result in substantial increases to the county budget to cover the cost of supplying web based services without charge, and the inability to adjust copy fees to reflect true costs. This bill also brings forward an Article 28A issue, with the state mandating that the counties supply a service without charge for costs of that service. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 564, relative to information available to members of school boards or budget committees. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Julie Gilman for Municipal and County Government. While school boards and budget committees need requested and expected information, the committee found that this bill addressed a local, rather than a statewide, problem. **Vote 15-1.**

HB 585-FN-LOCAL, abolishing fluoridation in water. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Frank McCarthy for Municipal and County Government. This bill and other similar bills have been before the committee in the past and require mandates to communities over what they do with their drinking water. The bill would prohibit the introduction of fluoride into any drinking water statewide. It would remove the local option based on a belief that fluoride is harmful. There are currently ten municipalities serving 289,300 people that fluoridate their drinking water. The Department of Health and Human Services states this bill may increase state expenditures related to the Medicaid program. The department further states that, according to current medical and dental practice and recommendation, systemic fluoride is considered best practice for the prevention of tooth decay and infection for children aged 12 and under. If 10 percent of the 33,784 Medicaid recipients living in areas that currently fluoridate their water were to receive fluoride supplements, the Medicaid costs would increase annually by about \$642,000. **Vote 19-1.**

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

HB 181, relative to the maintenance of private roads abutting residential properties. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark McConkey for Public Works and Highways. This bill is intended to be a response to changes in the criteria used by Fannie Mae for financing homes on private roads. The committee heard the same legislation last year, studied the issue extensively, and could not arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. The sponsor came in with an amendment but the committee did not feel that the amendment made an improvement to the original bill and unanimously voted against the amendment. The committee felt that an owner of property on a private road should not be forced to establish or join an association if they didn't choose to do so. While sympathetic to the situation, the committee unanimously felt there was no fix that would not have an adverse impact on some individual property owners. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 371-LOCAL, relative to bond requirements for public works contracts. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Karen Ebel for Public Works and Highways. This bill, which is replaced in its entirety by the amendment, would raise the cap pursuant to which the state is required to obtain a surety bond for public works contracts from \$35,000 to \$75,000. Additionally, the amendment removes the requirement for political subdivisions, such as municipalities, to obtain surety bonds for public works contracts entirely. The committee recognized that there were certain financial benefits to increasing the bonding cap for the state. The committee further recognized that municipalities should be trusted to make their own decisions as to when surety bonds will be required. If a municipality does decide to bond for a public works contract it must comply with the RSA:447. **Vote 19-0.**

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB 195, establishing a committee to study temporary seasonal docks. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. John Mullen for Resources, Recreation and Development. In 2016 the House sent HB 1517 to interim study based on the fact that this committee needed more time to resolve the many issues that arose during the hearing and in deliberations on the proper regulation of seasonal docks. While the Department of Environmental Services (DES) is responsible for enforcement, Marine Patrol often gets the call when there is an issue. Thus, both agencies expend resources on managing seasonal docks. Testimony from DES and Marine Patrol indicated that existing regulations focus on measurements on the ground rather than safety issues on the water and have little environmental impact. Transferring the management of docks all together from DES

to possibly Marine Patrol in the Department of Safety arose, enhancing the need for a more in-depth study of all docks. Thus, the need for this bill which establishes a study committee on the issue, as recommended by the interim study report on HB 1517. The House and Senate membership will fully explore how seasonal docks should be regulated and managed and by what agency. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 302, relative to the leasing of Hampton Beach state park. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Chris Christensen for Resources, Recreation and Development. The committee believes that the Hampton Beach Area Commission already has the authority to study leasing the Hampton Beach State Park should they choose to do so. This bill would have required them to conduct such a study. No support for this project was voiced by the Hampton Board of Selectmen or groups like the Chamber of Commerce. At a special meeting devoted to this bill, the Hampton Beach Area Commission voted overwhelmingly to not support the bill citing a lack of resources, among other things. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 431, establishing a commission to study long term goals and requirements for drinking water in the seacoast area. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. James McConnell for Resources, Recreation and Development. People in New Hampshire take pride in the quality of their drinking water and many in our state have their own private wells. Development and chemical contamination of our groundwater threaten this important natural resource. The Haven Well in Portsmouth was shut down in May 2014 when levels of perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) were detected over 12 times the EPA advisory limit. Adults and children in day cares who drank water from the Haven Well have PFC levels in their blood up to six times that of similar populations. The Haven Well shutdown has left the City of Portsmouth with an emergency buffer or only one percent in its water supply. Groundwater contamination from the Coakley Landfill threatens water supplies in Rye, Greenland, North Hampton, and Hampton. There is a dire need for regional drinking water planning between seacoast communities. This bill establishes a study commission for community water suppliers and municipalities to protect drinking water resources and identify possible threats. In addition, a goal of this study commission is to plan for mutual aid between municipalities for water infrastructure, drought planning, and firefighting. No one testified in opposition to this bill and the committee realizes the dire need to address these issues. The amendment accelerates the reporting date from 2020 to 2018 and expands the membership of the commission to include additional seacoast municipalities. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 485, relative to standards for emerging contaminants in drinking water. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. James McConnell for Resources, Recreation and Development. We all know the Governor specifically mentioned safe drinking water and protecting our most vulnerable in his budget address to the House and Senate. This bill would provide the state with the tools necessary to follow through on the Governor's goals enabling the state to move quickly to adopt Ambient Water Quality Standards for emerging contaminants that are more protective of public health than federal standards. Information about chemistry and toxic effects of emerging contaminants can develop rapidly. The science on public health effects from exposure to emerging contaminants sometimes evolves more quickly than the federal government can react. The committee heard testimony from scientific and healthcare experts supporting the need for the state to be proactive in protecting fetal development and our young children from exposures to toxic chemicals. The amendment redrafts the bill to remove terms like "most conservative standard" which were either not well defined or had questionable attainability. **Vote 18-1.**

HB 608-FN, requiring the state park system to use competitive bidding for the acquisition and resale of firewood. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Chris Christensen for Resources, Recreation and Development. As required by RSA 622:28, the Parks and Recreation Division of the Department of Resources and Economic Development purchases items such as firewood from the Department of Corrections when it is appropriate to do so. Currently, the Department of Corrections supplies about 50% of the firewood needs in a joint operation. Firewood is sold at retail at the many state run campgrounds. In order to transport firewood across county lines, it must be kiln dried and meet other standards. The Department of Corrections buys log wood through a bidding process, then kiln dries and packages it for the Parks and Recreation Division. Needs fluctuate based on weather and camper visits creating time lines where the bidding process would be inappropriate. The division may also advertise and reach out to known vendors to meet these varying needs. **Vote 19-0.**

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

HB 162, relative to the criteria for the issuance of certificates for the siting of high pressure gas pipelines. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Vose for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill would have the practical effect of eliminating any new pipeline construction in New Hampshire. Such pipelines could bring the potential of lower energy

costs. This bill would likely increase energy costs, which would further exacerbate our state's ability to attract new business. Furthermore, the committee believes that a key component of this bill would violate interstate commerce laws and would therefore be unenforceable. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 199, relative to including hydroelectric in renewable energy classes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. David Murotake for Science, Technology and Energy. The New Hampshire Electric Renewable Portfolio Standards, RSA 362-F:4, IV defines four Electric Renewable Energy Class IV as small hydroelectric generators with a nameplate capacity of 5 mega watts or less, placed in operation before January 1, 2006. This bill adds all hydroelectric energy, including large hydroelectric generators, to Class IV electric renewable energy classes. After considering testimony from the Public Utilities Commission, the committee determined inclusion of all hydroelectric generators to this class would flood the Class IV market with Renewable Energy Certificates, driving the market price of RECs to near-zero. This would result in disastrous financial consequences, not only to small hydro generators, but to other RPS Classes including the biomass industry, on which much of the state depends for its livelihood. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 225, repealing the electric renewable portfolio standard. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Michael Vose for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill, as amended, adds new reporting requirements for renewable energy certificates (RECs) under the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). These new requirements will add transparency to the reporting of REC trading activity. Expanded quarterly reports will provide information about the number and destination of traded RECs. This bill originally sought to repeal the RPS, but its lack of support for biomass electricity generators and the forest products industry on which they rely made it untenable. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 336, relative to standards for outdoor wood-fired hydronic heaters. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Herbert Richardson for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill, as amended, is largely a housekeeping in nature by updating the existing statute to account for current standards for new outdoor wood-fired hydronic heaters (OWHHs). It also clarifies that the law does not apply to pellet stoves and that OWHHs previously installed in accordance with law are grandfathered and may continue to operate. All issues that were presented at the public hearing are addressed by the amendment. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 337, relative to municipal regulations of small wind energy systems. **OUGHT TO PASS.** Rep. Gregory Smith for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill will align state and municipal standards for acceptable noise level for wind energy systems to a single standard. A comprehensive set of SEC Rules was adopted in 2015 that specifies a sound level not to exceed 45 dBA during the daytime hours and 40 dBA during night time hours. Given the level of participation of the public and subject matter experts and rigorous review process of the SEC Committee in determining this standard, the committee believes it is in the public interest to maintain consistency between the SEC requirements and other wind-related standards. **Vote 18-2.**

HB 462, relative to rules of the site evaluation committee. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Gregory Smith for Science, Technology and Energy. The Site Evaluation Committee and the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules spent considerable time and effort working with all stakeholders affected by the types of energy projects associated with this bill to develop the existing siting rules. It was the unanimous vote of the committee that we not attempt to legislatively change these rules affecting scenic views, fire safety, and transparency in relation to wind, pipeline, and other projects. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 504, relative to third party charges on utility bills. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Gregory Smith for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill was an attempt to specify certain utility charges as not being necessary and hence voluntary. However, the way it was written it would have potentially prevented such charges as 911 fees, FCC Universal Service Fund, and even competitive energy company charges (such as North American Power or Ambit Energy) from being collected by NH utility companies. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 515, relative to options for customers who are in arrears in utility bill payments. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Glen Aldrich for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill provides a residential customer who is required to pay a deposit to a utility company because his or her account is in arrears with the option of bringing the account into good standing without having to pay the deposit. The committee feels that utilities already provide notice before they disconnect a customer and work with those behind on their bills to help them become current. Legislation such as this cannot simply declare that a customer is in good standing by the means provided in the bill. **Vote 18-0.**

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HB 513, authorizing the state veterans' advisory committee to accept gifts, grants, and donations for payment of the committee's costs. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Alfred Baldasaro for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The committee believes that the State Veterans Advisory Committee should be able to accept donations from their members in order to offset the cost of running the monthly meetings (printing agendas, minutes and other reports.) Funding similar to that proposed in this bill is currently used by other statutorily established advisory boards. **Vote 14-1.**

HCR 9, affirming states' powers based on the Constitution for the United States and the Constitution of New Hampshire. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Alfred Baldasaro for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The majority of the committee supports the intent of this resolution which supports the states in preserving and enforcing the Constitution of the United States of America pursuant to Part 1, Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of New Hampshire and the tenth amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America. **Vote 15-2.**

TRANSPORTATION

HB 214, repealing prohibitions on electronic device usage while driving. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Steven Smith for Transportation. This bill would not only repeal the hands free device prohibition, but also repeal much of the ban on texting while driving. This is a step too far. The state has invested heavily in education and public outreach for the current state of the law. It is prudent to let it stand longer to better evaluate its effectiveness. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 315, relative to persons who may accompany a youth operator of an OHRV or a snowmobile. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Steven Smith for Transportation. This bill corrects an omission made when the legislature created state highway trail connectors. An individual under the age of 18 who is learning to drive a car is required by law to be supervised by a licensed adult over the age of 25. This bill aligns the rules for off highway recreational vehicle (OHRV) riders, who may end up on public roads, with existing motor vehicle laws regarding financial liability. **Vote 13-1.**

HB 319, relative to the suspension of a driver's license and limiting 20-day registration plates. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Chris True for Transportation. We heard testimony that the Division of Motor Vehicles is aware of people who repeatedly come in to request 20-day plates for the same vehicle. They do this to avoid getting the vehicle inspected. This bill addresses that by limiting 20-day registration plates to three plates within a 12-month period. **Vote 13-1.**

HB 335, relative to notice of federal motor carrier safety regulations. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Werner Horn for Transportation. Any granite stater has the opportunity to ask the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) to add them to the email service that provides updates to rule changes from the federal motor carrier safety committee. Additionally, membership in the New Hampshire motor carrier association gives its members access to the information. With these opportunities this bill is unnecessary. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 363, repealing the laws regarding motorized locomotives and ski area plates. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Skip Cleaver for Transportation. Number plates for motorized locomotives and ski area plates are out-moded and no longer necessary. No plates are currently issued in either category, and no issue of these plates is anticipated. This bill will help reduce the large number of plates now available from the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), and will result in DMV programming cost savings. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 416, relative to visual acuity requirements for drivers' licenses. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Torosian for Transportation. This bill allows drivers to submit visual acuity forms online when they renew their license. The bill does not provide resources or methods for the division of motor vehicles to receive and process the forms. Despite hearing testimony about the dangers of failing vision among certain drivers, the bill does not increase the frequency of tests. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 433, relative to number plate decals for firefighters. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Werner Horn for Transportation. The state's new decal program will now include New Hampshire firefighters under this bill. The plates are issued blank from the New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles and the respective fire chiefs are responsible for managing their decal programs. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 451, relative to motorcycle endorsements and restrictions. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Chris True for Transportation. This bill was requested by the department of safety. It makes the driver license more readable by clearly listing the endorsements and restrictions. The amendment changes the effective date from 60 days after passage to January 1, 2018 to give the division of motor vehicles time to effect these changes on licenses. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 454, repealing mandatory on-board diagnostic and emissions tests for motor vehicles. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Werner Horn for Transportation. Repealing the on-board diagnostic and emissions tests without providing for the loss of federal funding that would result, and without providing for an efficient system for detecting emissions would not be prudent at this time. We depend on the federal money associated with on-board diagnostic and emissions tests to maintain our roadways and we depend on the emissions testing to maintain the quality of New Hampshire air, which is our state's hallmark. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 479-FN, establishing Rotary International special number plates. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Werner Horn for Transportation. The bill as introduced would establish rotary club plates at a cost to the state of \$300,000. The committee amendment replaces the bill. The amendment establishes the rotary club decal as the first decal authorized under the decal plate program at no cost to the state. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 480, relative to the return of a driver's license after reversal of an administrative license suspension. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Thomas Walsh for Transportation. This bill requires the return of a driver's license to someone who appeals an administrative suspension and prevails. The department of safety testified that this is current practice, deeming this bill unnecessary. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 487, relative to vehicle equipment waivers for persons with disabilities. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Werner Horn for Transportation. This bill modifies provisions relating to vehicle equipment waivers for persons with disabilities. There were a number of existing statutes amended by this bill, but such changes lacked proper support and are considered unnecessary at this time. **Vote 13-0.**

HB 577-FN, relative to number plate scanning devices. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Werner Horn for Transportation. This bill leaves a number of issues unaddressed, such as if there is the type of software available and who would pay for the conversion if necessary, among others. This bill is incomplete. **Vote 14-0.**

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 164, relative to poker in private residences. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Gary Azarian for Ways and Means. This bill cleans up an existing statute whereas poker in a private residence is not allowed. Poker will be allowed in private residences and the bill provides there is no rake, no compensation for the house, and no admission fee or set fee. No one receives money or anything of value for conducting or hosting the game. **Vote 23-0.**

HB 215, establishing a commission to study the legalization, regulation, and taxation of marijuana. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Timothy Lang for Ways and Means. As other states change their marijuana laws, it behooves New Hampshire to look at the lessons learned by those states, study the topic, and determine the pros and cons of similar changes in New Hampshire in a systematic way. The committee recommends this bill ought to pass in order to help the body make informed decisions in the future regarding marijuana policy, regulation, and taxation and to better understand potential unintended consequences of various marijuana measures. **Vote 18-1.**

HB 398, establishing a commission to study and evaluate providing financial incentives for professional media production activity in New Hampshire. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Arthur Barnes for Ways and Means. Although the committee views professional media productions produced in New Hampshire as a welcomed development, the major stumbling block to supporting this effort is the historical financial incentives the industry insists are necessary. The financial incentives that have been requested are credits against the business profits tax with the provision said tax credits be transferable; sold or assigned. It is the transfer of these tax credits that causes a great deal of concern to the committee. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 534-FN, relative to reporting of meals and rooms tax revenue by the department of revenue administration. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Patrick Abrami for Ways and Means. This bill calls for all room, meals, and car rental operators to report meals and rooms tax collected by the town and city in which it is collected. The intent of the bill is for each town and city to have knowledge of the meals and rooms revenue collected by establishments within its boundaries. The committee identified two major issues which are problematic. The first is that the Department of Revenue Administration cannot report any grouping of taxpayers of 10 or less because of confidentiality reasons. Many small towns in New Hampshire will not meet this threshold. The second problem is that operators that own establishments in multiple towns are allowed to file a consolidated tax filing form. This means the rooms and meals tax revenue would be reported in one town even though it was collected in multiple

municipalities. It was determined that the hospitality industry who supports the consolidated reporting feels it would be a burden to report meals and rooms tax revenue by municipality. With this, the committee voted unanimously that this bill was inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 539-FN-A-LOCAL, relative to the distribution of occupancy revenues under the meals and rooms tax to towns and cities. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Edith Tucker for Ways and Means. This bill would require the Department of Revenue Administration to distribute a portion of the revenue collected from rooms under the meals and rooms tax to towns and cities in proportion to the amount generated in each. It also repeals the option to consolidate reporting of these taxes. The practicalities of this significant change require more work. **Vote 23-0.**

HB 567-FN, repealing the exemption for water and air pollution control facilities from local property taxation. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Marc Abear for Ways and Means. Many businesses have expanded their operations or upgraded their water and air pollution control facilities because the local property tax exemption made it cost effective to do so. Passage of this bill would create uncertainty for these companies, which could have a negative effect on New Hampshire's economy. This bill may reallocate the property tax burden in municipalities but should not impact local revenues. The department estimates this bill would have increased state revenues by approximately \$3.6 million. **Vote 22-0.**

HB 580-FN-A, regulating online fantasy contests. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Bill Ohm for Ways and Means. Online fantasy sports is an industry in its infancy. This bill as amended allows NH to partner with an industry that has experienced tremendous growth by partnering with the NFL, MLB, NBA and NASCAR. Its growth is unlimited nationally and could become global. NH will garner initially 5% of its gross revenue, oversight and regulation will be administered through the lottery commission. This non-tax revenue source, though initially modest, will continue to grow year after year. **Vote 22-0.**

HB 615-FN-A, reducing the rates of the business profits tax and the business enterprise tax **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Timothy Lang for Ways and Means. In a previous session, this House passed a bill that became law that had business tax reductions. The first set of reductions took effect in 2016. If revenue targets were hit a second round of reductions will take effect in 2018. By all indications, those revenue targets will be hit and we will see further business tax reductions in 2018. Based on these two reductions already in place and creating a moving target on revenue, the committee recommends a "breathing period" before further changes to business tax policy so the complete impact of last year's tax reduction can be reviewed. **Vote 23-0.**

HB 637-FN-A, relative to the threshold for filing a business enterprise tax return. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jordan Ulery for Ways and Means. As presented, this bill creates numerous questions regarding constitutionality. In addition, the bill is bad tax policy in that consistency of taxation is violated. Modification of business taxes is already underway and a change at this time creates only confusion. The sole sponsor was not present to answer any of the questions raised. As a result the committee voted to recommend this bill inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 23-0.**

HB 655-FN-A-LOCAL, establishing a local option sales tax to reduce property taxes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Richard Ames for Ways and Means. This bill seeks to establish a local option sales tax, at a locally determined rate not to exceed 1.5%, administered by the Department of Revenue Administration, with local revenue to be used to reduce the amount raised by property taxes to fund appropriations. At the public hearing on the bill, the sponsor acknowledged that the bill, as drafted, was not "reasonable, workable, or feasible." The committee agrees that the issues which the bill seeks to address, particularly property tax burdens that are seen as unfair, need to be addressed. The bill, however, is flawed as proposed and has received no support. Therefore, the committee is unanimous in its recommendation of inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 23-0.**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8 REGULAR CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

HB 349-FN, relative to out-of-home placements under the child protection act. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Daniel Itse for Children and Family Law. This bill, as amended, establishes the policy of the legislature regarding the standard for keeping children in “out of home placement” in the case of abuse or neglect. It further requires that, when there is a deviation from that standard, the supporting evidence must be stated. Finally, it protects the right of parents to discuss their concerns about the courts’ adherence to that standard with members of the Committee on Children and Family Law. **Vote 8-5.**

COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

HB 79-FN, relative to New Hampshire products purchased and sold by the liquor commission. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kermit Williams for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill, with the amendment, creates a set of three “appellations” that a New Hampshire alcohol producer can put on his label. “Grown in New Hampshire” means most of the raw materials are grown in the state; “Made in New Hampshire” means most of the production work is done in the state; and “Packaged in New Hampshire” means it was at least bottled here. The goal of the bill was to create terms that consumers could trust when choosing local products. **Vote 17-3.**

HB 279, relative to smoking on private property. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jason Osborne for the **Majority** of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill, as amended, is enabling legislation to permit cigar bars to allow cigarettes to also be smoked on premise. The majority finds that if an establishment is currently permitted to combust tobacco of one kind, it is not appropriate to prevent it from combusting tobacco in another form. This bill as amended is a small yet positive step toward rectifying the decade-long minority rights and property rights abuse perpetrated by the statewide ban on smoking in private businesses. **Vote 13-7.** Rep. Christy Bartlett for the **Minority** of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. In 2017, this bill expands indoor smoking. Even with the amendment to limit the expansion to cigar bars, this doesn’t make sense. Ten years after SB 55, which established a committee to study the financial impact of smoking on the state, common sense may be overruled. In 2008, the House killed a bill to expand the definition of cigar bars to allow cigarette smoking. Currently, it is required that a cigar bar that has a liquor license must produce at least 60% of the gross sales from the sale of cigars and accessory products. Some cigar bars are having difficulty meeting that requirement. Originally, the agreement was that no food was to be served in a cigar bar, but this term, the House just passed HB 175 allowing food to be served but not sold. This bill would erode the definition further. We heard testimony that few women frequent cigar bars. By expanding the definition to allow cigarette smoking, more women will likely patronize these businesses. The tobacco sales will increase to meet the minimum sales required by law, and there are likely to be higher liquor sales, which also benefits the state. Of course, this doesn’t account for the increase in health care costs resulting from amending the law to make it easier to smoke and thus expanding the population of smokers. Expanding the opportunity to smoke is not in the best interests of the people of NH, even if it does bring in more revenue. There were hundreds of emails sent to all members of the committee. The overwhelming majority were opposed to the expansion of indoor smoking. The NH House would do well to listen to NH citizens.

HB 353-FN, relative to sales of beer in refillable containers. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kermit Williams for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill allows certain on and off-premise liquor licensees to fill refillable containers of beer, or “growlers.” A growler is a way for a craft beer lover to bring home draft beer in the same form as they would enjoy it at a restaurant. The bill requires the licensee to carry a large number of labels, which ensures that those who provide this service are craft beer experts and have a built-in reason to provide sanitary conditions and good product. This bill is an enabling legislation; it’s likely that only a few pioneers will offer growlers, even though this is a business that exists in at least 40 other states. New Hampshire brewers who don’t want their products sold in growlers can opt-out through the Liquor Commission. **Vote 17-3.**

HB 385, relative to notice for foreclosures. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Hunt for Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill seeks to amend existing laws on foreclosure notices that were revised by the legislature only two years ago. It would block a lender from moving forward on foreclosure until a borrower had signed a receipt for a foreclosure notice. This would allow a delinquent borrower to block a foreclosure indefinitely simply by failing to sign a receipt for delivery of the notice. Federal and state reforms in recent years have moved steadily toward protecting borrowers who face foreclosure.

They must receive prompt and repeated contacts and notices from lenders about their situation for months before a foreclosure notice can be sent out. Our state laws require that the notice must be sent by registered or certified mail or by sheriff's service. The notice itself must contain information about a state telephone help line, the right to petition a Superior Court for a delay of a foreclosure sale, and contact numbers for mortgage administrators. The majority of the committee believes that current law provides balanced protection for all parties involved in these unfortunate situations, and that the bill should be found Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 11-9.**

HB 436, exempting persons using virtual currency from registering as money transmitters. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Barbara Biggie for the **Majority** of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill, with amendment, provides an exemption to the NH Banking Department money-transmitters license for persons using virtual currency, such as bitcoin. This is a relatively new industry utilizing blockchain based digital technology to accept, validate and records the transactions. With passage of this bill, New Hampshire can be a welcoming environment for blockchain technology innovators. The amended bill broadcasts to the public than the NH Banking Department is not regulating convertible virtual currency, or cryptocurrency. Money transmitters of virtual currency shall be subject to the New Hampshire Consumer Protection Act, RSA 358, regulation of business practices for consumer protection. **Vote 11-9.**

Rep. Kermit Williams for the **Minority** of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. The minority believes that use of virtual currency is a complicated transaction for those who are not aficionados of the technology. Bitcoin and other virtual currency users don't need a money transmitter to use their funds. Most virtual currency is sent in a peer-to-peer transaction, which is private between two parties. A money transmitter comes into the picture when someone who doesn't know how to use bitcoin needs to pay someone else in bitcoin. They engage a third party, who will often convert to bitcoin from cash, then send it for their customer. Because the customer doesn't understand the technology, the opportunity for fraud is high, and therefore the state should provide some oversight on the people providing that service, just as we do with Western Union and other transmitters of "real" currency.

HB 633-FN, allowing health insurance policies to be sold without mandates. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Edward Butler for the **Majority** of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. The bipartisan majority of the committee agreed that it is not a good idea to support a wholesale repeal of all health care insurance mandates. If all NH mandates were repealed, then things like 'newborn children covered from birth under family plan,' 'mental health parity,' 'diabetes services and supplies,' 'prosthetic devices,' 'dependents under age 26 eligible for family plan.' 'conversion from group to individual upon termination of coverage for any reason' would not be required in our coverage policies. There are 30 mandates regarding conditions and treatments; 8 regarding pharmaceuticals; and dozens relative to contract provisions. These have been passed over many years during majorities of both parties. Mandates have been passed to protect most, if not all, of our constituents. The majority believes that repeal of all mandates is not in the best interest of our citizens. **Vote 17-4.**

Rep. Elizabeth Ferreira for the **Minority** of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. This bill would allow (not require) health insurance policies to be sold without mandates in New Hampshire. During the public hearing, several health insurance lobbyists stated that mandates represent up to five percent of a premium. The minority recognizes that although this reduction in premiums would be modest, any cost relief that can be offered on health coverage by having this reasonable free market option available to those already struggling to pay for health insurance policies (including many small businesses in the Granite State), would be a helpful and positive step. Regardless of the bill's passage, all federal mandates would remain a requirement.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 94-FN, prohibiting certain defenses in prostitution and human trafficking cases. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Larry Gagne for the **Majority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill prohibits the assertion of certain defenses in a prosecution for prostitution or human trafficking. This will amend RSA 633:7, III-a to read: "A person is guilty of a class B felony if the person pays, agrees to pay, or offers to pay to engage in sexual contact, as defined in RSA 632-A:1 or sexual penetration, as defined in RSA 632-A:1, V with a person under the age of 18, or to observe a sexually explicit performance involving a person under the age of 18. The payment or offer or agreement to pay may be made to the person under the age of 18 or a third party. Neither the actor's lack of knowledge of the other person's age nor consent of the other person shall constitute a defense to a charge under this paragraph." **Vote 17-4.**

Rep. John Burt for the **Minority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The minority understands the wrong policy of convicting people who are deceived by pimps or prostitutes as to the age of the prostitute. The minority does not believe it is right to convict someone of a crime that they had no intention of committing. We believe those who are trying to deceive someone of a prostitute's age are the ones who should be prosecuted more heavily. Unfortunately this bill only punishes unwitting persons.

HB 205-FN, relative to flying a drone above a correctional facility. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Shannon Chandley for the **Majority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill, as amended, prohibits, with certain exceptions, the flying of drones above a state correctional facility or county jail. Over the past eighteen months, there have been thirteen drone sightings over the New Hampshire State Prison in Concord. Staff must immediately respond to the presence of drones by evacuating the prison yard and going into lock-down mode until the drone has cleared the facility. Reports from correctional facilities outside of our state describe the delivery of prohibited materials into prisons. To date, no drone has dropped contraband at a New Hampshire facility. This bill takes a step toward ensuring that none does so in the future. **Vote 15-4.**

Rep. John Burt for the **Minority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. According to the NH Department of Transportation, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has "exclusive sovereignty of airspace" in the United States according to 49 USC 40103 and maintains the right to "Sovereignty and Public Right of Transit." If this bill passes it will not hold up in court. The FAA told the committee that there is a process if the Department of Corrections wishes to not have drones fly over their prison. This bill is not the process to stop unwanted drones flying over NH prisons.

HB 284, relative to jury instructions in sexual assault cases. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Shannon Chandley for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. In this bill the word "victim" was changed to "complainant" at each appearance in RSA 632-A:6. The word "victim" is regularly used in statute and to change it to "complainant" for this particular sexual assault statute suggests equivocation. Along with all victims of crimes in New Hampshire's criminal code, those who have been subjected to sexual assault are currently, and rightfully, recognized as "victims." This bill minimizes the traumatic experiences and heinous crimes that victims of sexual assault have endured. When a victim of sexual assault chooses to come forward he or she often faces shame, doubt and blame. This bill would set this ambiguity into statute and stack the deck against sexual assault victims from the start. Moreover, changing the language of RSA 632-A:6 would certainly beg the question: why not eliminate all other occurrences of the word victim? This bill also sought to make changes to the procedure for jury instructions in sexual assault cases. Specifically, this bill mandated that when the court instructs the jury that a "complainant's" testimony need not be corroborated, the court also give corresponding testimony that the defendant's testimony need not be corroborated. According to the office of the N.H. Attorney General, this conflicts with the U.S. Supreme Court's finding that the jury is to be instructed that a defendant is not compelled to testify and that the fact that he or she does not testify cannot be used against him or her. Juries are routinely instructed by the courts that the defendant is presumed innocent, that the burden of proof is on the state and that the defendant need not testify nor produce witnesses and that no adverse inference should be drawn from that. It would, therefore, prove confusing, if not wholly contradictory, to add the language presented in this bill. **Vote 19-1.**

HB 351-FN, making a person who knowingly causes the death of a child guilty of capital murder. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. David Welch for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill amends the capital murder statute to include knowingly causing the death of a person who is less than 18 years of age. The majority of the committee believes that this legislation proposes a broad expansion of our state's capital punishment statute. Testimony against this bill included a woman who had been wrongfully convicted for the murder of her child and sent to death row, only to be exonerated and freed when it was proven that her child had died of natural disease. The state has not executed anyone since 1939 and people convicted of first degree murder, including the murder of a child, spend the rest of their lives in prison with no chance of parole. Even committee members who do not support repeal of the death penalty recognize that this bill is flawed and a bipartisan majority recommend against its passage. **Vote 17-3.**

HB 640-FN, relative to the penalties for possession of marijuana. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Robert Renny Cushing for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. For four decades the legislature has grappled with bills to reform the penalties for possession of a small amount of marijuana. The majority believes that this bill is the product of an extensive stakeholder consultative process, is a good and timely piece of legislation that will stop making citizens who possesses a small amount of marijuana criminals, and, instead, treat marijuana as a public health matter. The bill would make possession of an ounce or less of marijuana a violation, subject to escalating fines for repeat violations, instead of a misdemeanor crime subject to arrest, jail time, and a criminal record. It is similar to the steps taken by 19 other states, including all other New England states, to decriminalize marijuana possession, and is similar to decriminalization legislation that

has been passed by the House eight times since 2008. This bill does not endorse the use of marijuana, nor ignore the problems that can be associated with its use. It directs fines to be used for substance misuse and prevention and provides for opportunity for screening for addiction problems. This bill will allow limited law enforcement and court resources to be applied more wisely and in accordance with public opinion. A UNH/WMUR poll released in July 2015 indicated that 72% of Granite Staters support decriminalizing marijuana. Support for this bill at the public hearing was overwhelming, with only one witness appearing in opposition. This bill places our marijuana laws more in line with voter opinion, the New Hampshire constitution, and common sense and is good policy. **Vote 14-2.**

EDUCATION

HB 293, relative to the requirements for filing a chartered public school application. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Terry Wolf for the **Majority** of Education. New Hampshire has a thorough and rigorous process for our chartered public schools. The application evaluates mission and vision, governance and structure, curriculum, staffing, budget, serving special needs students, and more. This bill requires the mission statement to count for not less than 25 percent in the criteria for evaluation and diminishes the importance of the many other crucial areas. More importantly, this bill requires a mission statement to “make a clear and documented case that the proposed school will meet a need not currently being met in the school district in which it will be located.” The intent is to stifle charters and create an almost impossible standard for approval. **Vote 12-5.**

Rep. Mel Myler for the **Minority** of Education. The minority believes that the mission statement is the key to the success of a public charter school. It is the mission statement that the state Board of Education uses to gauge the success of a public charter school when it seeks to renew its charter. The mission statement provides a guide to intentional decision making based on the vision of the mission. The minority believes greater value needs to be placed on the mission statement when evaluating the original charter application. Currently, only 10 points are granted for a mission statement. We feel it should be at the 25-point level.

HB 395, relative to state board of education rulemaking authority over home education programs. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Joseph Pitre for Education. This bill would repeal the board of education of rule-making authority for home education programs and insert certain duties and procedures related to membership in the home education advisory council statute. This measure was strongly objected to by many members of the home school community as well as the Home Education Advisory Council (HEAC). Among the protections currently contained in home education rules, Ed 315, are a number of provisions which protect home educators from overreach by school districts as well as a grievance process through the Department of Education (DOE) which can help keep home educators and school districts out of court. The current rule-making process includes drafting by HEAC, a public hearing, and review before going to the Board of Education for approval. The current process is working well for home schoolers and does not need to be changed. **Vote 14-4.**

HB 494, relative to eligibility for a chartered public school charter. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Dan Wolf for the **Majority** of Education. This bill limits who may file an application to establish a chartered public school. It would prevent out of state residents who belong to a two-state school district from establishing a New Hampshire charter school. It would also prevent other non-profit organizations, such as colleges, that employ other than New Hampshire residents from starting a New Hampshire charter school. Current law is working and change is not needed. **Vote 11-8.**

Rep. Mel Myler for the **Minority** of Education. The minority believes that only New Hampshire residents should be able to submit a chartered public school application. New Hampshire currently has a rigorous chartering process. Our public charter schools have been successful. The last thing the minority wants to see is entities outside the state seeking to open a charter school in our state. We believe it is necessary to sustain our state educational priorities by only permitting state residents to initiate a chartered public school.

HB 557-FN, relative to school attendance in towns with no public schools. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Rick Ladd for the **Majority** of Education. This bill as amended allows a school district to assign a child to another public school in another school district or to a nonsectarian private school either approved for attendance or accredited by an independent accrediting agency recognized by the department if there is no public school for the child's grade in the child's resident district. The bill also allows the resident district school board to make a tuition contract with the receiving public or nonsectarian school. During hearing testimony, the committee heard push back from groups representing the education bureaucracy opposing small towns having the authority to send students to nearby nonsectarian private schools as these groups desire all funds going to nearby public schools. This bill recognizes that locally elected officials are best equipped to decide which school, public or nonsectarian private, is best for students. Nonsectarian private schools are directly

accountable to parents and students, not to a bureaucracy that has previously endorsed failing public schools. It should be noted that this bill defines the use of “approved for attendance” as meaning a school that provides students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare them for successful participation in the social, economic, scientific, technological and political system of a free government, now and in years to come, and provides an education that assures quality of standards and criteria and measures improvement. There is no provision in the Constitution or in the Claremont line of cases finding that only public schools are “constitutionally adequate.” Private schools, like any business, fail if they do not produce good results. This bill gives students the chance to go to a great school rather than one that is merely found to be “constitutionally adequate.” Through a local school board contractual agreement with a receiving public or nonsectarian private school, this bill makes great education available to all students regardless of their economic background. **Vote 11-8.**

Rep. Mary Heath for the **Minority** of Education. The minority finds that this bill as amended fails to assure an adequate education as identified in the NH Supreme Court decision. In the court decision, the NH state assessment was used as an indicator of evidence that NH children are receiving an adequate education. The bill refers to the school accreditation process as an adequacy indicator because the NH assessment is not required in LEA contracts for selected private schools. In her testimony, the attorney representing the NH office of the attorney general raised this fact. An adequate education is a fundamental right for every NH child and in this bill, the local school district cannot verify that action because students will not participate in the NH state assessment. Governor Hassan vetoed a similar bill in 2016 on the basis of its constitutionality as well as concerns for children with disabilities and the manner in which their needs would be met. It is the opinion of the minority that the issue remains, that public funds are being used in private schools and for those children living in poverty, public funds are being used to expand upon the growing abyss between the children who have means and those who do not. This bill as written and amended fails to fulfill its responsibilities to all the children for which it is responsible.

HB 605-FN-A, establishing a scholarship for students pursuing careers in the service of children and the elderly. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for Education. This was a well-intentioned bill that would provide scholarships to students pursuing careers in the service of children and the elderly. The bill has numerous practical problems, however. There are issues related to the definition of social service careers, how to track a scholarship recipient’s residence and employment in New Hampshire after graduation, and what would happen in the event the recipient changes careers. Because of all these unaddressed concerns, the committee recommends finding this bill inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 15-3.**

HB 620, relative to compliance with state and federal education mandates. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for the **Majority** of Education. This amended bill attempts to gain control of the many rules and regulations proposed through the state board of education. It states that the board shall not propose rules that require a local district, or school to expand or modify activities related to curriculum, instruction or the statewide assessment that require expenditure of local funds. In addition, the state board shall not propose rules that exceed minimum state or federal requirements unless authorized by state statutes. As already established in other legislation, the department and state board can set minimum standards, such as with academic standards, but then allow local districts the flexibility to exceed those minimum requirements if they so choose. The intent is to prevent the state board of education rule making to be a source of down shifting of costs to local districts. **Vote 10-8.**

Rep. Mary Heath for the **Minority** of Education. The minority finds that this bill has not been thoroughly vetted in order to realize its full implications and impact. As amended, this bill would present significant risks to New Hampshire’s students and especially those receiving special education services. This bill would prohibit the state board of education from proposing a rule unless authorized by statute and basically removes their authority to establish rules that clarify statutory language. The board would be prevented from creating rules in a timely fashion that could deny students vital supports and furthermore uses vague language that could have sweeping unintended consequences. The minority’s concerns are acute with regard to students with disabilities and ensuring equitable access for all students. This bill mandates a process that could make the rule making process take years and put at risk any number of situations that fall under the responsibilities of the state board. The committee heard testimony from many parents asking the committee to find this bill inexpedient to legislate. This is a bill with serious consequences that needs to be further examined before it becomes legislation. The minority seeks to find this bill inexpedient to legislate, and if not, to at least retain and study it. The General Court carries a responsibility to “do no harm” and this bill may do harm on varying levels jeopardizing services for children with confusing results for school districts, parents, and children. This bill would impact all education rules and cause dire problems across the state.

ELECTION LAW

HB 116, relative to assessing the consequences of the *Citizens United* decision. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Norman Silber for the **Majority** of Election Law. Under the language of this bill, this legislature directs our congressional delegation to amend the Federal Constitution to address money in politics. Proponents believe this is necessary because of the consequences of the *Citizens United* decision, which they argue should be overturned because of the money now being spent in politics. The majority of the committee believes that this bill is unnecessary in light of the fact that there is a constitutional amendment that would overturn the *Citizens United* decision. The majority of the committee also believed that the Supreme Court's reasoning set out in the *Citizens United* case addresses valuable First Amendment rights which should be protected.

Vote 10-8.

Rep. Wayne Moynihan for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill calls upon the NH Congressional Delegation to do all in its power to support and pass an amendment to the US Constitution to address the corrupting influence of money in politics as a consequence of the *Citizens United* decision. Eighteen states and sixty-nine New Hampshire towns have passed resolutions calling for such an amendment. The bill empowers committees of the New Hampshire Senate and House to conduct public hearings in four areas of the state, to thereby enable the citizens of those sixty-nine towns, and others, to offer first hand testimony regarding the amendment and its language. The passage of the bill will be unambiguous recognition of the demand that New Hampshire citizens have delivered to the New Hampshire House that it take action to oppose the consequences of *Citizens United*.

HB 320, relative to procedures for apportioning electoral districts. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Michael Harrington for the **Majority** of Election Law. This bill proposes to use a mathematical optimization process or algorithm to set electoral district boundaries after the decennial census. The stated intent is to remove potential gerrymandering from the process. While the majority of the committee empathized with the desire to remove politics from the redistricting process, they believe this is not possible by substituting a computer algorithm for human judgment. Additionally, there are several technical problems with this bill. The bill requires a vendor to be selected by four specified persons, with no provision for resolving any deadlock. The inputs to the computer algorithm are not spelled out in pseudocode so must be provided by people, people who in this case are politicians. The bill contains no provision to ensure traditional requirements are met, such as House districts must be entirely in the same county. The bill requires that the computer algorithm be reviewed by representatives of all parties but specifies no method to address differences of opinions that arise from that review. The bill also requires the plan to be approved by the House and Senate but does not address what happens if the House and/or the Senate do not approve the plan. As written, this bill is unworkable. **Vote 11-8.**

Rep. Isaac Epstein for the **Minority** of Election Law. Many states already use computer programs to draw partisan boundary lines during decennial redistricting. This bill proposes a mathematical optimization model that would limit the data used in the next round of NH redistricting to census population data, and exclude potentially partisan information, such as race and party affiliation. The minority believes that, with such an algorithm, it would be impossible to draw district lines that favor any particular party, and would lead to more compact districts and more competitive elections. The minority believes that this bill would end partisan gerrymandering and limit potential lawsuits, and its adoption would lead to a freer, fairer, and more transparent redistricting process.

HB 348-FN, relative to registering to vote. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Steve Hellwig for the **Majority** of Election Law. The majority of the committee believes that the current process provides ample opportunity for voter registration up to and including same day registration. Current registration is handled by the town/city clerks and overseen by the Secretary of State, the committee believes that adding the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) as an additional, third party, registrant raises more concerns that outweigh any potential benefit. The bill also requires DMV to track both those that wish to register to vote as well as those that decline to do so. This tracking of individuals participation in the registration process goes far beyond any records currently kept by the Secretary of State. This bill would not meet the federal NVRA requirements for "motor voter" and would still require NH to use same day registration, creating a new bureaucracy without any administrative benefit. The Secretary of State's office does not support this bill. **Vote 12-8.**

Rep. Andrew White for the **Minority** of Election Law. The minority believes any legislation making it more convenient for people to register to vote or vote is essential to increase participation and engagement in our elections. Registering to vote while completing transactions at the DMV would provide significant convenience to those moving into New Hampshire who are obtaining their drivers licenses and registering their vehicles.

It would also make it much more convenient for those living in small communities with limited town office hours to register to vote. The DMV currently serves as a central location for other non motor vehicle related services including registering for organ donation and the Selective Service System, both can be accomplished by simply checking a box on the same form used to obtain a driver's license. For those concerned about Election Day workload and burden at polling places; every person registered to vote at a DMV is one who is not in line registering on Election Day saving time and money. Testimony indicated that the State of Delaware used Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds to cover implementation costs. The minority believes that the HAVA funds held by our state could be used for the same purposes. The minority agrees with the sponsor's assertion that this bill is a win for the voter and a win for election officials.

HB 372, relative to construction of the terms "resident," "inhabitant," "residence," and "residency." **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Steve Negron for the **Majority** of Election Law. This bill proposes to amend the statutory definitions of "resident or inhabitant" and "residence or residency" to make the statutes constitutional with respect to the use of the words in laws related to voting. Specifically, it removes the phrase "for the indefinite future" because a voter cannot be required to have an intention to remain a resident of the state indefinitely. The current law in RSA 21:6 says that a resident must demonstrate "... a current intent to designate that place of abode as his principal place of physical presence for the indefinite future to the exclusion of all others." In 1972, the US District Court in New Hampshire ruled in the *Newburger v. Peterson* case that "the indefinite intention test offends the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment." As a result of that decision, the current definition of resident in RSA 21:6 is unconstitutional with respect to voting. The majority of the committee believe this change eliminates the conflict between that court decision and current law, this bill removes the four words "for the indefinite future" from the definitions of resident and residence. This legislation does not implement any policy change and has been vetted for unintended consequences by the Department of Safety, the Division of Vital Records, the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, the University System of New Hampshire, and the Secretary of State. None of these departments found any concerns with the proposed changes and the Department of Safety and the Secretary of State supported the clarification of these definitions. **Vote 11-9.**

Rep. David Huot for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill attempts, just as HB 1356 did last year, to tie the definitions in RSA 21:6 and 21:6-a to voting. In its zeal to target students, it inadvertently imposes a post-election poll tax not only on students, but also on all inhabitants whose presence in the state is of uncertain duration. It doesn't prevent them from voting, but, rather, requires the payment of motor vehicle fees and personal property taxes by students, professors, and even persons assigned to the state for work of a long but finite term.

HB 384, establishing a committee to study ballot access in New Hampshire. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Yvonne Dean-Bailey for the **Majority** of Election Law. Though this bill is well intentioned, the committee finds the creation of a study committee unnecessary. The proposed committee would be charged with looking into how candidate or political organizations attain ballot access. Currently, New Hampshire has very simple methods to get on the ballot including low signature requirements and minimal fees. The nominating process in place supports the ability of many individuals to get on the ballot, as evidenced by our most recent presidential election. Further, the Libertarian Party is now on the ballot. The majority of the committee believes the current methods are sufficient and does not recommend a study committee for this topic. **Vote 11-8.**

Rep. William Pearson for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill creates a study committee that would examine the process by which a potential candidate for a New Hampshire public office gains access to the ballot. The minority recognizes the concerns surrounding changes to New Hampshire's ballot access laws and would like to study them further. Because the minority recognizes the legitimacy of these concerns, but also the desire of New Hampshire's citizens to see their diverse interests and views represented in their government, we respectfully disagree with the majority's recommendation and would instead suggest a motion of Ought to Pass for this bill.

HB 402, relative to presumptive evidence of domicile for voters. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Gregory Hill for Election Law. This bill proposes to eliminate motor vehicle registration as documentation permitted to support proof of New Hampshire domicile. The committee received testimony from the Department of Motor Vehicles that they are capable of producing non-resident registrations clearly marked with the words NON-RESIDENT. It appears that clerks need to affirmatively "check a box" during the registration process to make the term NON-RESIDENT appear on the registration and that not checking the box doesn't hinder the registration process. While it appears that not all locations adhere to the process, the majority believes this bill is not necessary and that the solution might be to stress the importance of the checked box to the town and city clerks so NON-RESIDENT does, in fact appear on the registration.

Vote 20-0.

HB 430, relative to recording voters' out-of-state drivers' licenses. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Harrington for the **Majority** of Election Law. Currently, if a person shows an out of state license as proof of identity when voting, that information is recorded on the voter checklist and totals for the number of driver's licenses from each state are reported to the Secretary of State within thirty days of an election. This bill will require supervisors of the checklist to enter that data into Election Net – the statewide voter registration database so that the information will be stored with the individual person's voting record. This electronic data will only be accessible to election officials and will assist with determining the eligibility of voters. The amendment simply delays the effective date until July 1, 2018, which was done per the request of the Secretary of State's office. **Vote 11-9.**

Rep. David Huot for the **Minority** of Election Law. The minority believes this legislation is unnecessary, irrelevant, and creates an expensive and time consuming process for local election officials and the Secretary of State. RSA 659:13, I(b) applies only after a voter has been found qualified to vote. Under this section, a voter produces proof of identity to the ballot clerk to prove he or she is the person requesting the ballot. This information adds nothing to the record of the election and requires election officials to sort out data, involving many pages of information, currently reported to the Secretary of State in gross. The bill had to be amended in committee because the Secretary of State is unable to make the necessary changes to the software by the original effective date.

HB 447, relative to allocating electoral college electors based on the national popular vote. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Yvonne Dean-Bailey for the **Majority** of Election Law. This bill requires New Hampshire to enter an interstate compact to allocate its electoral college votes to the winner of the national popular vote. This is a direct attempt to dismantle the electoral college system and dilute New Hampshire's voice in the selection of our president. The committee supports the original intent of the electoral college which was to ensure that small states like New Hampshire have the ability to fully participate in national elections and are not canceled out by large states like Texas and California. The committee believes our current method of apportioning electors encourages high voter participation as New Hampshire voters know their votes have an impact. **Vote 11-8.**

Rep. William Pearson for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill is an interstate compact that goes into effect when states having electoral delegates totaling 270 enact similar legislation. So far, that number is 165. Should New Hampshire join this group and, eventually the requisite number of delegates is met, our 4 electors — along with the 266 others — will go to the candidate that wins the national popular vote. The minority sees this change as a positive step towards a more representative democracy and respectfully disagrees with the majority's recommendation.

HB 464, relative to voter identification requirements when obtaining a ballot. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kathleen Souza for Election Law. This bill would remove the authority of election officials to accept photo identification they deem legitimate. A need for objective standards was cited as the need for this bill. However, election officials testified the current system works well and no problems were brought to the committee at the public hearing. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 519, establishing a commission to study the feasibility of implementing a clearinghouse model for tracking political expenditures and contributions. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Yvonne Dean-Bailey for the **Majority** of Election Law. This bill proposes to create a commission to study the clearinghouse method of campaign finance reform. Such a method provides that all election contributions are handled by the government and after reporting, disbursed to the candidate. The committee believes implementation of such a structure is unnecessary and would be both costly and excessively bureaucratic. A clearinghouse model for tracking political expenditures and contributions has been proposed a number of times, most recently in the last session, and a study committee just looked at this issue in 2015. Also, the Secretary of State's Office recently introduced an online reporting website and the committee believes that the legislature should support their efforts which include easy access to expenditures and receipt reports online. **Vote 11-8.**

Rep. Marjorie Porter for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill seeks to create a bipartisan commission to study the feasibility of implementing a clearinghouse model for tracking political contributions and expenditures. The minority believes a clearinghouse system would provide many advantages, including complete, timely, and accurate disclosure of contributions and expenditures, enforcement of contribution limits, and reduction of campaign workloads. There are several models which might be considered. The minority praises the improved online reporting system implemented by the Secretary of State's Office last year; however, there is still room there for reporting errors. The bill does not mandate implementation, but rather seeks to explore another method of ensuring the integrity of our elections.

HB 552-FN, relative to investigation of undeliverable voter verification letters. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Yvonne Dean-Bailey for the **Majority** of Election Law. Currently, the Secretary of State's Office follows up with same day voter registrants to verify proof of eligibility by sending them letters and asking for cards to be returned. The Attorney General is required to investigate those undeliverable letters sent to voters to determine if voter fraud has occurred. The Attorney General's Office is required to submit a report of their investigation and the last report was in 2011 for the 2010 General Election. No reports have been filed for the 2012 and 2014 elections despite the addition of two new positions in the Attorney General's Office for the purposes of dealing with election law. This bill with the amendment allows the Secretary of State's Office to investigate when letters have been returned as undeliverable or when cards have not been returned. If the Secretary of State determines improper voting or registration may have occurred, that information will be forwarded to the Attorney General for further investigation. The majority of the committee believes that this bill will alleviate the backlog of thousands of returned letters and cards that the Attorney General is not investigating and will drastically streamline the process. In order to determine if the voting card method is sufficient, we must have an agency that is dedicated to evaluating the individual situation of our voters. The majority of the committee also believes that the Secretary of State's Office is better equipped to determine the accuracy of checklists with municipalities. **Vote 11-9.**

Rep. Andrew White for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill, as amended, is unnecessary and counterproductive. The minority believes it would improperly vest the Secretary of State with the ability to criminally investigate voters, and it imposes substantial costs on the state without an appropriation. The minority believes there are significant problems with this bill, as amended. The minority has three primary objections. First, this bill is not needed. Proponents of the bill have argued that it is needed to give the Secretary of State the ability to work with local supervisors of the checklist to streamline the number of unreturned voter postcards to send to the Attorney General's Office for its review. But existing law already allows this. In SB 509 enacted last year, RSA 659:13, IV(b) was changed to expressly give the Secretary of State the ability to "revise the list [of undeliverable letters referred to the Attorney General's Office] based on input solicited from the supervisors of the checklist." Second, this bill would improperly create a satellite criminal investigatory division within the Secretary of State's Office, outside the Attorney General's supervision. Only the Attorney General's Office should have the power to criminally investigate voters as that office is trained in how to investigate crimes and protect the constitutional rights of the accused. Third, this bill requires spending \$280,000 over the next four years to hire the necessary personnel within the Secretary of State's Office. If we truly want to do everything in our power to fight "improper voting" and protect our elections, we should make sure the Attorney General's Office - the office with the existing authority and expertise to investigate and prosecute such offenses - has the resources to do so. Peeling off resources and authority from the Attorney General and turning them over to an office that is not equipped, trained, staffed, to investigate "improper voting" will only diminish the security and integrity of our elections.

HB 622-FN-LOCAL, allowing all voters to vote by absentee ballot. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Steve Negrón for the **Majority** of Election Law. This bill proposes to amend RSA 654:16 to allow all voters to vote by absentee ballot. In addition, it sought to allow any eligible person to register to vote using the absentee registration process. The committee heard testimony from city clerks as well as from a representative of the New Hampshire City and Town Clerks' Association that, if passed, this bill would significantly increase costs for our communities and add significant time to election duties. Currently there are six permissible reasons for absentee voting which include an expansion adopted in 2016 that includes the care of children and infirm adults, with or without compensation, in the definition of employment. The committee felt the six permissible reasons were more than sufficient to cover any potential reason for being an absentee voter. Additionally, the committee heard testimony from the Deputy Secretary of State who stated that the bill effectively creates early voting, raising a concern of a violation of Part 1, Article 11 of the New Hampshire Constitution. **Vote 11-8.**

Rep. Andrew White for the **Minority** of Election Law. Twenty-seven states plus the District of Columbia provide for no-excuse absentee voting. These states have recognized that the right for every person to cast their ballot shouldn't be restricted to one block of time on one specific day, nor should it be limited to a very specific list of circumstances that one must declare to vote absentee. Part 1, Article 11 of the New Hampshire Constitution outlines two reasons the General Court **MUST** provide for alternate (absentee) voting mechanism. The General Court's willingness to expand beyond those two requirements to the current seven reasons outlined in RSA 654 and 657 make it clear the Constitutional provisions are the floor and not the ceiling. To the argument that the increased workload and time needed for processing absentee ballots on Election Day are burdensome, the minority can only paraphrase a member of the General Court's testimony "democracy isn't cheap, it's expensive and worth it!" The ability to cast a ballot in a New Hampshire election should not depend on your occupation, family situation, financial means, or transportation; it should be convenient and accessible to everyone and this bill accomplishes just that.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB 612, relative to livestock and meat inspection. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Bixby for the **Majority** of Environment and Agriculture. This bill reflects the results of a study committee on RSA 427, the Livestock and Meat Inspection law. In accordance with the report recommendations, this bill modifies statute to make it clearer and more concise, clarifies state and federal roles in the applicability section, rewords exemptions to match current federal statute, and relocates the exemptions within the Meat Inspection subdivision. Following further report recommendations, the bill consolidates livestock dealer and transporter licensing and makes technical changes recommended by the State Veterinarian. The amendment updates the religious slaughter exemption which in current law only covers Jewish ritual slaughter. The exemption is extended to any religion which follows federal humane slaughter guidelines. It also exempts non-commercial livestock transport by farmers from licensing. **Vote 16-1.**

Rep. Anne Copp for the **Minority** of Environment and Agriculture. The amendment to the bill being proposed by the majority contains the language "...in accordance with the ritual requirements of any religious faith that prescribes a method of slaughter..." The minority contend that words have meaning and the meaning of "ritual" can vary widely and is open to interpretation. There could be unintended consequences that arise from the use of this particular word. The minority could not reconcile this wording with any demonstrated need.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

CACR 4, relating to the attorney general. Providing that the attorney general shall be elected every 2 years. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Hansen for Executive Departments and Administration. This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution provides that the Attorney General shall be elected biennially by vote of the senators and representatives, instead of being nominated and appointed by the Governor and Executive Council. The committee voted to recommend that the bill be found Inexpedient to Legislate believing that the performance of the office overwhelmingly did not warrant an expedition into New Hampshire's unknown and unfamiliar elected Attorney General arena. It is noted that there have been 19 past attempts to change the selection process of the Attorney General either by the legislature or the voters all failed. Given this history of constant vetting of the concept the majority felt comfortable in voting to recommend Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 17-3.**

HB 85, relative to installation requirements for arc-fault circuit interrupters and relative to the state building code review board. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Steven Beaudoin for Executive Departments and Administration. The bill as amended will allow an exception to the state building code or state fire code under certain circumstances. Arc fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) devices are designed to disable an electrical circuit that is experiencing electrical arcs. These sensitive devices frequently trip when no fault exists, leading to homeowner frustration or worse, the disabling of critical or life-safety equipment. Unlike ground fault interrupter (GFI) devices, AFCIs can trip when a motor turns on (refrigerator, vacuum, medical equipment, etc.). This bill will grant an exception to the building code in that it allows an electrician to replace an AFCI circuit breaker with a standard breaker when the homeowner is experiencing problems. Replacement can occur only after the integrity of the circuit has been confirmed and the possibility of faults has been eliminated. The bill does not remove the requirement for the installation of AFCI devices from the code, but allows their removal only when problems are being experienced. The bill requires code enforcement officials to be notified when an AFCI device has been removed **Vote 18-2.**

HB 184-FN, repealing licensure requirements for medical imaging and radiation **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Dianne Schuett for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The original bill sought to repeal the entire law enacted in 2016 which provided for licensure of medical imaging and radiation therapy technologists. The amendment extends by one year and one month the statutory date on which licensing for this profession begins. This will allow the board more time to craft language for rules, and if necessary, the statute, to better define the professions under their authority. **Vote 17-3.**

Rep. J.R. Hoell for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The amended bill changes the timeline for when the medical imaging licensing statutes go into effect from July 2017 to July 2018. The bill as introduced repealed these licensing requirements until a better defined set of standards could be implemented. The minority of the committee felt that SB 330 was rushed through last year. This law applied new requirements to many professionals who don't think of themselves as imaging technicians, and this has created issues within the medical community. The minority felt that it was in the best interest of everyone to repeal these statutes and work on a new bill for next year to create a better defined licensing system. The unintended consequences included impacting the cardiac catheterization labs as well as other professions that are licensed in the state.

HB 254, relative to membership on the assessing standards board. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mark Proulx for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill proposes an unnecessary change to the Assessing Standards Board membership. This board is very well balanced, including three public members, four assessors from towns and cities of varying sizes, two members of the House of Representatives, two Senators, three municipal governing body officials and the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue Administration. With this make up, the board is able to work through the issues placed before it in an efficient manner. No changes are necessary. **Vote 16-4.**

Rep. J.R. Hoell for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The bill updates the membership of the Assessing Standards Board, by removing two of the current members that are assessors and adding several additional members from the broader group of taxpayers. The committee heard from a number of unique commercial property holders that they are under-represented on the current Assessing Standards Board. The minority believes that this bill should have been modified to add to the membership of the board without removing the current members as those commercial and resident voices would be an improvement to the overall makeup of the board.

HB 294-FN-A, relative to the cost of fiscal analysis of legislation relating to the retirement system. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jeffrey Goley for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. Costs associated with actuarial and professional assessments needed for proposed legislative changes in the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) are currently paid for by the NHRS. Over the last nine years, over \$500,000 has been removed from the trust to pay for the cost of fiscal analysis for proposed legislation. This bill would require the state to reimburse the NHRS for any costs associated with actuarial and professional assessment of any proposed legislation. **Vote 12-8.**

Rep. J.R. Hoell for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. Current statute, RSA 14:44, requires that all bills and resolutions that have impact on revenues or expenditures greater than \$10,000 have a fiscal note. The proposed legislation will then treat the Retirement System differently than almost all other departments and require that the costs for the fiscal analysis on pension legislation be paid from the General Fund. While the goal of the legislation is laudable, this will create an unbudgeted expense to be paid for out of general funds, even when the proposed legislative changes would increase the amount of money in the pension funds.

HB 322, adding rulemaking authority to require completion of a certain survey as part of the license renewal process for health care providers. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Mark Proulx for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill provides rulemaking authority to certain licensing boards for health care providers to include a certain survey as part of the license renewal process. This survey is for the purpose of collecting data regarding the New Hampshire primary care work force. **Vote 15-5.**

HB 408, relative to the state guard. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Peter Schmidt for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill significantly reworks the current State Guard statute, but in ways opposed by the New Hampshire Adjutant General's office. The majority believes that the current National Guard structure is well suited to provide appropriate services to our citizenry in cases of regional or national emergency, and that New Hampshire leadership, command and rank and file personnel are doing their jobs commendably. **Vote 16-4.**

Rep. J.R. Hoell for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The minority believes this bill would have modernized the existing State Guard statutes under RSA 111. These statutes were last revised in the 1970s. The actual language of the proposed bill needs some work, but the minority saw the need to update the statutes to address issues like personal and corporate liability, workers' compensation, and minimizing potential cost to the state. This bill would also establish a process for municipalities to access the State Guard if it existed, which current law allows, but gives no mechanism for. There has been a growth of groups like Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) which have started to fill this role and updating the statutes to allow for greater use of these volunteers would be an appropriate action.

HB 469, establishing a continuous quality improvement program for pharmacies. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Polly Champion for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill requires licensed pharmacies to establish continuous quality improvement programs. Continuous quality improvement programs give pharmacies the tools to evaluate quality related events and make improvements in the systems and processes involved. These programs are well documented in leading to safer practices and will be of benefit to patients. The confidential nature of these programs supports thorough and constructive review of safety events and promotes systematic improvement. This committee believes that the rulemaking requirement in the bill is in accordance with standard procedures. **Vote 14-3.**

HB 522, establishing a committee to review occupational licensing to determine which licenses could be made optional for practitioners. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.** Rep. Peter Schmidt for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill seeks to review the New Hampshire occupational licensing system with a view toward making some licenses optional. The majority of the ED&A Committee believes such an undertaking is wholly infeasible in the allotted time, as well as completely unsettling and onerous to our professional practitioners who would appear in their multitudes to defend their trades and professions. Such bills have, in the recent past, produced consternation and overwhelming opposition from the public. **Vote 16-4.**

Rep. Thomas Kaczynski for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The minority believes that the number of licensed occupations may be excessive. There would be benefit to the study committee examining the various aspects of licensing in New Hampshire. Possibly some licenses could be made optional while mechanisms for disclosure and enforcement could be developed.

HB 548-FN, increasing the age at which a pension begins for non-vested and newly-hired group I members of the retirement system. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Henry Marsh for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill changes the normal retirement age of non-vested and newly hired employees of retirement system employers to be the normal retirement age under the Federal Social Security Act. With the number of openings in the state labor force, now is not the time to reduce the benefit line. **Vote 12-8.**

Rep. J.R. Hoell for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The proposed legislation attempts to make changes regarding requirement age for both new hires as well as those that are not vested in the system. There was an amendment that was introduced at the public hearing that was not taken up by committee in executive session that would have limited the scope of the bill to new hires only. Given the financial issues facing the retirement system, the minority felt that an amendment limiting the scope of this to new hires was a prudent step in solving the structure deficit issues facing the retirement system.

HB 599-FN, establishing the office of ombudsman in the department of state. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Peter Schmidt for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill is a perennial attempt to give New Hampshire an ombudsman to investigate complaints against state and political subdivision employees. Most members of the committee are very sympathetic to the concept, but the bill has major deficiencies which led a majority of the committee to recommend that the bill be found Inexpedient to Legislate. A volunteer ombudsman with no staff is a recipe for gridlock, burn out and failure. **Vote 12-8.**

Rep. J.R. Hoell for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The bill creates a non-partisan office within the Secretary of State's office to investigate criminal complaints against public officials. There have been cases where elected officials have been engaging in activity that would be considered criminal in nature without charges being filed. The office would be staffed with "volunteers," paid a very small stipend and mileage to investigate these complaints. This is similar to how the FRM investigation was staffed. Several other states have an Office of Ombudsman and New Hampshire has a similar office within DHHS with limited jurisdiction. The office within DHHS does not have the ability to look at potential criminal behavior outside of their department. A similar bill was retained last year by this committee and the bill that was filed this year incorporated the requested changes resulting from work on the retained bill. The minority felt that the low cost was a wise use of taxpayer money to allow citizens a chance to get their criminal complaints heard. Any complaints that have merit would be sent to the Attorney General for follow up. Additionally, you will never find a problem with behavior of public officials unless you are willing to look, this bill allows an independent group to take that look.

HB 625-FN-LOCAL, establishing state holidays for elections **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. J.R. Hoell for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would add the state primary election to the list of state holidays. The general election is already included on this list. In addition, this bill would give non-essential state, municipal and school district employees a day off for both the general election and primary election. USNH estimated in the fiscal note that this would lead to \$1.25 million per day in lost productivity. These extra days off would give an advantage to the state workers versus those in the private industry. For a state that already has one of the highest voter participation rates, the committee felt that there is no issue to solve by giving employees more time off to vote. **Vote 14-6.**

Rep. Ryan Smith for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The purpose of this bill is to recognize that elections are the very essence of our democracy. While New Hampshire's voter turnout rate is one of the highest in the nation, there is always room for improvement. Testimony presented showed evidence that this bill would likely increase participation and once again make our state number one in voter turnout. The state already recognizes the importance of general elections, but has failed to recognize

the equal importance of state primaries. Choosing who will appear on the general ballot can be even more important than the election itself; based on the competitiveness of the district. In 2014, primary turnout was just 19 percent; the state can and should do more to encourage voting in all elections. For that reason, among several, this bill ought to pass.

FINANCE

HB 370-FN-A, making an appropriation for the purpose of meeting new federal regulations relative to child care. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Frank Byron for the **Majority** of Finance. This bill seeks to make an additional appropriation of \$15 million for the Child Care and Development Block Grant Program. The program provides child care services to low-income working parents, helping them maintain their job and obtain suitable care of their children. Recent changes to the Block Grant Act require the state to extend to twelve months service eligibility to twelve months as well as a minimum of 3 months of continued assistance in the event of the parent's job loss. Also required under the new changes is the coverage payments to the child care agency to compensate for the absence of a sick child; these were not previously paid. The new grant requirements include that the provisions require the state to adjust to the 50th percentile the payment rates to child care providers based upon a market survey. The bill as drafted seeks to appropriate \$7,000,000 in FY18 and an additional \$8,000,000 in FY19 for the purpose of covering the program changes. The Governor's proposed FY 18/19 budget contains funding in each year of the biennium, therefore the funds already exist in the Governor's proposed budget. Based upon this information, it was the majority opinion of the committee that this appropriation, included as part of the Governor's budget should be part of the consideration during the legislature's budget review and the bill should be marked Inexpedient to Legislate. The majority believes that, since the appropriation for child care services is already a part of the Governor's proposed budget (HB 1), any increase should be considered, along with other priorities, during the House phase of the budget process. As a result, this bill is unnecessary. **Vote 15-11.**

Rep. Cindy Rosenwald for the **Minority** of Finance. This bill appropriates \$15 million over the biennium to childcare scholarships to meet new federal requirements. These scholarships are important to help low income families afford the cost of childcare, which can reach \$10,000 per child per year. Without this added funding, it is projected that the state may have to limit the number of children served by as much as 40% and start a waiting list. This would be unfortunate since it could lead to parents, who are unable to afford childcare, leaving the workforce and qualifying for other public assistance programs. The Governor's budget does include increased funding for childcare; however, without an explicit position of the House, the minority is concerned that this increase could fall victim to other priorities along the way as the budget is finalized later on this spring. With employers facing a workforce shortage and a clear need to attract young families to New Hampshire, we believe it is critical for the House to stand up for childcare as a spending priority.

HB 387-FN-A, making an appropriation to the department of health and human services for the developmental services system. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. David Danielson for the **Majority** of Finance. This bill seeks an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the purpose of establishing what sponsors feel would be adequate compensation for those who provide for the care of persons with developmental and acquired disabilities, acquired brain disorders and providers of in-home support. The appropriated general fund amount sought is an additional 2% per annum which, after matching federal funds, would provide a 4% per year salary increase for direct service providers for the 2018-2019 budget. The majority of Finance, empathetic to those who testified on behalf of HB 387, felt that this appropriation is best considered as part of HB 1 DHHS budget rather than a stand-alone bill. The majority voted Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 15-10.**

Rep. Katherine Rogers for the **Minority** of Finance. This bill would provide a four percent increase in the rates paid to providers, half of which New Hampshire would pay out of general funds, and half of which would be paid by the federal government through the Medicaid program. During the public hearing for HB 387, Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), family members of individuals receiving supports, and representatives from various provider organizations and associations provided clear testimony of the need for a rate increase. DSPs have responsibility for the safety and well-being of our most vulnerable citizens. They provide assistance with bathing, feeding, dressing, hygiene, medication administration, housekeeping, transportation, access to the community, employment support, attending medical appointments, and other important activities of daily living. Governor Sununu announced an increase in funding for people with developmental disabilities in his budget. While this increase certainly aids in serving those who are currently waiting for services, it doesn't address the challenge that providers are experiencing with recruitment of qualified and committed workers to provide direct supports. This is an incredible responsibility, yet as Governor Sununu mentioned in his budget address, "we pay people more to wash dishes than to wash and care for our own family members." The minority believes that the Governor's budget drew a clear path to the funding of this bill and as such it should be voted Ought to Pass at this time as an indication of the Legislature's explicit support of the raise for these providers and merged into the budget as the process works its way through the legislature.

HB 571-FN-A, making an appropriation to the New Hampshire Internet crimes against children task force. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. J. Tracy Emerick for the **Majority** of Finance. This bill was voted Inexpedient to Legislate because funding for the Internet crimes against children task force is in HB 2, as proposed by the Governor. There were several significant omissions in the bill that were corrected in HB 2. For example, the bill gives money to a non-state related agency with no state oversight of how the money is spent. In HB 2 the funds are administered by the Attorney General who has been charged with developing planning, program metrics and reporting guidelines. The bill was missing the planning component, development and monitoring of program metrics and reporting to the state. The task force is staffed by individuals who are not state employees, so funding criteria and results must be included so the state will know if the funds are being spent wisely. This is what HB 2 does, making the bill unnecessary. **Vote 19-6.**

Rep. Katherine Rogers for the **Minority** of Finance. This bill makes an appropriation to the NH Internet crimes against children's (ICAC) task force to assist with the training of additional staff to expand educational and to expand educational efforts to interested groups, schools, and parents. The NH ICAC is a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional organization that has developed responses to prevent, interdict, investigate and prosecute Internet crimes against children and enables law enforcement to acquire the technical skills, specialized equipment, and resources to effectively investigate and prosecute offenders. After a year which found a former member of this body charged with luring a 14-year-old girl using the Internet, it is important to make a clear statement to the citizens of NH that the legislature wants to build a coordinated effort to seek out and stop this abhorrent behavior. The minority believes that the Governor's budget drew a clear path to the funding of this bill, and as such it should be voted Ought to Pass at this time as an indication of the legislature's explicit support for this important cooperation among law enforcement agencies and merged into the budget as the process works its way through the legislature.

HB 606-FN-A, establishing a scholarship fund for health care providers who stay in New Hampshire for 5 years and making an appropriation therefor. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Steve Vaillancourt for Finance. This scholarship bill focuses only on one profession: nurses. While the majority appreciates the tremendous job nurses do in our society, we find that other professions from police to fire to corrections officers and many others are also valuable contributors. This bill also establishes a special commission to deal with the scholarship, and this House has generally avoided adding new commissions for single purposes. Further, this bill would be impossible to enforce in that the scholarship recipient would have to remain in the state for five years after graduation. Many scholarship bills are working their way through the House, and Finance believes a more appropriate means of achieving the goal of this bill is to look at the Governor's proposed \$5 million dollar scholarship fund, expected to benefit up to 1000 people. Certainly nurses would be eligible for those monies, and the method would be far less cumbersome. **Vote 16-9.**

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

HB 157, adding chronic pain to qualifying conditions under therapeutic use of cannabis. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jerry Knirk for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill adds chronic pain to the list of qualifying conditions for the therapeutic use of cannabis. The recent review of the literature by the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine determined that there is conclusive evidence that cannabis is effective for the treatment of chronic pain in adults. The use of cannabis in the treatment of a person with chronic pain will likely allow a lower dose of opioid to be used and may completely replace the use of opioids in some patients. This is important given the substantial risks of chronic opioid therapy. **Vote 12-6.**

Rep. William Marsh for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. As long as the DEA classifies cannabis as a Schedule I drug, the minority remains uncomfortable with further expanding this program. Further, existing legislation set up a committee to evaluate potential additions to this program and that committee has not yet been given opportunity to do its job.

HB 160, adding post-traumatic stress disorder to qualifying medical conditions under therapeutic use of cannabis. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jess Edwards for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. New Hampshire has the fourth largest veteran per capita population in the Nation. The incidence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in this population is a significant health concern. PTSD can often go untreated while many victims choose to self-isolate and self-medicate. The potential to use medical cannabis may bring more patients into a clinical setting. The Provider/Patient relationship can determine when medical cannabis is made available. The Federal consequences of medical cannabis use include the potential loss of Second Amendment Rights, CDL and Federal Employment thereby inhibiting the likelihood of abuse. **Vote 9-8.**

Rep. William Marsh for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. As long as the DEA classes cannabis as a Schedule I drug, we remain uncomfortable with further expanding this program. Further, existing legislation set up a committee to evaluate potential additions to this program and that committee has not yet been given opportunity to do its job.

HB 361, relative to the authority of the commissioner of the department of health and human services relative to certain vaccine requirements. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Jerry Knirk for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The legislature gives authority to the Department of Health and Human Services to promulgate administrative rules regarding vaccine requirements. This bill would take away that authority. The public already has input into the making of these rules under RSA 541-A and there is already legislative oversight through JLCAR. Nothing under current law prevents the legislature from addressing vaccine related issues. **Vote 15-3.**

Rep. William Marsh for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The author's intent is to prohibit the commissioner from mandating vaccinations not ordinarily transmissible in a school setting by the rule making process. Many such vaccinations are in the pipeline. The minority believes such additions ought to be reviewed through the legislative process.

HB 472, permitting qualifying patients to cultivate cannabis for their own therapeutic use. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Mark Pearson for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The majority agreed that it would be difficult to prevent individuals from exceeding the maximum number of plants the proposed law would allow to be grown, and to prevent individually-grown cannabis from being gifted or sold to others. Several committee members expressed sensitivity to the concerns, at least in the short term, as to the cost and ready availability of legally-procured medical-use cannabis. These legitimate concerns could, perhaps, be addressed with other legislation. **Vote 14-7.**

Rep. Pamela Gordon for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. For those individuals with qualifying conditions who live in rural areas or do not have reliable transportation and/or cannot afford the cost of therapeutic cannabis from an Alternative Treatment Center, the option of growing a limited amount of cannabis in their own home would eliminate these obstacles to their health and well being.

HB 478, prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Jerry Knirk for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identity under Chapter 354-A which empowers the Human Rights Commission. It extends to gender identity the same protections against discrimination which exist for age, sex, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability or national origin. These are protections against discrimination in housing, employment practices and public accommodations. Chapter 354-A already provides appropriate religious exemptions. The committee heard strong testimony from the transgender community and the business, legal and enforcement communities and faith leaders that this bill will provide needed strong protections. **Vote 15-2.**

HB 536, directing the wellness and primary prevention council to establish a system of family resource centers of quality. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Pamela Gordon for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. Family Resource Centers play a unique role in our communities and are crucial to the health and wellness of New Hampshire families. In order to meet the needs of New Hampshire communities, a stronger infrastructure of Family Resource Centers of quality is necessary. **Vote 10-9.**

Rep. Jess Edwards for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The minority of the committee would have preferred that the bill be retained in committee to work on over the coming months.

HB 638-FN-LOCAL, repealing the New Hampshire health protection program. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. William Marsh for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. New Hampshire cannot afford this bill. Per the fiscal note, it would cost almost \$493,000,000 in FY 2018. It would further comprise the already tenuous finances of a number of New Hampshire Hospitals and providers, it would deny health care to a large segment of New Hampshire citizens, and compromise our response to the opioid crisis. **Vote 13-6.**

Rep. Jess Edwards for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The minority wanted to retain this bill so that this committee could pro-actively assess any changes in federal legislation, and amend as appropriate to meet the New Futures Medicaid program requirements. Parliamentary procedure requires a motion to defeat the majority's recommendation of Inexpedient to Legislate. When that happens, a motion to recommit will be made from the floor.

JUDICIARY

HB 136, clarifying the equity jurisdiction of the judicial branch family division. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Sylvia for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill clarifies the equity jurisdiction of the judicial branch family division. As currently written, RSA 490-D:3 leaves open an overly broad reach as it relates to other statutes. This existing language allows the court to disregard statutes which have been put in place to narrow the courts' jurisdiction in equity cases. This bill removes the clause, "Notwithstanding any law to the contrary," and adds that jurisdiction also lies, "where no other special provision has been made by law." This combination focuses the jurisdiction of the family division and brings it in line with other related statutes. **Vote 9-6.**

Rep. Timothy Horrigan for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority does not share the view that RSA 490-D:3, the statute on equity jurisdiction of the family courts, needs to be changed. The minority further does not see how the bill's proposed language would change anything. The bill seems to just restate the same thing as existing law in different words.

HB 138, relative to persons held in civil contempt. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Sylvia for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill would require the court to find, in a civil contempt order, prior to incarceration, that the person has liquid assets to satisfy the contempt. It also provides that borrowing or sale of principal residence or sole motor vehicle could be mandated in satisfaction of the contempt. A subcommittee was formed to investigate options to focus the bill, adequately define "liquid assets," and assure findings of facts prior to incarceration in civil contempt. While sympathetic to the plight of those who may be unjustly incarcerated, the balance of evidence and testimony indicated that this legislation is not adequately defined to provide proper guidance to the court. **Vote 14-3.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for the **Minority** of Judiciary. As amended, this bill would require the family division to hold a finding of fact hearing to determine if one delinquent in paying court ordered payments actually has the liquid assets to pay without borrowing money or incurring financial penalties before putting that person into jail for non-payment. Knowing that too many people are incarcerated for failure to pay alimony or child support without such a hearing, the minority believes this is a needed protection for them.

HB 170, relative to posting notice and minutes of public meetings on the public body's website. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill sought to require posting of public meeting notices and minutes on the internet. The committee agreed this is a good idea, but felt that such a requirement would be an unfunded mandate. As amended, the bill requires only that if public bodies do post to the internet, they do so consistently. We believe this will enhance the public's access to these postings and stimulate use of the internet for these purposes. **Vote 13-1.**

Rep. Timothy Horrigan for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority agrees that it is a good idea to post notices and minutes on a public body's web site. However, the minority recognizes that not all communities have web sites which can be easily and securely updated. Even larger communities which have information technology departments may have issue with data security and data integrity.

HB 174, limiting jurisdiction of the superior courts over certain adequate education statutes and adequate education grants. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Sandra Keans for the **Majority** of Judiciary. The majority of the committee believes that this bill would fundamentally change the historical balance between the three branches of government: the executive, the legislative and the judicial. It has been a hallmark of our democracy that when folks are being harmed by a legislative action that they go to the courts to determine the constitutionality of that action. **Vote 11-4.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for the **Minority** of Judiciary. For over 200 years the General court defined an adequate education and its funding levels until, by the Claremont and Londonderry decisions, the Supreme Court put itself in charge by creating mandates that, we believe, are found nowhere in the Constitution and have been a constant source of litigation. The minority believes HB174 will reclaim the legislature's right to control education policy and funding and restore proper constitutional order.

HB 186, relative to immunity from civil liability for sports officials. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Jason Janvrin for Judiciary. This bill as amended provides that certain actions in which the state is a plaintiff be brought within 3 years. This non-germane amendment had a public hearing and completely replaces the underlying bill. The language of the amendment resulted from a bipartisan Senate and House study committee in 2015-2016, as well as from SB 421 of 2016, which was sent to interim study and resulted in the language of the amendment being recommended for future legislation. The amendment deals with statute of limitations when the state is the plaintiff. This bill requires action by the state within 3 years of knowledge of an act, omission, or violation. There is an additional provision that allows the state to bring action beyond 3 years. The Attorney General also supported the language of this bill. **Vote 10-7.**

HB 441, relative to confidentiality in applying for public sector jobs. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Michael Sylvia for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill would add to RSA 91-A:3 II another matter which could be considered or acted upon in non-public session. The statute currently includes, "(b) The hiring of any person as a public employee." This bill seeks to add, "The initial screening of applications for public sector employment." The majority of the committee felt that this addition to our Right-to-Know law would unnecessarily obscure hiring practices. As a reminder, the preamble to RSA 91-A reads, "Openness in the conduct of public business is essential to a democratic society. The purpose of this chapter is to ensure both the greatest possible public access to the actions, discussions and records of all public bodies, and their accountability to the people." **Vote 8-6.**

Rep. Timothy Horrigan for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority believes that all job applicants, even for public jobs, deserve the right to privacy during the hiring process. This bill would allow public bodies to screen applicants in non-public session, while still maintaining transparency.

HB 524, relative to participation in meetings open to the public. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Robert Hull for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill as amended seeks to place a definition on the word "emergency" within existing law at RSA 91-A:2, III (b). Current law allows a public body to operate without a quorum present based only upon the declaration of an emergency by the chairman or presiding officer of that body, without more. Currently the word "emergency" is undefined and as such is subjective, and can be used to justify operating without a quorum for any reason. This bill clarifies the definition of "emergency" to include only instances of immediate peril to the public health or safety. The majority of the committee felt that in order to allow public business to be conducted without a quorum present, there must be extraordinary circumstances that exist as justification. **Vote 9-8.**

Rep. Timothy Horrigan for the **Minority** of Judiciary. RSA 91-A:2, III (b) currently requires a majority of a public body to be present in person (rather than by telephone) for a quorum except when there is an emergency. The current law defines an emergency as any situation when immediate action is imperative. If passed, this bill would additionally require immediate peril to health or safety. The minority felt that immediate action should be taken whenever it is needed regardless of whether or not there is a disaster going on at the time.

HB 578-FN, relative to banning abortion after viability. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Claire Rouillard for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill as amended establishes a new RSA 132-B, Viable Fetus Protection Act, which completely replaces the bill as introduced. Importantly, this bill complies with the U.S. Supreme Court's opinion, *Roe v. Wade*, 410 US 113, 164 (1973) which provides, "if the state is interested in protecting fetal life after viability, it may go so far as to proscribe abortion during that period, except when necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother." This bill prohibits abortion once a fetus is viable as "determined by a physician after consultation with and examination of the pregnant woman." Because medical opinion differs as to the number of weeks in the pregnancy a fetus is viable, there is no delineated number of weeks to determine viability in this bill. Rather, viability is defined as "the point in pregnancy when, in the good faith medical judgment of a physician, there is a reasonable likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures." The exceptions to a post-viability abortion necessary to preserve the life or health of the pregnant woman also include cases of twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome or to remove a fetus with severe anomalies incompatible with life. A physician who performs an abortion in violation of this chapter shall be subject to disciplinary actions under RSA 329. No criminal penalty is contained in this bill. The original sponsors of this bill support this amendment. **Vote 10-7.**

Rep. Linda Kenison for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority of the committee concluded that both the original bill and the committee amendment represent an erosion of the rights of New Hampshire families to make private medical decisions in consultation with their doctor without ensuring necessary protections of women. The committee amendment, called the "Viable Fetus Protection Act," focuses on restricting access rather than striking a fair and constitutionally firm balance between protecting and establishing allowable limitations. The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Roe v. Wade* held that the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of liberty protects a woman's decision to have an abortion, limits government involvement with private medical decisions prior to fetal viability, and enables states to restrict post-viability abortions with exceptions to protect health and life of the pregnant woman. Support for *Roe v. Wade* and access to safe, legal abortion has always had strong support in New Hampshire. The minority seeks to uphold New Hampshire's bipartisan tradition of protecting privacy rights and abortion access by enacting a policy for the State of New Hampshire that mirrors the rights and limitations established in the *Roe v. Wade* decision through support of a floor amendment.

HB 589-FN, repealing the law relative to providing certain parameters for access to reproductive health care facilities. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Linda Kenison for the **Majority** of Judiciary. A bipartisan majority of the committee found this bill, a measure to repeal New Hampshire's buffer zone law, Inexpedient to Legislate. Current law, which was

enacted with bipartisan support in 2014, allows for the establishment of a zone of privacy and safety up to 25 feet which limits the physical presence of protesters from the entrance to a reproductive health facility while at the same time balancing the First Amendment rights of those individuals wishing to express their opinions on the public sidewalk adjacent to the facility. The majority believes New Hampshire's law is constitutional. The buffer zone was carefully tailored to strike a balance between public safety, free speech, and privacy rights. The majority of this committee feels the current law, as enacted, is a carefully crafted New Hampshire solution that threads the needle between First Amendment rights and privacy of patients and providers and feel it would be unnecessary and harmful to undo this important tool which may aid in privacy and public safety. The committee did hear testimony of intimidation and threats to women trying to enter the facility, causing them anxiety and fear for their safety. Additionally, the majority of this committee believes no woman should face shaming, intimidation, physical obstruction or fear of harm while seeking to access confidential medical care. **Vote 9-8.**

Rep. Dan Hynes for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority of the committee believes buffer laws are unconstitutional per a unanimous United States Supreme Court decision invalidating Massachusetts' buffer zone. Demonstrators have First Amendment rights of free speech and freedom to associate, which buffer zone laws at abortion clinics infringe upon. Presently, the law has not been enforced because its constitutionality is in question.

HB 614-FN, relative to forfeiture of personal property. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Sylvia for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill enhances due process rights protected by our state laws in cases of asset forfeiture. Currently, our statutes require a criminal conviction before seized assets may be forfeited to the state. The federal government has a program, Equitable Sharing, which offers less protection to the right of due process. This bill restricts state and local agencies from access to the federal program to only the largest of seizures: greater than \$100,000 in cash. All seizures below \$100,000 in cash made by state and local agencies will be required to be prosecuted under the laws of New Hampshire. This bill specifically affirms the ability of local and state agencies to collaborate with federal agencies in criminal investigations. This bill does nothing to inhibit criminal investigations and seizures. It assures that the protection of our laws are applied in the majority of forfeiture actions. **Vote 9-8.**

Rep. Sandra Keans for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority believes this bill cannot and does not change the forfeiture laws. The federal regulations are very explicit as to how forfeitures are divided among the participating law enforcement agencies. When drug busts are "small time" the laws of New Hampshire can be in play. Whenever the feds are a part of the operation, they take control of the prosecution and forfeiture dispersal. The sponsors motives for this potential legislation are good. it is not practical because of a misunderstanding of the federal laws.

HB 617-FN, relative to jury trials for imposition of fines in zoning violations. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Sylvia for Judiciary. This bill as amended removes a provision from RSA 676:17, I which allows planning and zoning boards to negate a person's right to a jury trial. In cases where a possible violation continues and fines are applied for each subsequent day after receiving notice, the current statute provides that each day be treated as a separate offense. By doing so, an alleged violator could be subjected to fines easily surpassing \$1500 in total. Our constitution provides in Article 20 that for cases (causes) in which the value in controversy is greater than \$1500, the parties have a right to trial by jury. This bill does not change the amount of the fines or the further fines for subsequent days of a continuing violation. It simply assures the possibility of a jury trial should the issue not be resolved and the fines total more than \$1500. **Vote 8-7.**

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

HB 115-FN, establishing a state minimum wage and providing for adjustments to the minimum wage. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Keith Murphy for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill would set the minimum wage at \$9.50 per hour on January 1, 2018, and then increase it to \$12 in 2019. Thereafter it would be indexed to inflation. The tipped minimum wage would increase from \$3.27 per hour to \$5.70 in 2018 and \$7.20 in 2019. The majority of the committee finds that the unemployment rate in our state is at a historically low level, indicating a labor shortage. Wages have been steadily increasing in response, to the point that very few people are earning the minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour. HB 115 would give us by far the highest tipped wage in New England and more than twice that of Massachusetts, putting our hospitality and tourism industries at risk. Everyone wants our citizens to succeed economically, but the majority believes that increasing the minimum wage would most harm those that can least afford it, by deterring employers from hiring those with limited experience or those starting over after leaving the criminal justice system.

While well intended, the majority of the committee was persuaded that the free market and the law of supply and demand is already working to raise wages, as evidenced by the fact that our state currently has the fifth highest per capita income in the nation. **Vote 12-9.**

Rep. Douglas Ley for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. New Hampshire is becoming the low wage haven in New England, as every other state in the region has increased their minimum wage without suffering any deleterious economic consequences. According to state wage data, 16,000 employees still earn hourly wages at or below the Federal minimum of \$7.25/hour, and this group is heavily skewed female and above age 20. Therefore, the minority believes that raising the minimum wage will improve the quality of life for thousands of New Hampshire citizens, ease the financial burden placed on social welfare agencies and programs, and help make New Hampshire wages more competitive, thereby bring more workers back into New Hampshire.

HB 130, prohibiting an employer from using credit history in employment decisions. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Keith Murphy for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill seeks to eliminate the opportunity for employers to use credit history in evaluating prospective employees, with some limited exceptions made for certain employers such as banks and government agencies. The majority of the committee believes that given the expense of obtaining credit reports on prospective employees, employers generally will only do so when there is a fiduciary responsibility that requires this factor be taken into consideration. Furthermore the committee finds that there are numerous employers besides banks that require employees to handle cash as well as personal financial information. The employees of virtually any retail or hospitality business handle thousands of dollars of cash daily, as well as customers' credit cards. While it is rare for these businesses to require credit histories as a condition of employment for any roles below management, the majority of the committee believes it would be bad policy for the state to take away this tool from our employers. We are leary of restricting any employer's due diligence options and seek instead to encourage our companies to grow and hire more employees, and therefore recommend Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 12-9.**

Rep. Linda DiSilvestro for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The minority feels that restrictions on asking about credit history would not hurt employers, nor cause an increased cost to the employer. The state is having difficulty filling positions. Any potential worker could have his/her identity stolen, and then spend years trying to correct their credit history while pursuing a career, then find that they are denied a position because of identity theft.

HB 194, permitting employers to pay wages to employees weekly or biweekly. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Leonard Turcotte for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill would allow, but not require, employers to pay their employees on a biweekly basis without the necessity of requesting an exemption from the Department of Labor (DOL). Current law requires the payment of wages on a weekly basis unless a waiver is requested. Though small, employers would see a reduction in time and administrative costs as they would no longer have to file paperwork for waivers. There would also be a reduction in administrative workload at the DOL since they would no longer need to process the waiver requests. An identical bill (HB 1252) overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives last year by a vote of 173-112. Currently, there are only 3 other states that require the payment of wages on a weekly basis, and some states allow the payment of wages at intervals as long as a month. Reducing unnecessary regulations and red tape make this bill attractive. Additionally, allowing the employer and employee to set their business relationship maintains our state's free market principles. The majority therefore recommends ought to pass. **Vote 11-9.**

Rep. Douglas Ley for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill eliminates the requirement that employers fill out a brief, one-page form with the Department of Labor in order to pay employees biweekly. The minority believes this is not an onerous or unreasonable process for employers. Moreover, it helps the Department of Labor ensure that employers are meeting legal requirements for workers compensation, etc., especially since some 15% of applications are initially denied until corrective action is taken by the employer. Therefore, the current process works to protect employers and employees, imposes no undue burden, and need not be changed.

HB 442, relative to criminal records checks in the employee application process. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Leonard Turcotte for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill would prevent an employer from including a question regarding criminal history on a job application. During testimony, we heard from several groups requesting that an amendment be added to exempt their particular employers. The majority believes creating special classes is not appropriate and the fact that so many wanted exemptions illustrates just one of the bill's shortcomings. The bill contains language that would allow civil penalties for an employer deemed to be in violation if an exact employment process is not followed, creating a future for certain lawsuit filings and the costs associated with them. There would also be added costs and time, for

both the employer and employee, if the current job application process were changed to be in compliance with this bill. Adding further regulations and mandates on businesses makes our state less business friendly. An employer needs to be allowed to run their business as seen fit by that employer with the least bureaucratic interference possible. For the foregoing reasons, the majority of the committee recommends Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 12-9.**

Rep. Michael Cahill for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill was offered in an attempt to allow employers and applicants an opportunity to discuss criminal history during an interview rather than having a box checked on an application; this often leads to the circular file despite any skills, qualifications or years that have passed since the offence. After hearing from employers prohibited from hiring those with criminal records, the sponsor worked to address their issues with exceptions that made sense for our state.

HB 520, relative to right to work. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Fred Doucette for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. After 7 hours of testimony, the majority remain convinced that “right to work” is inappropriate and wrong for New Hampshire. Much of the testimony in favor of “right to work” came from witnesses based outside of New Hampshire, who failed to offer any evidence that this legislation would improve the business climate, or lead to better working conditions, or create new jobs in New Hampshire. Passage of this legislation would insert government into the employer-employee relationship, an interference that is unwarranted and unwanted. In addition, the majority has deep concerns with regards to the provision of civil and criminal penalties, thereby opening up an entirely new arena for employment litigation. Therefore, the majority conclude that this legislation has no more merit than the previous 34 versions of “right to work” put forth since 1979. We recommend this version be defeated like all previous version. **Vote 14-7.**

Rep. Lino Avellani for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The minority is of the opinion that “right to work” will enhance the “New Hampshire Advantage.” States with right to work legislation have demonstrated increased levels of economic growth, employment opportunity and wage increase. The minority also believes that the only thing this very misunderstood legislation will do is enable an employee who does not wish to join a union to do so without any financial contribution to the same. A positive consequence of passage will be increased communication from the unions to explain and justify the benefits of membership.

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

CACR 6, relating to conflict of interest. Providing that no member of the general court shall sponsor, advocate for, nor vote on any legislation which would create a financial conflict of interest. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Kathleen Hoelzel for the **Majority** of Legislative Administration. This proposed amendment to the state constitution would put a question on the ballot asking voters if an article should be adopted prohibiting state legislators from advocating for or sponsoring legislation with which they have a financial interest. We have long recognized that the members of our citizen legislature may file legislation on issues with which they are familiar and may have some financial interest. In order to ensure as much transparency as possible on this important issue, the Legislative Ethics Committee (RSA 14-B) was established in 1991. This law has been expanded and strengthened since that time, most recently after an exhaustive review by a statutory commission that met in 2013-2014. The changes proposed by this commission were ultimately adopted last year. In addition, the House further clarified the ethics guidelines as they relate to conflicts of interest just two weeks ago. Under the ethics laws all legislators are required to file financial disclosure forms annually. In addition, any legislator with a conflict of interest with a specific piece of legislation, which includes both financial and non-financial interests, is required to file a Declaration of Intent Form. This form includes a description of the conflict and a statement declaring whether the legislator will or will not participate in the work on the legislation. The penalty for failure to file or filing a false statement is a misdemeanor. The majority believes that conflicts of interest have been appropriately addressed in our ethics laws. **Vote 7-4.**

Rep. Timothy Smith for the **Minority** of Legislative Administration. The minority feels that this proposed amendment to the state constitution represents a logical and prudent measure for legislative reform. An amendment to eliminate financial conflict of interest actions in the legislature would boost public confidence and reassure the voters that we are all here to do their business, and not just our own business. This is a measure with enormous bipartisan support outside of the state house, with about 50 constituents contacting the committee, testifying, or signing the blue sheet in support of the amendment. Many expressed shock that such a provision was not already in our state constitution.

HCR 2, supporting efforts to ensure that students from New Hampshire have access to debt-free higher education at public colleges and universities. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Sherman Packard for the **Majority** of Legislative Administration. The majority of the committee believes that any effort to control student debt should be considered. However, we do not believe that the adoption of a House Concurrent Resolution is the most effective way to achieve this goal. This resolution urges the NH General Court to support increased funding to the states and increased aid to students to ensure access to debt-free higher education. A more constructive approach would be to offer specific legislative proposals. We suggest that the sponsors submit ideas for achieving this goal as part of the budget process. In addition, more money may be coming from the federal government to help in this effort; we could identify programs through which to disburse these funds. **Vote 7-4.**

Rep. Lucy Weber for the **Minority** of Legislative Administration. This is a simple resolution encouraging access to a debt-free college education. The minority believes that student debt is one of the critical issues facing the State of NH at this time, impacting not only students, but also their parents, the willingness and ability of students to remain in the state of New Hampshire, and the availability to NH businesses of a qualified, appropriately educated work force. The resolution simply encourages access to a debt-free college education in the following four ways: First, encourage increased support to states to promote increased investment in higher education and lower costs for students. Second, encourage increased aid to students to lower their debt load. Third, encourage increased efficiency and innovation to lower costs and enable speedy and less costly degree completion. Finally, encourage ways of reducing the burden of existing student debt. The minority is persuaded that measures such as these would provide benefits to students, businesses and the state economy, and so supports passage of the resolution.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 313, allowing a town to appropriate funds to create a town scholarship fund. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Jane Beaulieu for the **Majority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill would allow a municipality to create a town scholarship fund. It is enabling legislation and is only allowed if the legislative body votes to establish the fund. The bill, however, is not clear if the school or the parent is to receive the funds, which might be a conflict with prohibitions on support for religious schools. The bill also presents a possible conflict with existing statute which provides that special funds be established only for a "public purpose." Testimony from the Department of Revenue Administration indicates that department may have a serious problem with this. The majority of the committee felt that there were too many unanswered issues to make this bill worthy of passage at this time. **Vote 18-2.**

Rep. Francis Gauthier for the **Minority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill allows a town to establish a scholarship fund for the benefit of town residents. Many of towns and/or cities in NH have certain traditional industries that are unique to their area, and they set up schools in their town to train local young people, especially to fill the vacancies in those industries and to keep the industrial base vibrant. To help with this effort, towns would be enabled to set up scholarships within their town. The sad situation today is that there is not enough on-the-job- training. A person needs to have a certain amount of training in order to qualify for a job in industry.

HB 461, relative to the acceptance of grants by Carroll county. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Frank McCarthy for the **Majority** of Municipal and County Government. Many counties have a committee to oversee grants and adopt policies for the acceptance of these grants. The Carroll County delegation wants to make this mandatory for their county and no longer optional. Although passing legislation for one county to solve local problems is not a normal action taken by the Municipal & County Government committee, the committee saw no reason to deny this request from the county delegation. **Vote 11-9.**

Rep. Clyde Carson for the **Minority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill requires that Carroll County establish a grant committee to review grants. Counties already do this without legislation and the minority on the committee believe this legislation is unnecessary.

HB 481, relative to the use of small capacity, light weight plastic bags by retailers. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Franklin Sterling for the **Majority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill would give the authority to municipalities to prohibit the use of certain plastic bags within their community. The effect of such legislation is not clear, and potential environmental and economic impacts require further study. The majority of the committee believes that this cure might be more detrimental than the problem, and that the bill should not go forward, as towns are not now empowered to adopt such a sweeping environmental and economical change. **Vote 14-6.**

Rep. Clyde Carson for the **Minority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill enables towns to regulate the distribution of certain plastic bags. The minority on the committee believes that towns should be able to adopt ordinances to minimize the impact on the environment from plastic bags in their communities.

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB 376, requiring construction projects that disturb sediments of estuarine waters to analyze the characteristics of the sediments and report them to the department of environmental services. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Suzanne Smith for the **Majority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill, as amended, requires that the Department of Environmental Services adopt rules so that persons undertaking major projects where dredging will disturb sediment in estuarine waters will be required to provide to the department analysis of the characteristics of the sediment. The Great Bay estuary is officially listed as impaired or threatened by the department in various areas and for various reasons such as loss of eelgrass, high bacteria count, low pH, low dissolved oxygen, too much nitrogen, and reduced photosynthesis, as well as impairment by chemicals such as dioxin, mercury, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Expansion of oyster aquaculture operations in the Great Bay estuary is benefitting the health of these waters. The amendment exempts natural resource restoration projects, such as oyster operations, and also corrects an error as to the statutory chapter being amended by the bill. **Vote 10-9.**

Rep. Linda Gould for the **Minority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. The minority believes that this legislation is not needed because any project that disturbs tidal waters requires a dredge and fill permit now. The Department of Environmental Services already requires sediment sampling for many projects in estuarine waters. Projects are able to be mitigated with best management practices. There have been technological improvements used in other New England areas on construction projects that also alleviate the need for this bill. The prohibition on permits also would impact municipal and state infrastructure projects. The minority sees this as over burdensome regulation.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

HB 179, relative to financing the construction of high pressure gas pipelines. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Herbert Richardson for the **Majority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill is unnecessary because the Public Utilities Commission has already ruled that, under the current electric restructuring statute, electric customers cannot be made to pay for costs associated with constructing natural gas pipelines. Other legislation is currently being considered that amends the restructuring statute in a manner that may allow this practice, with the aim of reducing the price of electricity in the state. Half of the electricity currently generated in the region is produced using natural gas. However, there is a shortage of the fuel in the wintertime to serve both heating and electrical production needs due to limited pipeline capacity. This leads to an increased cost of gas which drives up electricity prices. The House should not forego consideration of any new approaches to increase the supply of low-cost natural gas to the state. We need to reduce electric rates in order to improve the job market and our economy, and this bill fails to accomplish this. **Vote 13-8.**

Rep. Howard Moffett for the **Minority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill would prevent another potential round of stranded cost charges from being imposed on New Hampshire electric ratepayers, comparable to those imposed in the aftermath of construction of Seabrook and the Merrimack Station scrubber. The legislature passed the Electric Utility Restructuring Act, RSA 374-F, to reduce costs for electric ratepayers by separating generation services from transmission and distribution, deregulating the generation sector to bring competitive market forces into play, and shifting the risk of power plant construction cost overruns from ratepayers to investors. Electric rates in New Hampshire and New England are still among the highest in the country, hurting manufacturing businesses and residential ratepayers alike. Some members of the minority agree with the majority that the most effective way to reduce electric rates would be to expand natural gas pipeline capacity into New England. The question is how to pay for it. Eversource, whose monthly electric bills to ratepayers have included significant stranded cost charges from either Seabrook or the Merrimack scrubber over the last three decades, has petitioned the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to allow it to enter into a 20-year contract to purchase capacity on the proposed Access Northeast natural gas pipeline in order to finance the project. The project would be built by a consortium that includes one of Eversource's affiliates. This would leave New Hampshire electric ratepayers on the hook for up to 20 years of gas pipeline construction costs even if the new capacity, which is needed in the short term, does not continue to be "used and useful" for the entire 20-year period because of potential advances in renewables and battery storage technology. The PUC has denied Eversource's petition on grounds that it would shift the risk of stranded costs from investors back to ratepayers in violation of the Electric Utility Restructuring Act. Eversource has appealed that decision to the NH Supreme Court. There are several well-funded parties better able to bear the risk of possible stranded costs arising from gas pipeline construction, including the gas pipeline companies themselves, the investor-owned generating companies that buy and burn natural gas, and the shareholders of Eversource, whose management believes the new pipeline capacity would pay for itself in just a few years. Eversource management may well be right, but there's no reason to shift the risk that they may be wrong back to ratepayers.

HB 352-FN, relative to the energy efficiency fund. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Herbert Richardson for Science, Technology and Energy. This bill expands the purposes for which monies in the Energy Efficiency Fund may be used by the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Plant and Property to include State renewable energy projects and to reimburse the Division of Public Works, Design and Construction for construction administration services provided to other agencies for their energy efficiency or renewable energy projects. It also expands the revenue sources of the fund to include utility rebate programs and Public Utilities Commission incentive payments for energy projects that the State has completed. **Vote 18-3.**

HB 493, relative to evaluating the public interest of gas pipeline capacity contracts. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Douglas Thomas for the **Majority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill seeks to require the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to determine whether any gas pipeline capacity contract with a term of more than one year is in the public interest. Further, it outlines specific criteria for the PUC to consider. The committee heard testimony from the PUC that these areas are currently part of the review process. The bipartisan majority of the committee feels that part of the bill is duplicative and the rest could limit future gas projects, thus limiting the state's ability to seek ways to lower the cost of electricity. **Vote 16-5.**

Rep. Peter Somssich for the **Minority** of Science, Technology and Energy. The minority believes that this bill, requiring the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to determine a public interest in gas pipeline capacity contracts, is in the best interest of ratepayers. Electric utility ratepayers should not be required to assume the risk of stranded costs and other expenses for gas capacity contracts of up to 20 years, when this capacity may not be needed in the near future. Financing of such investments should not be at electrical ratepayers' expense. Past experiences with stranded costs associated with the Seabrook nuclear power plant and the scrubber at the Bow power plant should be avoided since these increase the electric bills to ratepayers.

HB 535, relative to community net metering. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Vose for the **Majority** of Science, Technology and Energy. This bill sought to expand the net metering program by adding hydroelectric or other renewable power from plants owned by municipalities that produce up to and including 5MW of generation. The city of Nashua was one such municipality cited during testimony. The majority felt that the bill had unintended consequences, namely, that it would (1) raise costs to ratepayers, and (2) increase the size and scope of the net metering program, which could put a strain on the grid. The majority also felt that it would be premature to expand this program while the PUC considers a docket on the pricing of net-metered power sold back to the grid. **Vote 13-8.**

Rep. David Murotake for the **Minority** of Science, Technology and Energy. The minority of the committee felt this bill provided a useful method of gradually introducing an increase from the current 1 megawatt net metering cap, to 5 mega watts for municipal electric generators. The Public Utilities Commission testified the bill would provide clarity for the Commission, as to the intent of the legislature for net metering for municipalities, not being considered in current dockets. An amendment added public school districts to the definition of municipal electric generators, including regional public school districts serving multiple municipalities.

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**HB 466**, relative to the selection of delegates to an article V convention. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Russell Ober for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. No Article V convention will occur in the near future, so it is not necessary to determine qualifications for delegates at this time. It may be that circumstances will change in futures years and require details of a proposed convention to be settled - but it may also be that the pressure to convene an Article V convention will encourage Congress to propose reforms and amendments. **Vote 17-0.**

HCR 5, applying for a convention of the states under Article V of the Constitution of the United States. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Alfred Baldasaro for the **Majority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The majority of the committee believes that this House Concurrent Resolution is the wrong vehicle for requesting an Article V constitutional convention. We also believe any such convention would have too many topics to cover, and that it would leave the door open to too many different changes to the Constitution. Finally, we note that states can only call for an Article V convention; the Congress would then call the shots in bringing it about. **Vote 10-7.**

Rep. Patricia Klee for the **Minority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The strong minority of the committee believes that this House Concurrent Resolution ought to pass. We recognize that it effectively stipulates the particular areas of Federal overreach that have increasingly compromised our country's economic fitness, and our own state's proper degree of constitutional autonomy. This bill identifies and invokes a legitimate, controllable constitutional tool which is built into the language of our founding national document, that empowers the many individual states to hold their federal government to account and ensure that it functions within the scope prescribed to it by the states in that document.

HCR 7, applying to the United States Congress to convene a limited convention for the exclusive purpose of proposing amendments to the federal Constitution concerning election reform that do not abrogate or amend the First Amendment to the federal Constitution. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Alfred Baldasaro for the **Majority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. We believe this resolution is not ready for prime time. It talks about requesting a limited convention. There are no constitutional writings on a limited convention. It also wants election reform changes where Citizens United was a first amendment issue, yet the way the resolution is written, they want amendments to the constitution that do not abrogate or amend the first amendment, which goes against the sponsors' intent on election reform. **Vote 11-7.** Rep. David Woolpert for the **Minority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The minority of our committee believes there are major flaws in the ways our country's national elections are conducted. Whether it's the contributions from large organizations, contributions from wealthy people outside of the state voting for a U.S. Congressman, or the role of the Electoral College, the election process needs to be changed. We do not fear a "runaway" convention because ratification requirements prevent any changes to the U.S. Constitution from being harmful to this country. We trust this process of accomplishing change.

HR 8, urging Congress to investigate the lawsuits against Trump University. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Skip Rollins for the **Majority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The lawsuit of Trump University has been settled out of court. There are many other bills of much more importance that Washington needs to concentrate on for the betterment of the country. **Vote 9-8.**

Rep. Elizabeth Edwards for the **Minority** of State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The minority felt that HR 8, as introduced, had too narrow a focus. We felt a more comprehensive resolution, via amendment, needed to be brought forward addressing potential violations of the emoluments clause. The President's business interests are managed by his children, which does not alleviate concerns about corruption. A true blind trust, such as those used by prior presidents, would restore faith that the Chief Executive is not compromised by conflicts of interest.

TRANSPORTATION

HB 364, relative to accidents involving youth operators of motor vehicles. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Chris True for the **Majority** of Transportation. This bill will authorize the director to suspend or revoke a youth operator's license upon receiving evidence or information that the holder was included in an accident resulting in the death or serious bodily injury while the operator was in violation of any prohibition or restriction on the youth operator's license. The committee amendment changes the suspension maximum to 12 months. **Vote 11-3.**

Rep. Werner Horn for the **Minority** of Transportation. When a youth operator violates statute by operating a vehicle after 1:00 a.m. or with too many people in the vehicle they are subject to a suspension of 20 days for a first offense. Under this bill, as amended, youth operators can lose their license for up to 12 months via administrative hearing for the same offense when involved in an accident where there is serious bodily injury or death. The hearing is held to determine license suspension based on the violation of statute and this bill allows different penalties for the same offense.

HB 417-FN, expanding the right-to-know law to certain motor vehicle records. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Steven Smith for Transportation. This bill allows access to municipal auditors of key data points to verify municipal financial transactions. An oversight in RSA 260:14 makes no provision for municipalities using a contracted auditor to fulfill their duty under RSA 41:9. The committee amendment changes the scope of the records to only four data points and restricts access further than the original bill to only municipal auditors while retaining criminal penalties for further disclosure. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 424-FN, relative to documentation required for registration of certain title exempted vehicles and modifying the requirements for removal and sale of certain vehicles. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Chris True for Transportation. This bill improves motor vehicle record-keeping by making three simple changes. It updates the law to require, rather than allow, the town or city clerk to copy the bill of sale and New Hampshire certificate of registration or title for their records when processing registrations for certain title exempted vehicles. The bill also modifies the requirements for removal of abandoned vehicles if the owner of an abandoned vehicle can't be determined, and increases the notice of sale period provided to owners of abandoned vehicles. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 432, relative to enforcement of parking prohibitions. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Thomas Walsh for Transportation. Currently in RSA 265:69-a, a person with a walking disability who witnesses a vehicle parked in a walking disability designated space without the appropriate placard or plate,

can provide written testimony under oath with clear photographic evidence as sufficient evidence to prove the violation. This bill only adds that upon receipt of proper evidence the appropriate law enforcement agency shall follow up on the violation. **Vote 10-4.**

HB 458, relative to motorcycle headlamps. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Werner Horn for Transportation. The committee has enormous respect for the director of the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and believes they are the appropriate authority to decide the headlamp colors to be approved for motorcycles. This is consistent with accepted practices for motor vehicles. **Vote 11-3.**

HB 553-FN, relative to biennial motorcycle inspections. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Thomas Walsh for the **Majority** of Transportation. This bill seeks to change motorcycle inspection requirements under RSA 266:1 from annually to biennially. While it may be true that many motorcycle owners do not travel many miles annually, it is also true that many parts wear faster on motorcycles, particularly tires. Storing them, especially outdoors, can be far worse than driving them. Aside from the bill's sponsor, all testimony heard was against this change. Citizens, mechanics, and motorcycle enthusiasts felt the current system is not an inconvenience and that safety of the motoring public, the riders, and their passengers is most important. The bipartisan majority of the committee agrees. **Vote 11-3.**

Rep. Werner Horn for the **Minority** of Transportation. The minority of the committee believes that annual inspections of motorcycles represent an unnecessary overreach into Granite State lives. The average rider puts 2,500 miles per year on a motorcycle, and it is unlikely that a component will wear out in 5,000 miles driven in a two year span, except tires and brakes if the rider abuses those components. Nothing in this bill would prevent responsible riders from more frequent inspections if they desired.

HB 598-FN-LOCAL, relative to voluntary registration of motor vehicles. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Steven Smith for Transportation. The legal argument for making vehicle registrations optional hinges on creating an enforceable definition and standard for a vehicle that is used for profit or gain. The bill fails to do this. For this reason, and the fact that the hundreds of millions of dollars in fiscal impact are not covered, the committee finds the bill inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 17-1.**

HB 648-FN, relative to van parking for persons with disabilities. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Michael O'Brien for Transportation. This bill will allow one additional "van only" parking spot for lots of 151 spots or greater. As our population ages, the number of handicap placards issued increases. Currently, "van accessible" is only a suggestion. These vans' mechanisms have extended space requirements, rendering some conventional walking disabled spots unusable. This bill assures that there is at least one, and only one, spot set aside for these vehicles and will make New Hampshire the first state in the nation to increase current ADA allowable spaces. **Vote 10-4.**

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 332, relative to dedicated funds with no activity in the financial system for at least the most recent fiscal year. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Susan Almy for Ways and Means. This bill is a result of recommendations by the new Joint Committee on Dedicated Funds. After a review of the expenditures and revenues over the past few years of all dedicated funds, the committee identified those with no recent activity, and queried the agencies responsible for them as to whether the funds were still needed. The bill consists of a repeal of those funds which the agencies said were unnecessary. Some were replaced by newer programs and funds, such as the Healthy Kids Fund, and others were programs that ended or never got off the ground. The amendment removes from the bill two such funds that were under loose oversight from an agency and in fact are needed, a Pease development authority sub-fund and the Skyhaven airport maintenance and operations fund. For those funds which still contain small amounts of money, the funds lapse either to a related fund or to the general fund. **Vote 23-0.**

HB 560-FN-A-LOCAL, establishing keno. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Bill Ohm for the **Majority** of Ways and Means. This bill allows the operation of Keno in NH. Keno will only be allowed in businesses that have a license to pour liquor. The bill provides for a local control option whereas communities must opt-in to allow keno. Oversight and rule making authority will be provided by the lottery commission. The lottery commission states that Keno can be easily implemented within its budget using existing terminals and hardware. Keno will provide a new non tax revenue source with conservative first year estimates of between \$8-12 million. All net proceeds shall be deposited to the education trust fund. **Vote 20-3.**

Rep. Marc Abear for the **Minority** of Ways and Means. This bill makes keno legal in NH. This bill makes it possible for you to play keno wherever the facility is licensed to pour liquor. NH has enough addiction problems without adding to the social costs from gaming. Gaming revenues are neither a reliable nor a desirable source of education funding.

HB 573-FN, relative to the exemption from property taxation for charitable nonprofit hospitals. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Patrick Abrami for Ways and Means. This bill calls for limiting the charitable non-profit hospital exemption from property tax to only the main campus of a hospital. The committee struggled with understanding what was included as part of the campus. In addition there was recognition that some hospitals are land locked and that the only way to grow was to build a secondary building in a different location in their service area. Those that are not land locked can simply add onto an existing structure. If this bill were to be passed the land locked facility would have to pay property tax on their off-site expansion while the hospital that can simply add onto an existing structure would not have to pay property tax on their expanded space. This did not seem to be a uniform application of tax policy. Given the lack of definition and the establishment of an unbalanced approach to the taxation of property owned by charitable non-profit hospitals, the committee unanimously found this bill inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 22-0.**

HB 574-FN, increasing the limit on contributions to the community development finance authority for which an investment tax credit may be taken. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Timothy Lang for the **Majority** of Ways and Means. The Community Development Finance Authority tax credit program links historical and/or not for profit projects with local businesses to foster community development. This is done by exchanging a 75% tax credit against business donations to the historical or not for profit project. The amendment increases the limit on contributions from \$5 million to \$6 million which can be used as an available tax credit investment into our local communities to support building, renovating, and improvements in our local historical buildings or not for profit programs. **Vote 19-3.**

Rep. Charlie Burns for the **Minority** of Ways and Means. The primary intent of the bill is to increase the availability of tax credits in order to stimulate community development. While the minority does not object to the intent or the amount of the proposed tax credits, it believes that this money comes out of the General Fund and therefore should be a decision of the Finance Committee.

HB 576-FN, increasing the amount of inspection sticker fees to be transferred to the motor vehicle air pollution abatement fund. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Marc Abear for the **Majority** of Ways and Means. This bill increases the fee for vehicle inspection stickers by \$0.50 per sticker. This triples the funding from this source to the air pollution abatement fund. The bill diverts money which could be used for highway funding to air pollution abatement monitoring by the Department of Environmental Services. The majority of the committee finds the bill inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 13-9.**

Rep. Richard Ames for the **Minority** of Ways and Means. This bill seeks to establish an equitable fee system for the air pollution control work of the Department of Environmental Services (DES). At the hearing on this bill, testimony by DES revealed that motor vehicles in New Hampshire produce, through a \$0.25 fee per motor vehicle inspection, only 5% of the revenue used by DES for its air pollution control programs even though air pollution emitted by motor vehicles accounts for nearly 50% of all air pollution emitted in the state. In contrast, fees paid for air pollution abatement by manufacturers and other stationary or "smoke stack" sources of air pollution account for 55% of this DES revenue. The fee rate paid by these stationary source manufacturers has increased from \$85 per ton in 2003 to the current rate of \$292 per ton. One such manufacturer reported a \$21,691 fee increase since 2010. To enable continuation of essential DES air pollution control work while avoiding any further burdening of our manufacturing industry, this bill would move the air pollution abatement part of the motor vehicle inspection sticker fee from \$0.25 to \$0.75. The minority recommends approval of this bill so that revenue from this very modest \$0.50 fee increase per motor vehicle inspection will become available to fund continued protection of our clean air while enabling significant fee relief for our manufacturing industry.

HB 581-FN, establishing a credit against business profits taxes for media production expenditures in New Hampshire. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Marc Abear for Ways and Means. This bill provides transferable tax credits which could be used to fund media production. No evidence was provided to the committee to support claims of benefits through additional economic activity or to support demonstrable ability to attract new media activity. **Vote 23-0.**

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 212, LOB

10:00 a.m. Budget work session: Office of Professional Licensure and Certification

FINANCE - DIVISION III, Rooms 210-211, LOB

9:00 a.m. Budget work session: DHHS - Agency 47 Medicaid

MONDAY, MARCH 6**ADVANCED MANUFACTURING EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 188-E:21), Room 100, SH**

3:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

FINANCE, Derry Town Hall, Derry

4:30 p.m. **HB 1-A**, making appropriations for the expenses of certain departments of the state for fiscal years ending June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2019; **HB 2-FN-A-L**, relative to state fees, funds, revenues, and expenditures.

Silver Center for the Arts, Plymouth State University, Plymouth

5:30 p.m. **HB 1-A**, making appropriations for the expenses of certain departments of the state for fiscal years ending June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2019; **HB 2-FN-A-L**, relative to state fees, funds, revenues, and expenditures.

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 212, LOB

Budget work sessions:

10:00 a.m. Human Rights Commission

10:45 a.m. Secretary of State

11:30 a.m. Boxing and Wrestling Commission

2:00 p.m. Department of Agriculture

FINANCE - DIVISION III, Rooms 210-211, LOB

10:00 a.m. Budget work session: DHHS - Agency 47 Medicaid

JOINT LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 17-N:1), Room 212, LOB

1:00 p.m. Organizational and regular meetings.

NH COLLEGE TUITION SAVINGS PLAN ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 195-H:2), New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation, 4 Barrell Court, Concord.

9:00 a.m. Investment committee meeting.

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7**COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, Room 302, LOB**

11:15 a.m. **SB 246-FN**, relative to credit union branching authority.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE, Rooms 301-303, LOB

10:00 a.m. **SB 10-FN**, relative to dairy farmer relief.

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

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 212, LOB

Budget work sessions:

10:00 a.m. Board of Tax and Land Appeals

10:30 a.m. Department of Information Technology

1:00 p.m. Department of Corrections

2:45 p.m. Public Utilities Commission

FINANCE - DIVISION II, Room 209, LOB

10:00 a.m. Budget work session: Department of Transportation

FINANCE - DIVISION III, Rooms 210-211, LOB

10:00 a.m. Division work session on **HB 646-FN**, relative to the placement and detention of a minor in a secure facility.

1:00 p.m. Budget work session: DHHS - Agency 47 Medicaid

JUDICIARY, Room 208, LOB

10:00 a.m. **HB 632-FN**, relative to appeals of liquor commission decisions.

10:30 am **HB 652-FN**, establishing a veterans track within the court system and relative to the inclusion of veterans benefits in the calculation of gross income for purposes of determining child support. 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

Capital budget presentations:

10:00 a.m. Department of Resources

11:00 a.m. Veterans' Home
11:30 a.m. Secretary of State
1:00 p.m. Department of Revenue Administration
2:00 p.m. Community College System

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2), New Hampshire National Guard Air Facility, 26 Regional Drive, Concord

5:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 202, LOB

10:00 a.m. **HB 380-FN**, relative to the oil discharge and disposal cleanup fund.
10:30 a.m. **HB 386-FN**, relative to technical corrections to the education tax credit statute.
11:00 a.m. **HB 568-FN**, relative to the taxability of lease interests in public property.
1:00 p.m. **HB 161-FN**, relative to beverage sales at farmers' markets.
1:30 p.m. **HB 579-FN**, relative to registration of semi-trailers.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day, time permitting, from the time the committee is initially convened.
2:00 p.m. Subcommittee work session on **HB 124-FN**, repealing certain aircraft registration fees.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

WELLNESS AND PRIMARY PREVENTION COUNCIL (RSA 126-M:3), Room 205, LOB

8:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, Room 302, LOB

9:30 a.m. Executive session on **SB 246-FN**, relative to credit union branching authority.

HOME EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 193-A:10), Department of Education, Londergan Hall, Room 15, 101 Pleasant Street, Concord

3:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB

12:00 p.m. Continued executive session on **HB 173**, relative to regulations restricting the use of water for outdoor usage.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD (RSA 21-J:14-a), Room 303, LOB

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

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

10:00 a.m. Organizational meeting.

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 212, LOB

Budget work sessions:

10:00 a.m. New Hampshire Retirement System
11:00 a.m. Governor's Office of Energy and Planning
1:00 p.m. Department of Environmental Services

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

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

GUARDIAN AD LITEM BOARD (RSA 490-C:1), Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, Technical Division Board Room, 121 South Fruit Street, Concord

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE HOUSE BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION (RSA 17-R:1), Room 308, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

STATE SUGGESTION AND EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AWARD EVALUATION COMMITTEE (RSA 99-E:1, I), Room 101, LOB

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

LEGISLATIVE YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 19-K:1), New Hampshire Technical Institute, Crocker Sweeney Building, Room 225, Concord

1:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, MARCH 13

BOARD OF MANUFACTURED HOUSING (RSA 205-A:25), Room 307, LOB

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY EXOTIC AQUATIC WEEDS AND EXOTIC AQUATIC SPECIES OF WILD-LIFE IN THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (RSA 487:30), Room 307, LOB

11:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY RSA 461-A, RELATIVE TO PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, Rooms 306-308, LOB

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee work session on sections A, B, C, and D.

FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB

10:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 413-FN-A-L**, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers; **HB 435-FN**, relative to funding of the national guard scholarship fund; **HB 452-FN**, establishing the office of the business advocate in the department of resources and economic development and making an appropriation therefor; **HB 624**, relative to group II vested deferred retirements, the age of dependents in the retiree health plan, and retired judges' participation in the retiree health plan; **HB 190**, relative to the wildlife habitat account and the fisheries habitat account; **HB 354-FN-A-L**, making an appropriation to the department of education to provide additional adequate education grant payments to certain municipalities; **HB 356-FN**, establishing a committee to study education funding and the cost of an opportunity for an adequate education; **HB 641-FN-A**, relative to high school students participating in New Hampshire's dual and concurrent enrollment program and making an appropriation therefor; **HB 647-FN-L**, establishing education freedom savings accounts for children with disabilities; **HB 649-FN**, making emergency medical technicians and rescue squad members eligible for a death benefit if killed in the line of duty; **HB 646-FN**, relative to the placement and detention of a minor in a secure facility.

Representative's Hall

3:00 p.m. **HB 1-A**, making appropriations for the expenses of certain departments of the state for fiscal years ending June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

HB 2-FN-A-L, relative to state fees, funds, revenues, and expenditures.

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 212, LOB

1:00 p.m. Budget work session: Department of Justice

FINANCE - DIVISION III, Rooms 210-211, LOB

1:00 p.m. Division work session on **HB 646-FN**, relative to the placement and detention of a minor in a secure facility.

NH BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD INJURY ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 137-K:2), Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire, 52 Pleasant Street, Concord

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

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

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

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

3:30 p.m. Organizational/Regular meeting.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 306, LOB

11:00 a.m. Executive session on **HB 101-FN**, relative to certification for solid waste operators.

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 212, LOB

Budget work sessions:

10:00 a.m. Department of Employment Security

10:45 p.m. Banking Department

1:00 p.m. Department of Resources and Economic Development with Department of Cultural Resources

FINANCE - DIVISION III, Rooms 210-211, LOB

Budget work sessions:

9:00 a.m. DHHS - Agency 42 Human Services

6:00 p.m. DHHS - Agency 48 Elderly and Adult Services; Agency 49 Balance Incentive Program

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATION (RSA 14:14-C), Room 104, LOB

12:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

LONG RANGE CAPITAL PLANNING AND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE (RSA 17-M:1), Room 201, LOB

3:45 p.m. Organizational/Regular meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB

Capital budget presentations:

9:30 a.m. Department of Safety

10:30 a.m. Department of Transportation

Aeronautics/Rail/Transit

Transportation/Highway

1:00 p.m. Liquor Commission

THURSDAY, MARCH 16**COMMISSION ON POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AND TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (RSA 115-D), Walker Building, Room 100, 21 South Fruit Street, Concord**

2:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

FINANCE - DIVISION III, Rooms 210-211, LOB

Budget work sessions:

9:00 a.m. DHHS - HB 2

10:00 a.m. DHHS - Agency 90 Public Health

1:00 p.m. DHHS - Agency 45 Division of Client Services; Division of Family Assistance

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB9:30 a.m. Capital Budget presentations for any agencies or department requests not mentioned in **HB 25**.10:30 a.m. **HB 25-FN-A**, making appropriations for capital improvements.**FRIDAY, MARCH 17****ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (RSA 541-A:2), Rooms 306-308, LOB**

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BOARD (RSA 125-O:5-a), New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, Suite 10, 21 South Fruit Street, Concord

9:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

MONDAY, MARCH 20**COMMISSION TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND FUTURE OF THE PREMIUM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RSA 126-A:5-e), Room 100, SH**

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

COMMISSION TO STUDY AND RECOMMEND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HIKING TRAILS NETWORK (RSA 216-F:7), Room 100, SH

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION ON DEAFNESS AND HEARING LOSS (RSA 125-Q), Room 205, LOB

1:30 p.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE VETERANS HOME BOARD OF MANAGERS (RSA 119:3-a), New Hampshire Veterans Home, Tarr South Conference Room, 139 Winter Street, Tilton

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23**COMMISSION ON PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE ISSUES (RSA 126-T), New Hampshire Medical Society, 7 North State Street, Concord**

2:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD (RSA 21-J:14-a), Room 303, LOB

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE RAIL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (RSA 238-A:2), Room 203, LOB

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 212, LOB

Budget work sessions:

1:00 p.m. Executive Council

1:30 p.m. Governor's Commission on Disability

2:00 p.m. Executive Office

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2), New Hampshire National Guard Air Facility, 26 Regional Drive, Concord

5:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LACTATION (RSA 275:76), Room 103, LOB

11:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

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

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

STATE SUGGESTION AND EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AWARD EVALUATION COMMITTEE (RSA 99-E:1, I), Room 101, LOB

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 12-A:46), New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, 172 Pembroke Road, Concord

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

COUNTY DELEGATION NOTICES

The **Coös County** Delegation will meet **Monday, March 6th** to review the 4th quarter financials. The meeting will be held at the state offices located on Route 3 in Lancaster. The meeting will begin promptly **at 10:00 a.m.**

Rep. Robert L. Théberge, Chairman

The **Coös County** Delegation will meet **Friday, March 24th** to review the 2017 proposed county budget. The meeting will be held at the West Stewartstown Nursing Hospital. The meeting will begin promptly **at 10:00 a.m.**

Rep. Robert L. Théberge, Chairman

COUNTY DELEGATION NOTICES

The **Merrimack County** Delegation Facilities subcommittee will meet on **Friday, March 10th at 9:00 a.m.** in the lower Level Conference Room located at the McDonnell Building, 4 Court Street, Concord.

Rep. David Luneau, Chairman, Merrimack County Courthouse Construction Oversight Committee

Pursuant to RSA 23:7 the Executive Committee of the **Merrimack County** Delegation will meet on **Monday, March 13th at 9:00 a.m.** in the Lower Level Conference Room located at the McDonnell Building 4 Court Street, Concord. The purpose of the meeting is to review and approve the 2017 County of Merrimack Budget; and any other business that may appropriately come before them.

Rep. James MacKay, Chairman

Pursuant to RSA 24:23, there will be a public hearing for **Merrimack County** before the County Delegation at **6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22nd** at the County Administration Building, 4 Court Street, Lower Level Conference Room, Concord. The purpose of the meeting is to consider 2017 Budget Appropriations for

Merrimack County; and to consider any other business that may appropriately come before them. At this time, any member of the public may present oral or written testimony regarding the 2017 budget as proposed by the Merrimack County Executive Committee.

Rep. Dianne Schuett, Chairman

Pursuant to RSAs 24:9-c and 24:14 II, immediately following the Public Hearing to be held on **Wednesday, March 22nd** there will be a meeting of the **Merrimack** County Delegation at the County Administration Building, 4 Court Street, Lower Level Conference Room, Concord. The purpose of the meeting is for approval of the 2017 Merrimack County Proposed Budget; and to consider any other business that may appropriately come before them.

Rep. Dianne Schuett, Chairman

REVISED FISCAL NOTES

The following bills have a revised fiscal note: HB 25, HB 79, HB 97, HB 124, HB 152, HB 156, HB 205, HB 291, HB 354, HB 356, HB 435, HB 452, HB 455, HB 572, HB 597, HB 625, HB 626, HB 628, HB 631, HB 641, HB 644, HB 646, HB 647, HB 648, HB 649, HB 652, HB 654, HB 655, SB 56.

Paul C. Smith, 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 legislative social activities and political meetings or events. Publication should not be construed as support for either the events listed or the views espoused by the individual or organization sponsoring the event.

The House Republican Alliance (HRA) will meet on **Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.** in Room 206, LOB. Republican House members are welcome to attend.

Reps. Glenn Cordelli, James Spillane, and Laurie Sanborn

Are you interested in the Arts? We are looking to form a House Arts Caucus and are looking for help. Representatives who are artists, creative, businesspeople, or otherwise supporters of the arts, we are interested in creating a group to examine if there is an economic value in the arts, and to learn and educate ourselves. Please contact Rep. Gidge at gidge@gmail.com or at 864-9332 if you are interested.

Rep. Ken Gidge

The NH Retail Lumber Association is hosting a legislative breakfast on **Tuesday, March 7th** in the State House Cafeteria. Legislators and staff are invited to stop by anytime **from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** to enjoy a hot breakfast and the opportunity to meet your local building material dealers and learn more about the independent building material industry.

Reps. Dick Hinch and Stephen Shurtleff

Please join The NH Clean Tech Council in the State House Cafeteria on **Tuesday, March 7th from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.** Lunch will be provided. Come and talk with energy experts and learn all about this growing sector in NH's economy.

Reps. David Murotake and Bob Backus

The annual Water's Worth It! legislative breakfast is set for **Wednesday, March 8th** at the Holiday Inn on Main Street in Concord. Check in for the event begins at **7:00 a.m.** with a breakfast buffet. Water quality professionals will present information on drinking water and wastewater treatment challenges in New Hampshire. The keynote speaker is Paula Tracy, Escape Outside Editor for WMUR, followed by remarks from NH DES Assistant Commissioner Clark Freise. All legislators and staff are invited to enjoy a free hearty breakfast and learn more about New Hampshire's critical water infrastructure. Sponsored by the NH Water Pollution

Control Association in conjunction with a wide-ranging coalition of other local non-profit water organizations. Please RSVP to nhwpca.elizabeth@gmail.com by February 24th to reserve your seat. (But if you decide at the last minute, come along anyway!)

Rep. Tom Buco

All legislators and legislative employees are cordially invited to attend the New Hampshire Energy Future Breakfast at the Grappone Center on **Wednesday, March 8th**. Check-in for the event begins at **7:00 a.m.** with a breakfast buffet. Municipal and business panels, moderated by Kevin Smith and Steve Duprey will discuss challenges and opportunities related to energy in New Hampshire. This breakfast is hosted by NH Clean Tech Council, NH Community Development Finance Authority, The Nature Conservancy, NH Businesses for Social Responsibility and others. For more information and to register for this event and other events taking place during Energy Week please email: info@bfreshconsulting.com.

Rep. Richard Barry

The members of the NH Snowmobile Association cordially invite all House members and staff to a reception in the State House cafeteria on **Thursday, March 9th from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.** where a breakfast will be served. We look forward to seeing you there.

Reps. Dick Hinch and Stephen Shurtleff

David Alward, the Consul General of Canada to New England, cordially invites New Hampshire state legislators to a luncheon celebrating Canada-New Hampshire relations on **Thursday, March 9th** in the State House cafeteria during the session lunch break.

Reps. Robert Theberge and Raymond Gagnon

The OWLS will meet in the conference room adjacent to the Sargent-at-Arms Office on **March 9th** during the lunch break. Please bring your lunch and lots of ideas for fundraising.

Rep. Debra DeSimone

The New Hampshire Liberty Alliance cordially invites all legislators to attend a buffet-style luncheon **Thursday, March 9th from noon to 1:00 p.m.** at Tandy's Top Shelf, located at 1 Eagle Square, just across North Main Street from the State House, in the back room. The NHLA compiles and distributes the Gold Standard (gold sheet) before each session day, as well as publishes annual ratings for each NH State Representative and Senator. Several members of the NHLA Board of Directors will be in attendance. You will have the opportunity to ask questions or make suggestions on how the NHLA can better fulfill its mission of promoting liberty within New Hampshire state government.

Rep. Keith Ammon

The American Red Cross cordially invites all legislative members and staff to the annual State House Complex Blood Drive. The blood drive will take place on **Tuesday, March 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The American Red Cross state of the art self-contained coach will be parked out in front of the State House for this event. Give blood and you could help save three lives. Appointments are strongly encouraged. To schedule an appointment, please call the State House Health Services at 271-2757, or email dianne.bergquist@leg.state.nh.us. The Red Cross launched a new tool called RapidPass, which allows you to do the 40 appointment questions online at redcrossblood.org/RapidPass and then print it and bring it with you to your appointment.

Reps. Dick Hinch and Stephen Shurtleff

Please join the NH Adult Day Services Association for breakfast in the State House Cafeteria on **Thursday, March 16th at 8:00 a.m.** Learn about the important work of Adult Medical Day Programs and the work they do to enhance the lives of seniors. Adult Medical Day programs are a necessary and cost-effective option in providing longterm care, allowing seniors to stay in their homes, and giving respite to caregivers. There will be a presentation at 8:00 a.m.

Reps. Frank Kotowski and Lucy Weber

All legislators and staff are cordially invited to join the New Hampshire Automobile Dealers Association (NHADA) for a Legislative Crossover Reception on **Wednesday, March 22nd at 3:30 p.m.** (or following the end of the session day) at the Holiday Inn, 172 North Main Street, Concord. NHADA has historically hosted this event which offers legislators a wonderful opportunity to unwind and enjoy the company of fellow legislators and staff in a fun, social gathering.

Reps. Sherman Packard and Stephen Shurtleff

Breathe New Hampshire invites all legislators and staff to attend a breakfast reception on Thursday, **March 23rd from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.** in the State House Cafeteria. Stop by for a light breakfast, take a free breathing test, enter a raffle and meet some of our volunteers who are helping New Hampshire residents breathe better and live longer! Please RSVP to info@breathenh.org or by calling 603-669-2411.

Rep. Pat Long

The Community College system of New Hampshire is hosting a lunch in the State House cafeteria on **Thursday, March 30th**. Legislators and staff are invited to stop by **between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.** for a delicious lunch prepared by the White Mountain Community College culinary program students. CCSNH Chancellor Gittell, college presidents, and others will be on hand to share information about industry partnerships and pathways, the Running Start Program, apprenticeships, and other educational opportunities at New Hampshire's seven community colleges.

Reps. Karen Umberger and Tom Buco

STATE HOUSE VISITATION SCHEDULE

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 2017. These listings are to ensure all members be notified in a timely manner of visitors from their district. Our schedule is tightly booked for the school year and subject to changes. Note that large groups are divided into smaller groups for tours.

Please contact the Visitor Center concerning school tour booking information. Legislators planning to meet with students should notify the Visitor Center. Thank you for your continued participation with your School Visitation Program.

Virginia J. Drew, Director
Deborah Rivers, Public Information Administrator

DATE	TIME	GROUP	#/GRADE
March 6	9:45/11:00 SH/HM	Hooksett Memorial School	81/4
March 6	12:30	Tuftsboro Elementary School	22/4
March 6	2:00	Brain Injury Association of NH	20/adults
March 7	9:00	World Affairs Council – Bosnia/Herzegovina guests	6/adults
March 7	9:45/11:00 SH/HM	Hooksett Memorial School	66/4
March 7	2:00	NH Bankers Day	
March 8	9:00	Mount St. Mary Academy – Manchester	16/4
March 8	9:45/11:00 SH/HM	Maple Ave. Elementary School – Goffstown	95/4
March 8	1:00	League of Women Voters of NH	15/adults
March 9	9:00/10:30 SH/HM	Pembroke Hill School	100/4
March 10	10:15/11:15	Charlotte Ave. School – Nashua	80/4
March 10	2:00	AmeriCorps	
March 13	10:00/11:00	Lamprey River Elementary School – Raymond	100/4
March 14	9:30/10:45	Broken Ground School – Concord	88/4

DATE	TIME	GROUP	#/GRADE
March 15	9:30	Broken Ground School – Concord	44/4
March 15	10:30	Maple Wood School – Somersworth	42/4
March 16	9:00	Concord Christian Academy	25/4&5
March 16	10:00	DAR – Good Citizens group	100
March 16	1:00	Mont Vernon Village School	22/4
March 17	10:00	The Happy Travelers – MA	55/Srs
March 17	10:15	Portsmouth Christian Academy – Dover	35/4
March 20	10:00*2 tours	Pollard School – Plaistow	70/4
March 20	11:30	One Sky Futures	25/adults
March 21	8:45	Leadership Lakes Region	
March 21	9:45/11:00 SH/HM	Lincoln St. School – Exeter	80/4
March 22	9:00	UNH- Social Work Students	45/col
March 22	9:45/11:00 SH/HM	Lincoln St. School – Exeter	80/4
March 22	10:00	Friend's Retired & Senior Volunteer Program	10/Srs
March 23	9:30/11:00 SH/CC	Hillsboro-Deering Elementary School	84/4
March 24	9:45/11:00 SH/HM	Webster Elementary School – Manchester	85/4
March 27	9:00	Second Start	18/adults
March 27	10:15	St. John Regional School – Concord	21/4
March 27	11:30	Gate City Charter School for the Arts – Merrimack	25/4
March 28	9:15	Second Start	18/adults
March 28	10:00	New Franklin School – Portsmouth	47/4
March 29	9:30 * 2 tours	Penacook Elementary School	64/4
March 29	11:00	The Well School – Peterborough	15/4
March 30	9:00	Barnstead Elementary School	55/4
March 30	9:45/11:15	Little Harbour School – Portsmouth	75/4
March 31	9:30	Merrimack Middle School	24/MS
March 31	10:15/11:30	Dr. Crisp Elementary School – Nashua	75/4
April 3	10:15/11:45 SH/HM	Sunset Heights School – Nashua	75/4
April 4	10:00	North Hampton Elementary School	47/4
April 4	11:00	Pierce School & Frankestown Elementary	33/4
April 5	9:30	Lafayette Regional School – Franconia	
April 5	10:00/11:30 SH/HM	Crescent Lake School – Wolfeboro	74/4
April 6	9:45/11:00	Woodman Park School – Dover	95/4
April 7	9:45	Mount Lebanon School	45/4
April 10	9:00	Deerfield Community School	55/4
April 10	10:00	Moultonborough Central School	29/4
April 10	1:30	Bishop Brady High School – Concord	28/HS
April 11	9:00	Green Valley School – Pembroke	12/4
April 11	9:00	Holy Trinity Catholic School – Laconia	
		RESCHEDULED	17/4&5
April 11	9:30	Town & City Clerks Legislative Day	
April 12	10:00/11:30 SH/HM	Milford @Heron Pond School	85/4
April 12	10:30	Lycee Lumiere/Prometour France – Keene	27/HS
April 13	10:00/11:30 SH/HM	Milford @ Heron Pond School	85/4
April 14	9:00	Epsom Central School	50/4
April 14	10:00	Thornton Central School	35/4

Amendment to HB 79-FN

(2017-0273h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - r

Amend RSA 176:12, II(b) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(b) “Made in New Hampshire” means that the finished product was packaged in New Hampshire and was at least 50 percent manufactured in New Hampshire.

Amendment to HB 85

(2017-0016h)

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - r

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

AN ACT relative to installation requirements for arc-fault circuit interrupters.

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

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

2017-0016h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill permits an arc-fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) device to be replaced with a device without AFCI protection in certain circumstances.

Amendment to HB 95

(2017-0544h)

Proposed by the Committee on Legislative Administration - c

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

AN ACT establishing a committee to study how taxpayer funds appropriated to the university system of New Hampshire and the community college system of New Hampshire are expended and the procedures to ensure accountability for such expenditures.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study how taxpayer funds appropriated to the university system of New Hampshire and the community college system of New Hampshire are expended and the procedures to ensure accountability for such expenditures.

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 Duties. The committee shall study how taxpayer funds appropriated to the university system of New Hampshire and the community college system of New Hampshire are expended and the procedures to ensure accountability for such expenditures.

2017-0544h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study how taxpayer funds appropriated to the university system of New Hampshire and the community college system of New Hampshire are expended and the procedures to ensure accountability for such expenditures.

Amendment to HB 99

(2017-0294h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

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

AN ACT relative to beverage containers.

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

1 Beverage Containers and Labels. Amend RSA 179:33 to read as follows:

179:33 Sizes of Beer Containers; Promotions; Notification.

~~I. [Holders of beverage vendor, nano brewery, or beverage manufacturer licenses shall use bottles or cans, and cases or containers for the sale of beer in the state which shall be specifically authorized by the commission.~~

~~H.]~~ Holders of beverage vendor, **brew pub**, nano brewery, or beverage manufacturer licenses shall have their packaging or containers specifically approved by the commission and shall be fined \$250 for each packaging or container violation. Container and packaging approval shall not require delivery of **a** physical sample ~~[of beer under 6 percent alcohol by volume at 60 degrees Fahrenheit]~~ unless the commission determines a physical sample is necessary for approval.

~~[H.]~~ **II.** All details of transactions between retailers and wholesale distributors, beverage manufacturers, nano breweries, or brew pubs shall be reflected on pertinent invoices. Promotions shall be clearly identified by both brands and sizes and cash discounts shall be shown as credit and itemized as such. All items noted on delivery slips shall also be noted on wholesale distributor's account receivable ledger records.

~~[IV.]~~ **III.** All wholesale distributors, beverage manufacturers, nano breweries, and brew pubs shall make their current prices for wholesale sales available to the commission in writing by brand package. Prices shall remain in effect until such time as they are changed in writing by the wholesale distributor, beverage manufacturer, nano brewery, or brew pub to the commission. Price changes shall be in the commission offices no later than 5 working days prior to any change of prices.

IV. The liquor commission shall not, by rule or otherwise, require a beverage vendor, beverage manufacturer, nano brewery, or brew pub to obtain federal label approval for beverage, as defined in RSA 175:1, VIII, sold exclusively in the state of New Hampshire.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0294h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill modifies container requirements for alcoholic beverages.

**Floor Amendment to HB 116
(2017-0700h)**

Proposed by Rep. Read

Amend section 1 of the bill by replacing paragraphs II-III with the following:

II. The general court shall conduct hearings in order to obtain public input on the consequences of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 558 U.S. 310 (2010) and proposals to amend the United States Constitution in response to that decision. At least one hearing shall be conducted in each of the following locations: North Conway, Keene, Manchester, and Portsmouth. For purposes of these hearings, the general court shall be represented by 2 members from the county in which the hearing occurs, who may be members of either the senate or the house of representatives. For each hearing, one member shall be appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, and one member shall be appointed jointly by the minority leaders of the senate and the house of representatives. Hearings shall be completed by November 1, 2017.

III. The house clerk shall forward transcripts of the hearings conducted pursuant to paragraph II and a copy of this act to each member of the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

**Amendment to HB 122
(2017-0576h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Education - c

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

1 Cooperative School Districts; Procedure for Withdrawal. Amend RSA 195:25 to read as follows:
195:25 Procedure for ~~[Withdrawal]~~ **Review**.

I. After the tenth anniversary of the date of operating responsibility, the school board of a cooperative school district may ~~[undertake a study]~~ **initiate a review** of the feasibility and suitability of the withdrawal of one or more member districts from the cooperative district. A similar ~~[study]~~ **review** shall be ~~[undertaken]~~ **initiated** if, after the tenth anniversary of the date of operating responsibility, a pre-existing district shall, by a majority vote on a warrant article at a regular or special town meeting, direct the school board **of a cooperative school district** to ~~[conduct]~~ **initiate** such a ~~[study]~~ **review**. **In either case**, the ~~[study]~~ **review** shall be conducted by a committee composed of ~~[at least]~~ one member of the school board from each of the pre-existing districts, one member of the board of selectmen from each town **within the cooperative school district**, and such other members as may be appointed by the committee. **The committee shall have its first meeting no later 60 days following its creation or by the vote at the annual meeting which established the committee.**

II. Within 180 days ~~[after the date of its formation]~~ **after the committee's first meeting**, the committee shall report its findings to the state board of education. The committee shall submit **a report** to the ~~[state board of education either a report that withdrawal is not feasible or suitable, or a report that includes a withdrawal plan prepared in accordance with RSA 195:26]~~ **school board of the cooperative school district**. ~~[If the committee determines that withdrawal is not feasible or suitable, the town which voted to undertake the study may submit a minority report at the same time as the committee report is filed with the state board of education. If the committee report does not include a withdrawal plan, the minority report may include a withdrawal plan prepared in accordance RSA 195:26.]~~ **The report shall indicate whether the withdrawal of one or more towns from the cooperative school district is recommended, not recommended, or whether more time and information are needed to make a determination.**

III. **If the committee finds that the withdrawal of one or more towns from the cooperative school district is recommended, the committee shall develop a withdrawal plan in accordance with RSA 195:26. The plan shall be submitted to the state board of education no later than November 1. Members of the committee who voted against recommending withdrawal may file a minority report with the state board of education no later than November 1.**

IV. **If the committee finds that the withdrawal of one or more towns from the cooperative school districts is not recommended, the committee shall file a report with the school board of the cooperative school district and the committee shall be dissolved. Members of the committee who voted to recommend the withdrawal of one or more towns from the cooperative school district may file a minority report with the school board of the cooperative school district.**

V. **If the committee finds that more time and information are needed to make a determination, the committee shall reconvene within 30 days of filing its initial report and continue its work. In such a case, the committee shall, within 180 of filing its initial report, file a subsequent report with the school board of the cooperative school district indicating whether the withdraw of one or more towns from the cooperative school district is recommended or not recommended. If the committee finds that the withdrawal of one or more towns from the cooperative school district is not recommended, members of the committee who voted to recommend the withdrawal of one or more towns from the cooperative school district may file a minority report with the school board of the cooperative school**

district. If the committee finds that the withdrawal of one or more towns from the cooperative school district is recommended, the committee shall develop a withdrawal plan in accordance with RSA 195:26. The plan shall be submitted to the state board of education no later than November 1. Members of the committee who voted against the withdrawal plan and its recommendations may file a minority report with the state board of education no later than November 1.

VI. If the state board approves [a] ***the*** withdrawal plan, whether submitted by the committee or by minority report, the plan shall be submitted to the voters of the cooperative school district in accordance with RSA 195:29.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Amendment to HB 131

(2017-0430h)

Proposed by the Committee on Municipal and County Government - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Notice Requirements for Public Hearing. Amend RSA 675:7, I to read as follows:

I. Notice shall be given for the time and place of each public hearing held under RSA 675:2-4 and RSA 675:6 at least 10 calendar days before the hearing. The notice required under this section shall not include the day notice is posted or the day of the public hearing. Notice of each public hearing shall be published in a paper of general circulation in the municipality and shall be posted in at least 2 public places. Any person owning property in the municipality may request notice of all public hearings on proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance, and the municipality shall provide notice, at no cost to the person, electronically or by first class mail.

I-a. If a proposed amendment to a zoning ordinance would change a boundary of a zoning district and the change would affect 100 or fewer properties, notice of a public hearing on the amendment shall be sent by first class mail to the owners of each affected property. If a proposed amendment to a zoning ordinance would change the minimum lot sizes or the permitted uses in a zoning district that includes 100 or fewer properties, notice of a public hearing on the amendment shall be sent by first class mail to the owner of each property in the district. Notice by mail shall be sent to the address used for mailing local property tax bills, provided that a good faith effort and substantial compliance shall satisfy the notice by mail requirements of this paragraph. [~~Petitioned amendments as authorized in RSA 675:4 shall not be subject to notification by mail requirements.~~]

I-b. *In the case of a petitioned zoning amendment as authorized in RSA 675:4, the voter whose name appears first on the petition shall be responsible for the cost of notice by mail under paragraph I-a. If the full cost of notice is not paid at the time of submission, the municipality shall inform the responsible person of the cost of notice within 5 business days, and the balance shall be paid within another 5 business days. If full payment is not made and received within 5 business days, the selectmen or village district commissioners may, in their discretion, decline to accept the petition for submission. Failure by the municipality to inform the responsible person of the cost of notice shall be deemed a waiver of the payment requirement.*

2017-0430h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the voter whose name appears first on a zoning amendment petition to pay the costs of notification.

Amendment to HB 138

(2017-0141h)

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Judiciary - r

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

1 New Section; Penalties; Civil Contempt. Amend RSA 458 by inserting after section 52 the following new section:

458:53 Penalties; Civil Contempt. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and excepting reasonable payments, no family court may incarcerate any person for civil contempt without there first being a finding of fact that the person has the liquid assets to satisfy the contempt without borrowing money or incurring financial penalties to access financial instruments. In addition, no person shall be required to sell a principal residence or sole motor vehicle to satisfy a finding of civil contempt.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 30 days after its passage.

2017-0141h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill declares that no family court shall incarcerate any person for civil contempt without there being a finding that the person has the liquid assets to satisfy the contempt penalty.

**Amendment to HB 140-FN
(2017-0272h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Wine Manufacturer License. Amend RSA 178:8, III to read as follows:

III. Each wine manufacturer shall have the right to sell at retail or wholesale at its winery for off-premises consumption any of its wines. Visitors of legal drinking age at said premises may be provided with samples of wine manufactured on the premises for tasting. Samples may be provided either free or for a fee and shall be limited to one 2-ounce sample per label per person. ***The commission may issue an additional license to a wine manufacturer to operate one additional tasting room for both samples and retail sales of its own wine separate and apart from its manufacturing facility, subject to payment of an annual fee of \$420. A licensee may operate a single tasting room cooperatively with other wine manufacturers, subject to payment of an annual fee of \$420 by one of the manufacturers, provided that no manufacturer may sell or provide samples at more than one tasting room and provided that each participating manufacturer shall independently maintain records and pay the fees under paragraph IV.*** Pursuant to rules adopted by the commission, a wine manufacturer may transport its products to a farmers' market or a wine festival licensed under RSA 178:31, and may sell such products at retail in the original container.

**Amendment to HB 152-FN
(2017-0405h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

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

AN ACT relative to wholesale distributors of alcoholic beverages.

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

1 Wholesale Distributors. Amend RSA 178:16, I to read as follows:

I. Wholesale distributor licenses shall authorize the licensees to sell beverages in barrels, bottles, or other closed containers to licensees for resale or to the general public. ***A wholesale distributor shall provide, at a mutually agreed price, to any on-premises or off-premises licensee any beverage, beer, specialty beer, or cider that is available to any wholesale distributor in the United States, if requested in writing with the specified quantity.*** The holder of a wholesale distributor license shall maintain a regular place of business in this state.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0405h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires wholesale distributors of alcoholic beverages to sell to on-premises and off-premises licensees upon request.

**Floor Amendment to HB 157
(2017-0682h)**

Proposed by Reps. Abbott, J. MacKay, Schleien and J. Edwards

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Use of Cannabis for Therapeutic Purposes; Definitions. Amend RSA 126-X:1, IX(a) to read as follows:

IX.(a)(1) "Qualifying medical condition" means the presence of:

[(1)] (A) Cancer, glaucoma, positive status for human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, hepatitis C currently receiving antiviral treatment, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, chronic pancreatitis, spinal cord injury or disease, traumatic brain injury, epilepsy, lupus, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, ulcerative colitis, or one or more injuries that significantly interferes with daily activities as documented by the patient's provider; and

[(2)] (B) A severely debilitating or terminal medical condition or its treatment that has produced at least one of the following: elevated intraocular pressure, cachexia, chemotherapy-induced anorexia, wasting syndrome, agitation of Alzheimer's disease, severe pain that has not responded to previously prescribed medication or surgical measures or for which other treatment options produced serious side effects, constant or severe nausea, moderate to severe vomiting, seizures, or severe, persistent muscle spasms; **or**

(2) "Qualifying medical condition" also means moderate to severe chronic pain.

2017-0682h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes chronic pain as a qualifying medical condition under therapeutic use of cannabis.

Floor Amendment to HB 160
(2017-0681h)

Proposed by Reps. Abbott, J. MacKay, Schleien and J. Edwards

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Use of Cannabis for Therapeutic Purposes; Definitions. Amend RSA 126-X:1, IX(a) to read as follows:

IX.(a)(1) "Qualifying medical condition" means the presence of:

[(1)] (A) Cancer, glaucoma, positive status for human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, hepatitis C currently receiving antiviral treatment, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, chronic pancreatitis, spinal cord injury or disease, traumatic brain injury, epilepsy, lupus, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, ulcerative colitis, or one or more injuries that significantly interferes with daily activities as documented by the patient's provider; and

[(2)] (B) A severely debilitating or terminal medical condition or its treatment that has produced at least one of the following: elevated intraocular pressure, cachexia, chemotherapy-induced anorexia, wasting syndrome, agitation of Alzheimer's disease, severe pain that has not responded to previously prescribed medication or surgical measures or for which other treatment options produced serious side effects, constant or severe nausea, moderate to severe vomiting, seizures, or severe, persistent muscle spasms; **or**

(2) "Qualifying medical condition" also means post-traumatic stress disorder.

2017-0681h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes post-traumatic stress disorder as a qualifying medical condition under therapeutic use of cannabis. Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Use of Cannabis for Therapeutic Purposes; Definitions. Amend RSA 126-X:1, IX(a) to read as follows:

IX.(a)(1) "Qualifying medical condition" means the presence of:

[(1)] (A) Cancer, glaucoma, positive status for human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, hepatitis C currently receiving antiviral treatment, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, chronic pancreatitis, spinal cord injury or disease, traumatic brain injury, epilepsy, lupus, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, ulcerative colitis, or one or more injuries that significantly interferes with daily activities as documented by the patient's provider; and

[(2)] (B) A severely debilitating or terminal medical condition or its treatment that has produced at least one of the following: elevated intraocular pressure, cachexia, chemotherapy-induced anorexia, wasting syndrome, agitation of Alzheimer's disease, severe pain that has not responded to previously prescribed medication or surgical measures or for which other treatment options produced serious side effects, constant or severe nausea, moderate to severe vomiting, seizures, or severe, persistent muscle spasms; **or**

(2) "Qualifying medical condition" also means post-traumatic stress disorder.

2017-0681h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes post-traumatic stress disorder as a qualifying medical condition under therapeutic use of cannabis.

Amendment to HB 170
(2017-0380h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Judiciary - r

Amend RSA 91-A:2, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Subject to the provisions of RSA 91-A:3, all meetings, whether held in person, by means of telephone or electronic communication, or in any other manner, shall be open to the public. Except for town meetings, school district meetings, and elections, no vote while in open session may be taken by secret ballot. Any person shall be permitted to use recording devices, including, but not limited to, tape recorders, cameras, and videotape equipment, at such meetings. Minutes of all such meetings, including nonpublic sessions, shall include the names of members, persons appearing before the public bodies, and a brief description of the subject matter discussed and final decisions. Subject to the provisions of RSA 91-A:3, minutes shall be promptly recorded and open to public inspection not more than 5 business days after the meeting, except as provided in RSA 91-A:6, and shall be treated as permanent records of any public body, or any subordinate body thereof, without exception. ***If minutes are posted on the public body's Internet website, then they shall be posted on such website consistently for all subsequent meetings, once they become available.*** Except in an emergency or when there is a meeting of a legislative committee, a notice of the time and place of each such meeting, including a nonpublic session, shall be posted in 2 appropriate places one of which may be the public body's Internet website, if such exists, or shall be printed in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town at least 24 hours, excluding Sundays and legal holidays, prior to such meetings. ***If notices are posted on the public body's Internet website, then they shall be posted on such website consistently for all subsequent meetings.*** An emergency shall mean a situation where immediate undelayed action is deemed

to be imperative by the chairman or presiding officer of the public body, who shall post a notice of the time and place of such meeting as soon as practicable, and shall employ whatever further means are reasonably available to inform the public that a meeting is to be held. The minutes of the meeting shall clearly spell out the need for the emergency meeting. When a meeting of a legislative committee is held, publication made pursuant to the rules of the house of representatives or the senate, whichever rules are appropriate, shall be sufficient notice. If the charter of any city or town or guidelines or rules of order of any public body require a broader public access to official meetings and records than herein described, such charter provisions or guidelines or rules of order shall take precedence over the requirements of this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph, a business day means the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday, excluding national and state holidays.

2017-0380h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill declares that if notice of meetings and minutes of public meetings are posted on a public body's Internet website, they shall be posted for all subsequent meetings.

Amendment to HB 179
(2017-0311h)

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy - r

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

AN ACT prohibiting the inclusion of nonbypassable costs in certain public utilities charges.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Electric Utility Restructuring; Implementation; Certain Charges Prohibited. Amend RSA 374-F:4 by inserting after paragraph XII the following new paragraph:

XIII. The commission shall not include in any distribution service charge, default energy service charge, stranded cost recovery charge, system benefits charge, or any other nonbypassable charge, any costs associated with the purchase of natural gas, the purchase of natural gas capacity, or the construction of a natural gas pipeline.

2017-0311h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits the public utilities commission from including in any distribution service charge, default energy service charge, stranded cost recovery charge, or system benefits charge any costs associated with the purchase of natural gas or natural gas capacity or the construction of a natural gas pipeline.

Amendment to HB 184-FN
(2017-0690h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - r

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

AN ACT relative to the license requirement for medical imaging and radiation therapy and relative to registration by practitioners with the board of medical imaging and radiation therapy.

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

1 Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy; License Required. Amend RSA 328-J:10 to read as follows:

328-J:10 License Required. Beginning [July 1, 2017] **July 31, 2018**, no person shall perform medical imaging or administer radiation therapy procedures on humans for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes as defined in this chapter or otherwise indicate or imply that the person is licensed to perform medical imaging procedures or administer radiation therapy unless that person is currently licensed under this chapter.

2 Medical Imaging or Radiation Therapy; Grandfather Provision; Date Extended. Amend RSA 328-J:22, I to read as follows:

I. Register with the board on or before [July 1, 2017] **July 31, 2018**.

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

2017-0690h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill extends the date for performing medical imaging or radiation therapy without a license and for registering with the board of medical imaging and radiation therapy under the grandfather provision for current practitioners.

Amendment to HB 186
(2017-0286h)

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary - r

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

AN ACT relative to limitation of actions in which the state is a plaintiff.

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

1 New Section; Limitation of Actions; State as Plaintiff. Amend RSA 508 by inserting after section 4-g the following new section:

508:4-h State as Plaintiff. Except as otherwise provided by law, all personal actions or civil enforcement actions in which the state is a plaintiff shall be brought within 3 years of the date when the plaintiff agency, department, authority, or official possessed actual knowledge of the act, omission, or violation complained of, unless the state demonstrates that the delay was not unreasonable or prejudicial to the defendant, or that the detriment to the public caused by the delay outweighs the detriment to defendant. Such limitation shall not apply to any violation or wrong that is ongoing or has otherwise not been corrected.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0286h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that certain actions in which the state is a plaintiff be brought within 3 years.

Amendment to HB 205-FN

(2017-0154h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety - r

Amend RSA 644:22, I as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person shall fly a drone in the airspace above a state or county correctional facility or a municipal jail. Any person who knowingly violates this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

Amend RSA 644:22 as inserted by section 1 of the bill by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

IV. This section shall not apply to a drone operated at an altitude of 400 or more feet.

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

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

2017-0154h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits, with certain exceptions, a person from flying a drone at an altitude of less than 400 feet above a state or county correctional facility or a municipal jail.

Amendment to HB 210

(2017-0559h)

Proposed by the Committee on Education - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Subparagraph; Department of Education; Rulemaking. Amend RSA 21-N:9, II by inserting after subparagraph (bb) the following new subparagraph:

(cc)(1) The establishment and enforcement of a code of ethics for certified educational personnel shall be adopted no later than July 1, 2018. This professional code shall include a statement of purpose and standards defining each of the 4 primary principles which are:

(A) Responsibility to the education profession and educational professionals.

(B) Responsibility to students.

(C) Responsibility to the school community.

(D) Responsible and ethical use of technology as it relates to students, schools, and other educational professionals.

(2) The professional code of ethics shall apply to all teachers, supervisors, administrators, and other personnel licensed or seeking licensure in the education profession in the state of New Hampshire. In this subparagraph, "teacher" means a person who has applied for or holds a valid teaching license, credential, or other equivalent certificate issued by the state board of education.

Amendment to HB 216

(2017-0512h)

Proposed by the Committee on Education - c

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

AN ACT relative to educational assignments for pupils who have been suspended.

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

1 School Attendance; Suspension and Expulsion of Pupils. Amend RSA 193:13, I(a) to read as follows:

(a) The superintendent or chief administering officer, or a representative designated in writing by the superintendent, is authorized to suspend pupils from school for a period not to exceed 10 school days for gross misconduct or for neglect or refusal to conform to the reasonable rules of the school ***and shall make educational assignments available to the suspended pupil during the period of suspension.***

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0512h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires a school to make educational assignments available to the suspended pupil during the period of suspension.

Amendment to HB 225

(2017-0436h)

Proposed by the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy - c

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

AN ACT relative to information collection concerning electric renewable portfolio standards.

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

1 Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard; Information Collection. RSA 362-F:8 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

362-F:8 Information Collection.

I. By July 31 of each year, each provider of electricity shall submit a report to the commission or cause a report to be submitted by the administrator of the NEPOOL Generation Information System to the commission, in a form approved by the commission, documenting its compliance with the requirements of this chapter for the prior year. The report shall also include the number of renewable energy certificates that were purchased during the prior year and identify the class of each renewable energy certificate and source of the renewable energy certificate.

II. By July 31 of each year, each certified New Hampshire renewable energy certificate provider shall submit a report to the commission or cause a report to be submitted by the administrator of the NEPOOL Generation Information System to the commission, in a form approved by the commission, documenting the number of renewable energy certificates that were produced during the prior year on a quarterly basis and the class of each renewable energy certificate.

III. The information under paragraphs I and II shall be disclosed as public information by the commission as part of its annual reporting pursuant to RSA 362-F:10, IV. The commission may investigate compliance and collect any information necessary to verify and audit the information provided to the commission by providers of electricity and renewable energy certificates.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0436h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill modifies the requirements for annual reports by providers of electricity and renewable energy certificates concerning electric renewable portfolio standards.

Amendment to HB 226

(2017-0012h)

Proposed by the Committee on Education - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Cost of an Opportunity for an Adequate Education. Amend RSA 198:40-a, II(e) to read as follows:

(e) An additional \$697.77 for each third grade pupil in the ADMA with a test score below the proficient level on the reading component of the state assessment administered pursuant to RSA 193-C:6, provided the pupil is not eligible to receive differentiated aid pursuant to subparagraphs (b)-(d). ***A school district receiving aid under this subparagraph shall annually provide to the department of education documentation demonstrating that the district has implemented an instructional program to improve non-proficient pupil reading.***

Amendment to HB 250

(2017-0265h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

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

AN ACT establishing a committee to consider revisions to the New Hampshire health insurance laws.

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

1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to consider revisions to the New Hampshire health insurance laws.

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 of representatives.

(b) Two 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.

I. The committee shall consider revisions to the New Hampshire health insurance laws. The revisions considered shall focus on changes necessary to minimize market disruptions in the event that the Affordable Care Act is repealed or significantly revised. In addition, the committee shall review the costs and benefits of establishing a comprehensive publicly-funded program of health insurance to cover all residents of New Hampshire. The committee's study shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) Proposals to amend RSA 420-G.

(b) Reestablishing the state high risk pool under RSA 404-G and proposals to amend this statute.

(c) How a publicly-funded health insurance program would be financed.

(d) The impact this program would have on the state budget.

(e) The financial impact that such a program would have on employers and state residents.

(f) Reimbursement to primary care providers, hospitals, and other medical providers.

(g) Consideration of whether a global payment system should be implemented.

(h) Incentives for increasing provider participation in a publicly-funded program.

(i) Issues regarding quality of care under such a program.

(j) How a publicly-funded program would improve targeted health indicators for New Hampshire such as cancer deaths and drug-related deaths.

(k) Any other issues the committee deems relevant to its study.

II. The committee may solicit input from any person or entity the committee deems relevant to its study.

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. Three 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 president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.

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

2017-0265h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to consider revisions to the New Hampshire health insurance laws.

Amendment to HB 254

(2017-0693h)

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - r

Amend RSA 21-J:14-a, II(a) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(a) Four members nominated by the New Hampshire Association of Assessing Officials and appointed by the governor with the consent of the council, one of whom shall be an assessing official for a town with a population of less than [3,000] **10,000**; ~~one of whom shall be an assessing official for a town with a population of more than 3,000;~~ and one of whom shall be an assessing official for a city. Each member shall hold office for the term of such member's position for 2 years and until a successor shall have been appointed and qualified. Any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term by the governor with the consent of the council.

2017-0693h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill revises the membership of the assessing standards board by adding a legislative member and reducing the members who are municipal officials.

Amendment to HB 265

(2017-0420h)

Proposed by the Committee on Municipal and County Government - c

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

1 Accessory Dwelling Units. Amend RSA 674:72, I to read as follows:

I. A municipality that adopts a zoning ordinance pursuant to the authority granted in this chapter shall allow accessory dwelling units as a matter of right or by either conditional use permit pursuant to RSA

674:21 or by special exception, in all zoning districts that permit single-family dwellings. One accessory dwelling unit shall be allowed without additional requirements for lot size, frontage, space limitations, or other controls beyond what would be required for a single-family dwelling without an accessory dwelling unit. The municipality is not required to allow more than one accessory dwelling unit for any single-family dwelling. ***The municipality may prohibit accessory dwelling units associated with multiple single-family dwellings attached to each other such as townhouses, and with manufactured housing as defined in RSA 674:31. Subsequent condominium conveyance of any accessory dwelling unit separate from that of the principal dwelling unit shall be prohibited, notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 356-B:5, unless allowed by the municipality.***

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

2017-0420h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes a municipality to limit the right to have an accessory dwelling unit for certain single-family dwellings and prohibits condominium conveyance of an accessory dwelling unit.

Amendment to HB 279

(2017-0530h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - r

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

AN ACT relative to cigarette smoking and the sale of food in cigar bars.

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

1 Cigar Bars. Amend RSA 178:20-a, II(d) to read as follows:

(d) Does not allow ~~[cigarette smoking or service of]~~ food ***to be sold*** on the premises.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

2017-0530h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows cigarette smoking in cigar bars. This bill also prohibits the sale of food in cigar bars.

Amendment to HB 288

(2017-0302h)

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Statutory Construction; Under Oath. Amend RSA 21:52 to read as follows:

21:52 Under Oath. The words “under oath” when used in connection with a document to be filed with the court ***or a state agency, which does not require a notary acknowledgment or notarization under New Hampshire law***, shall be satisfied by electronic signature “under the penalty of perjury” if the document is filed with the court ***or state agency*** electronically, ***and if the document is accompanied by a statement under the electronic signature stating “the penalty for perjury may include a fine or imprisonment or both.”***

2017-0302h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill expands the general statutory definition of the phrase “under oath” to apply to documents filed with a state agency under certain circumstances.

Amendment to HB 303-LOCAL

(2017-0291h)

Proposed by the Committee on Municipal and County Government - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Vacancies; County Commissioner. Amend RSA 661:9, II(a) to read as follows:

II.(a) If a vacancy occurs in the office of a county commissioner, the members of the county convention, ***or, if the vacancy occurs in Hillsborough county, the members of the county convention representing the cities and towns in the commissioner’s district***, shall fill the vacancy by majority vote until the next biennial election of county officers. If the term filled is less than the unexpired term, then notwithstanding any provisions of RSA 653:1, VI, the commissioner district filled pursuant to this paragraph shall be added to the next biennial election ballot to be chosen by the voters of the county for a 2-year term.

2017-0291h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires that a vacancy in the office of a county commissioner in Hillsborough county be filled by a majority vote of the county convention members representing the cities and towns in the commissioner’s district.

Amendment to HB 304**(2017-0448h)****Proposed by the Committee on Education - c**

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

AN ACT relative to implementation of academic standards by a local school board and relative to review of academic standards under consideration by the state board of education.

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

1 State Board of Education; Rulemaking Authority. Amend RSA 186:8, I to read as follows:

I. Academic standards for all grades of the public schools, ***including rules requiring that if a school board elects not to implement academic standards adopted by the state board of education, a school board shall determine and approve local academic standards that meet or exceed the state academic standards as defined in RSA 193-E:2-a, VI(b).***

2 Substantive Educational Content of an Adequate Education. Amend RSA 193-E:2-a, IV to read as follows:

IV.(a) The minimum standards for public school approval for the areas identified in paragraph I shall constitute the opportunity for the delivery of an adequate education. The general court shall periodically, but not less frequently than every 10 years, review, revise, and update, as necessary, the minimum standards identified in paragraph I and shall ensure that the high quality of the minimum standards for public school approval in each area of education identified in paragraph I is maintained. Changes made by the board of education to the school approval standards through rulemaking after the effective date of this section shall not be included within the standards that constitute the opportunity for the delivery of an adequate education without prior adoption by the general court. The board of education shall provide written notice to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the chairs of the house and senate education committees of any changes to the school approval standards adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A.

(b) Neither the department of education nor the state board of education shall require any school or school district in this state to implement academic standards such as "Next Generation" science standards or common core standards.

(c) On or after the effective date of this subparagraph, no existing academic standards shall be amended, and no new academic standards shall be approved, by the state board of education without prior review and recommendation by the legislative oversight committee established in RSA 193-C:7.

3 New Paragraph; Statewide Education Improvement and Assessment Program; Duties of the Legislative Oversight Committee. Amend RSA 193-C:8 by inserting after paragraph XI the following new paragraph:

XII. Review and make recommendations relating to academic standards under consideration by the state board of education pursuant to RSA 193-E:2-a, IV(c).

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0448h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires a school board that elects not to implement the academic standards adopted by the state board of education to implement academic standards that meet or exceed state academic standards. The bill also requires the legislative oversight committee to review and make recommendations relating to academic standards under consideration by the state board of education.

Amendment to HB 310**(2017-0032h)****Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c**

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

AN ACT relative to insurance group-wide supervision and relative to supervisory college confidentiality.

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

2 Insurance Holding Companies; Confidential Treatment. Amend RSA 401-B:8, I to read as follows:

I. Documents, materials, or other information in the possession or control of the insurance department that are obtained by or disclosed to the commissioner or any other person in the course of an examination or investigation made pursuant to RSA 401-B:6 and all information reported pursuant to RSA 401-B:3, II(1) and (m), RSA 401-B:4, [and] RSA 401-B:5, ***RSA 401-B:7, and RSA 401-B:7-a*** shall be confidential by law and privileged, shall not be subject to RSA 91-A, shall not be subject to subpoena, and shall not be subject to discovery or admissible in evidence in any private civil action. However, the commissioner is authorized to use the documents, materials, or other information in the furtherance of any regulatory or legal action brought as part of the commissioner's official duties. The commissioner shall not otherwise make the documents, materials or other information public without the prior written consent of the insurer to which it pertains unless the commissioner, after giving the insurer and its affiliates who would be affected thereby notice and opportunity

to be heard, determines that the interests of policyholders, shareholders, or the public will be served by the publication thereof, in which event the commissioner may publish all or any part in such manner as may be deemed appropriate.

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

2017-0032h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes group-wide supervision of internationally active insurance groups. This bill also ensures the confidentiality of information received during a supervisory college.

This bill is a request of the insurance department.

Amendment to HB 319

(2017-0622h)

Proposed by the Committee on Transportation - c

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

AN ACT relative limiting 20-day registration plates.

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

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0622h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill limits the 20-day registration plates used for the same vehicle to 3 plates within a 12-month period.

Amendment to HB 323

(2017-0167h)

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

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

AN ACT relative to standards for revaluations established by the assessing standards board.

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

1 Assessing Standards Board; Powers and Duties; Standards. Amend RSA 21-J:14-b, I(c) to read as follows:

(c) The establishment of standards for revaluations based on the most recent edition of [USPAP Standard 6] *the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP)*. The department of revenue administration shall in its assessment review process incorporate these standards and report its findings to the assessing standards board and the municipality, in accordance with RSA 21-J:11-a, II. These standards shall be reported to the assessing standards board for all reviews conducted on or after the April 1, 2006 assessment year. These standards shall be incorporated in the assessment review process for all reviews conducted on or after the April 1, 2007 assessment year.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0167h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill modifies a reference to the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice used by the assessing standards board in establishing standards for revaluations of property.

Amendment to HB 330-FN

(2017-0133h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

Amend RSA 400-A:29, VI(d) and (e) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(d) Form filing- each form filing: \$20

(e) Rate filing- each rate filing: \$20

2017-0133h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes form and rate filing fees for advisory organizations.

Amendment to HB 332

(2017-0561h)

Proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means - r

Amend section 1 of the bill by deleting paragraphs XIX and XX and renumbering the original paragraphs XXI-XXV to read as XIX-XXIII, respectively.

Amend the bill by deleting sections 18-22 and renumbering the original sections 23-27 to read as 18-22, respectively.

**Amendment to HB 334
(2017-0641h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

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

AN ACT relative to exemptions from licensure by the board of medical imaging and radiation therapy.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy; Exemptions. Amend RSA 328-J:25 to read as follows:

328-J:25 Exemptions. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent or affect:

I. ~~[A registered dental hygienist licensed under the laws of the state of New Hampshire.]~~ ***A person who is regulated in another profession from acting within the scope of that person's license, registration, or certification.***

II. ~~[A dental assistant licensed or holding a certificate under the laws of the state of New Hampshire.]~~

III. ~~A physical therapist who performs medical imaging within the scope of practice and maintains a current physical therapist license to practice in New Hampshire.~~

IV. ~~A student enrolled in and attending a school or college of medicine, dentistry, osteopathy, chiropractic, podiatry, limited x-ray machine operator, medical imaging or radiation therapy who performs medical imaging or radiation therapy procedures on humans while under the supervision of a licensed practitioner, magnetic resonance technologist, nuclear medicine technologist, radiation therapist, radiographer, radiologist assistant, or sonographer holding a license under this chapter.~~

V. ~~III.~~ A person administering medical imaging or radiation procedures who is employed by the United States government when performing duties associated with that employment.

VI. ~~IV.~~ A person performing medical procedures or therapy on non-human subjects or cadavers.

2017-0641h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill exempts from licensure by the board of medical imaging and radiation therapy persons who are regulated in another profession and acting within the scope of that person's license, registration, or certification.

**Amendment to HB 336
(2017-0410h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy - c

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

1 Definitions; Outdoor Wood-Fired Hydronic Heaters. Amend RSA 125-R:1 to read as follows:

125-R:1 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. ***"Certified Outdoor Wood-Fired Hydronic Heater" or "Certified OWHH" means a residential OWHH certified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to meet the emissions standards codified in 40 C.F.R. part 60, subpart QQQQ and labeled accordingly, or a commercial high-efficiency, low-emission OWHH qualified by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.***

II. ***"Clean wood" means wood that has not been painted, stained, coated, preserved, or treated with chemicals such as copper chromium arsenate, creosote, or pentachlorophenol. The term does not include construction and demolition debris as defined in RSA 149-M:4, IV-a.***

III. ***"Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of environmental services.***

IV. ***"EPA" means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.***

V. ***"Municipality" means cities, towns, and counties in which there are located unincorporated towns or organized places. Municipality shall not mean village districts.***

VI. ***"Outdoor wood-fired hydronic heater" (OWHH) or "outdoor wood boiler" means a fuel burning device:***

(a) Designed to burn wood or other solid fuels;

(b) That the manufacturer ~~[specifies for outdoor installation]~~ ***requires to be installed outdoors*** or in structures not normally occupied by humans, including structures such as garages and sheds; and

(c) Which heats building space and water through the distribution, typically through pipes, of a fluid heated in the device, typically water or a mixture of water and antifreeze.

VII. ***"Person" means any individual, partnership, firm or co-partnership, association, company, trust, corporation, department, bureau, agency, private or municipal corporation, or any political subdivision of the state, the United States or political subdivisions or agencies thereof, or any other entity recognized by law as subject to rights and duties.***

VIII. ***"Phase I OWHH" means an OWHH that has been [certified or] qualified by the EPA as meeting a particulate matter emission limit of 0.6 pounds per million British Thermal Units input and is labeled accordingly.***

[VHH:] **IX.** "Phase II OWHH" means an OWHH that has been ~~[certified or]~~ qualified by the EPA as meeting a particulate matter emission limit of 0.32 pounds per million British Thermal Units output and is labeled accordingly.

2 Unit Requirements. Amend RSA 125-R:2 to read as follows:

125-R:2 Unit Requirements.

~~[I. Effective January 1, 2009,]~~ No person shall **buy**, sell, offer for sale, ~~[or]~~ distribute for **sale, or install** an OWHH that is not a ~~[Phase I or Phase II OWHH]~~ **Certified OWHH. All OWHHs that were in operation as of the effective date of this section may continue to operate in compliance with the requirements of RSA 125-R:3, so long as they are not re-installed at a new location.**

~~[H. Effective April 1, 2010, no person shall sell, offer for sale, or distribute for sale an OWHH that is not a Phase II OWHH. The commissioner shall delay or indefinitely postpone the effective date of this paragraph through rule adoption under RSA 541-A if the EPA does not establish or is delayed later than April 1, 2009 in establishing a certification or qualification process for Phase II OWHHs as determined by the commissioner.]~~

3 Setback and Stack Height Requirements. Amend RSA 125-R:3 to read as follows:

125-R:3 Setback and Stack Height Requirements.

I. No person shall install **or operate** a Phase I OWHH unless it is installed at least 100 feet from the nearest property line and has a permanent attached stack that is at least 2 feet higher than the peak of the roof of a residence or place of business not served by the OWHH if that residence or place of business is located within 300 feet of the OWHH.

II. No person shall install **or operate** a Phase II OWHH **or a Certified OWHH** unless it is at least 50 feet from the nearest property line.

III. No person shall install **or operate** an OWHH that is not a **Certified OWHH, a Phase I OWHH, or a Phase II OWHH** unless it is located at least 200 feet from the nearest abutting residence and has a permanent attached stack that is at least 2 feet higher than the peak of the roof of a residence or place of business not served by the OWHH if that residence or place of business is located within 300 feet of the OWHH.

IV. This section shall not apply to any OWHH installed prior to August 10, 2008, so long as it is not re-installed at a new location.

4 Exemption. Amend RSA 125-R:5 to read as follows:

125-R:5 Exemption.

I. An OWHH that is specifically designed to burn wood pellet fuel with metered fuel and air feed and controlled combustion engineering, which is operated according to manufacturers' specifications and burns only wood pellet fuel shall be exempt from this chapter.

II. An OWHH whose design gross heat input equals or exceeds 2 million BTU/HR shall be exempt from this chapter and shall be subject to permitting requirements under RSA 125-C:11.

5 Notice to Buyers. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 125-R:8, I to read as follows:

I. Prior to the execution of a sale for ~~[a new or used]~~ **an** OWHH, the distributor/seller shall provide the prospective buyer with a copy of this chapter and a written notice which includes:

6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

Amendment to HB 349-FN

(2017-0658h)

Proposed by the Committee on Children and Family Law - r

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 New Paragraphs; Child's Welfare and Findings Regarding Removal. Amend RSA 169-C:6-b by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraphs:

III. If the court orders that a child be removed from his or her home at the preliminary hearing under RSA 169-C:15, the adjudicatory hearing under RSA 169-C:18, the dispositional hearing under RSA 169-C:19, or the final hearing under RSA 169-C:21, the court order for removal shall include specific written findings regarding the need for the out-of-home placement. The order shall summarize the evidence the court relied upon in ordering the placement.

IV. If the order does not comply with the requirements of paragraph III, the judge shall make a written finding to justify the out-of-home placement. Providing a copy of the order, redacted to protect the identity of the parties and children, to the members of the house committee having jurisdiction over child and family issues shall not be considered a violation of RSA 169-C:25.

Amendment to HB 353-FN

(2017-0533h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - r

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

1 New Paragraph; Standard Refillable Beer Container. Amend RSA 175:1 by inserting after paragraph LXX the following new paragraph:

LXXI. "Standard refillable beer container" means a container meeting the specifications established by the commission.

2 New Section; Refillable Beer Container Licenses. Amend RSA 178 by inserting after section 31 the following new section:

178:32 Refillable Beer Container Licenses.

I. An on-premises licensee maintaining an inventory of at least 100 different beer labels or an off-premises licensee maintaining an inventory of at least 200 different beer labels and paying an additional fee of \$240 shall be issued a refillable beer container license authorizing the licensee to fill standard refillable containers in accordance with this section.

II. Off-premises licensees shall comply with the following:

(a) The licensee shall designate an area of the premises where at least 3 filling stations shall be permanently installed.

(b) The designated area shall be separated from customers by a counter or other barrier.

(c) Containers may only be filled by the licensee and the licensee's employees.

III. If the commission notifies the licensee that a manufacturer objects to sales of its products in refillable containers, the licensee shall not fill any container with beer manufactured by that manufacturer.

IV. The licensee may fill only standard refillable beer containers and only during hours established by the commission in rules adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A. The licensee shall comply with sanitation standards for tap lines and containers, if established by the commission in rules.

V. An open-evident seal or closed package shall be applied by the licensee to the standard refillable beer container after filling.

Amendment to HB 358-FN

(2017-0367h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

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

AN ACT relative to loitering restrictions on premises of liquor licensees.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Loitering; Unlawful Purpose. Amend RSA 179:50 to read as follows:

179:50 ~~Loitering;~~ Unlawful Purpose.

~~[I. No licensee shall allow any person to loiter on his or her premises who is disorderly or who loiters for any illegal purpose.]~~

H.] No licensee shall use, or allow to be used, ~~[such]~~ **his or her** premises for any purpose contrary to law.

2017-0367h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill eliminates the prohibition on a liquor licensee allowing loitering on his or her premises.

Amendment to HB 362

(2017-0638h)

Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs - c

Amend RSA 141-C:20-a, III as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

III. Nothing in this section shall require an immunization/vaccination requirement for diseases that are noncommunicable. "Noncommunicable disease" means a disease that is not infectious or transmissible from person-to-person.

2017-0638h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill declares that immunization/vaccine requirements shall not be required for diseases that are non-communicable.

Amendment to HB 364

(2017-0134h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Transportation - r

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Subparagraph; Youth Operators' Licenses; Suspension Following Accident. Amend RSA 263:14, III by inserting after subparagraph (e) the following new subparagraph:

(f) The director, after a hearing, may suspend or revoke a youth operator's license upon receipt of proper evidence or information that the holder was involved in an accident resulting in death or serious bodily injury while the operator was violating any prohibition or restriction in this section. A suspension under this subparagraph shall be in effect for up to 12 months while the appropriate law enforcement agency is investigating the accident.

**Amendment to HB 371-LOCAL
(2017-0418h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Public Works and Highways - c

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

1 Liens for Labor and Materials; Public Works; Bond Required. Amend RSA 447:16 to read as follows:

447:16 Bond Required. Officers, public boards, agents or other persons who contract in behalf of the state ~~[or any political subdivision thereof]~~ for the construction, repair or rebuilding of public buildings, public highways, bridges or other public works shall if said contract involves an expenditure of ~~[\$35,000]~~ **\$75,000**, and may if it involves an expenditure of less amount, obtain as a condition precedent to the execution of the contract~~;~~ sufficient security, by bond or otherwise, in an amount equal to at least 100 percent of the contract price, or of the estimated cost of the work if no aggregate price is agreed upon, conditioned upon the payment by the contractors and subcontractors for all labor performed or furnished, for all equipment hired, including trucks, for all material used and for fuels, lubricants, power, tools, hardware and supplies purchased by said principal and used in carrying out said contract, and for labor and parts furnished upon the order of said contractor for the repair of equipment used in carrying out said contract. ***A political subdivision may apply the bonding requirements of this section to public works contracts entered into on behalf of the political subdivision.***

2 Bonding Requirements; Notice. Amend RSA 447:17 to read as follows:

447:17 Notice. To obtain the benefit of the bond, any person, firm or corporation having any claim for labor performed, materials, machinery, tools, or equipment furnished as aforesaid shall, within 90 days after the completion and acceptance of the project by the contracting party, file in the office of the secretary of state, if the state is a contracting party, or with the department of transportation, if the state is a party to said contract by or through said department, or with the department of administrative services, if the state is a party to said contract by or through said department, or in the office of the clerk of the superior court for the county within which the contract shall be principally performed, if any political subdivision of the state ***has opted to apply the bonding requirements of RSA 447:16 and*** is a contracting party, a statement of the claim, a copy of which shall forthwith be sent by mail by the office where it is filed to the principal and surety.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0418h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill increases the amount of a public works contract for which a bond is required from \$35,000 to \$75,000. The bill also makes the bonding requirement discretionary for political subdivisions.

**Amendment to HB 373
(2017-0632h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

Amend the bill by replacing sections 2 and 3 with the following:

2 Administrative Procedures Act; Remedies for Procedural Failures; Court Proceedings. Amend RSA 541-A:23, IV to read as follows:

IV. An action to contest the validity of a rule for noncompliance with any of the provisions of this chapter other than those listed in paragraph I shall be commenced within one year after the effective date of the rule. Such actions shall be brought in the Merrimack county superior court. ***The plaintiff shall give notice of the action to the office of legislative services, division of administrative rules, at the time of filing. Upon receiving a judgment on the merits, the respondent agency or department shall also file a copy of that judgment with the office of legislative services, division of administrative rules.***

3 Administrative Procedures Act; Declaratory Judgment; Court Proceedings. Amend RSA 541-A:24 to read as follows:

541-A:24 Declaratory Judgment on Validity or Applicability of Rules. The validity or applicability of a rule may be determined in an action for declaratory judgment in the Merrimack county superior court if it is alleged that the rule, or its threatened application, interferes with or impairs, or threatens to interfere with or impair, the legal rights or privileges of the plaintiff. The agency shall be made a party to the action. ***The plaintiff shall give notice of the action to the office of legislative services, division of administrative rules, at the time of filing.*** A declaratory judgment may be rendered whether or not the plaintiff has requested the agency to pass upon the validity or applicability of the rule in question. ***Upon receiving a declaratory judgment, the respondent agency or department shall also file a copy of that judgment with the office of legislative services, division of administrative rules.***

Amend the bill by inserting after section 4 the following and renumbering the original section 5 to read as 6:

5 Existing Rules and Forms Effective. The existing rules and forms of the board of allied health professionals shall continue in effect and be valid for the respective governing boards until repealed or amended in accordance with applicable law.

2017-0632h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that application forms for allied health professionals be adopted as a rule by the board of directors of allied health professionals rather than by each governing board. The bill also requires plaintiffs in Merrimack county superior court contesting the validity of a rule to provide notice to the office of legislative services, division of administrative rules, and for the respondent agency to file a copy of a final judgment with such office.

Amendment to HB 376**(2017-0521h)****Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development - r**

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

AN ACT relative to the disturbance of sediments in estuarine waters.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Disturbance of Sediments in Estuarine Waters. Amend RSA 482-A:11 by inserting after paragraph X the following new paragraph:

XI. The commissioner shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, requiring that persons undertaking major projects seeking a permit to dredge in estuarine waters under this chapter shall analyze the characteristics of the sediments and report them to the department of environmental services at the time of the application for a permit. Persons undertaking natural resource restoration projects seeking a permit shall be exempt from such analysis.

2017-0521h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the commissioner of the department of environmental services to adopt rules relative to requiring persons undertaking major projects which will dredge estuarine waters to make certain reports.

Amendment to HB 397**(2017-0665h)****Proposed by the Committee on Children and Family Law - c**

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Delinquent Children; Court Sessions; Use of Handcuffs. Amend RSA 169-B:34 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

V. No minor who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant to RSA 169-B:6 shall be held in or escorted through any part of a court facility that is occupied by the members of the public while the minor is in handcuffs, shackles, or other devices which would indicate that the minor is in law enforcement custody or subject to an order of confinement, unless no alternative means of egress is available.

Amend the bill by deleting section 3 and renumbering the original sections 4-5 to read as 3-4, respectively.

2017-0665h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Prohibits the use of handcuffs and shackles on a minor who is the subject of a juvenile delinquency petition while the minor is in a court facility occupied by members of the public.

II. Prohibits a prosecutor, law enforcement officer, or other state or municipal employee from advising a juvenile or the juvenile's parent or guardian to waive the right to counsel.

III. Codifies the annulment procedure in 2015, 260:3, which provides for annulment of a criminal conviction if the criminal offense occurred between May 14, 2014 and July 1, 2015 and while the person was 17 years of age.

Amendment to HB 400**(2017-0445h)****Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs - c**

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

AN ACT requiring the department of health and human services to develop a 10-year plan for mental health services.

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

1 Purpose and Findings. The general court finds that:

I. In 2008, the New Hampshire department of health and human services collaborated with the New Hampshire community behavioral health association to develop a 10-year plan for mental health services.

II. A task force issued "A Strategy for Restoration," which included recommendations to address the services and supports needed to meet the needs of New Hampshire's residents in need of mental health services. This report focused on the adult population. Many of the recommendations in the 2008 report were implemented.

III. However, in the intervening time, the state has experienced a number of changes that require a renewed look at the current gaps and the emerging models of care to most effectively serve adults and their families and to expand the plan to include children. These changes include the community mental health agreement, the Medicaid 1115 transformation waiver, and the system of care law.

IV. Therefore, the general court finds a need to continue the progress made regarding the delivery of mental health services by directing the department of health and human services to develop a comprehensive 10-year plan for mental health services in collaboration with the general court and key stakeholders.

2 Department of Health and Human Services; Development of a 10-year Plan for Mental Health Services Required.

I. The department of health and human services, division for behavioral health and division of public health services, shall develop a comprehensive 10-year plan for the mental health system. The 10-year strategy shall be founded on the principles of resiliency and recovery, evidence-based practice, effectiveness and efficiency. In developing the plan, the department shall consult with provider organizations and associations, advocates and policymakers. The department shall also conduct a needs assessment which includes:

(a) An inventory of existing services, including inpatient and outpatient services, housing supports, peer and family supports; and

(b) A gap analysis to determine the need versus the current capacity of services. The analysis shall take into account wait-times for services.

II. The plan shall:

(a) Focus on a population health approach, particularly regarding the integration of the mental health system with other systems of care, including, but not limited to medical services, substance use services and social services.

(b) Provide specific recommendations and steps to eliminate or reduce to the greatest extent practicable the number of persons waiting in hospital emergency departments and the resources necessary to implement those actions.

(c) Address a continuum of care, encompassing services and supports needed across the lifespan including:

(1) Establishing performance metrics to determine effectiveness of services.

(2) Including emergent models of care.

(3) Providing recommendations to policymakers on strategies to meet the goals of the plan.

(d) Develop a timeline representing the appropriate phasing of priorities.

III. The commissioner of the department of health and human services shall submit the plan to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the governor on or before July 1, 2018. The department shall provide interim reports to the oversight committee on health and human services, established under RSA 126-A:13, on or before October 1, 2017 and on or before March 1, 2018. Thereafter, the department shall report quarterly to the health and human services oversight committee providing an update on the progress of the development and implementation of the plan.

3 New Section; Mobile Crisis Units. Amend RSA 135-C by inserting after section 19-a the following new section:

135-C:19-b Mobile Crisis Units. The department shall expand the use of mobile crisis units and designated receiving facilities to the extent practicable statewide.

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

2017-0445h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the department of health and human services to develop a comprehensive 10-year plan for the mental health system. Under this bill, the plan shall be submitted to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the governor on or before July 1, 2018.

Amendment to HB 409

(2017-0656h)

Proposed by the Committee on Finance - c

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

AN ACT relative to the university system of New Hampshire and community college system of New Hampshire operating budgets.

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

1 University System and Community College System Operating Budgets. RSA 9:4-e is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

9:4-e University System of New Hampshire and Community College System of New Hampshire Operating Budgets. For the university system of New Hampshire and community college system of New Hampshire,

the state operating budget shall include only general fund appropriations. The chancellor of the university system and the chancellor of the community college system shall provide detailed budgets of their respective system operations upon legislative or executive request.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0656h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that only general fund appropriations to the university system of New Hampshire and the community college system of New Hampshire shall appear in the state operating budget, and that detailed operating budgets for each system shall be provided upon legislative or executive request.

Amendment to HB 414-FN-A

(2017-0543h)

Proposed by the Committee on Finance - c

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

1 New Subparagraph; Children In Need of Services; Liability of Expenses. Amend RSA 169-D:29, I by inserting after subparagraph (e) the following new subparagraph:

(f) If at any point during the reimbursement period, the child or recipient of services dies, no future payments from the parent or person chargeable by law for the child's support and necessities shall be required, and the reimbursement obligation shall be dismissed for payments beyond the date of death of the child or recipient. Accrued unpaid reimbursements in arrears shall continue to be paid.

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

2017-0543h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that if a child or recipient of services under a CHINS petition dies during the reimbursement period, the state shall not require future payments from the parent or person chargeable by law for support of the minor. Accrued unpaid reimbursements shall not be waived.

Amendment to HB 417-FN

(2017-0667h)

Proposed by the Committee on Transportation - r

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

AN ACT relative to certain motor vehicle records.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Motor Vehicle Records. Amend RSA 260:14 by inserting after paragraph III-c the following new paragraph:

III-d. A municipal agent appointed pursuant to RSA 261:74-a may provide the name of a person who has registered a motor vehicle together with the permit number, vehicle identification number, and fee paid in such transaction to a nongovernmental contracted agent of a municipality for audit purposes only for the purposes of RSA 41:9, VI and RSA 41:31-c. Any information received by the nongovernmental contracted agent shall not be further transferred or otherwise made available to any other person. The municipal agent shall not provide the requested information without a written request from the nongovernmental contracted agent. The municipal agent shall keep the written request on file together with a copy of the information provided.

2017-0667h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes a municipal agent to provide certain information regarding a motor vehicle transaction for audit purposes only to a nongovernmental contracted agent hired by the municipality.

Amendment to HB 430

(2017-0524h)

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

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

Amendment to HB 431

(2017-0320h)

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development - c

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

1 New Section; Seacoast Commission on Drinking Water. Amend RSA 485-F by inserting after section 4 the following new section:

485-F:5 Seacoast Commission on Long Term Goals and Requirements for Drinking Water.

I. There is established a commission to plan for long term goals and requirements for drinking water on the seacoast.

II. The members of the commission shall be as follows:

- (a) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.
- (b) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.
- (c) A representative of Aquarion Water Company, appointed by that company, or its successor.
- (d) A representative of the drinking water source protection program in the department of environmental services, appointed by the commissioner.
- (e) A representative of the town of Rye, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (f) A representative of the town of New Castle, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (g) A representative of the town of North Hampton, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (h) A representative of the city of Portsmouth, appointed by the governing body of that city.
- (i) The Rockingham county planning commissioner, or designee.
- (j) A representative of the town of Seabrook, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (k) A representative of the town of Exeter, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (l) A representative of the town of Greenland appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (m) An representative of the town of Newington, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (n) A representative of the town of Stratham, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (o) A representative of the town of Hampton, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (p) A representative of the city of Dover, appointed by the governing body of that city.
- (q) A representative of the town of Madbury, appointed by the governing body of that town.
- (r) A hydrogeologist from the United States Geological Survey, appointed by that organization.
- (s) A hydrogeologist from the university of New Hampshire, appointed by the dean of the college of engineering and physical sciences.

III. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the commission.

IV. The commission shall:

- (a) Utilize and expand upon existing studies to plan for seasonal or drought supply issues.
- (b) Prepare for mutual aid between seacoast towns for firefighting.
- (c) Prepare for mutual aid agreements for emergency or replacement drinking water supply where contaminated.
- (d) Create a centralized planning group to encourage coordination and support between towns.
- (e) Evaluate threats to groundwater quality due to environmental issues.
- (f) Monitor possible new emerging contaminant threats to groundwater and drinking water quality.

V. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named house member. The first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Eleven members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

VI. The commission shall make an interim report of its findings on November 1, 2017, and a final report of its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.

2 Repeal. RSA 485-F:5, relative to the commission on long term goals and requirements for drinking water, is repealed.

3 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2018.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Amendment to HB 436

(2017-0441h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - r

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

1 New Paragraph; Money Transmitters; Registration; Exemptions. Amend RSA 399-G:3 by inserting after paragraph VI the following new paragraph:

VI-a. Persons who engage in the business of selling or issuing payment instruments or stored value solely in the form of convertible virtual currency; or receive convertible virtual currency for transmission to another location. Such persons shall be subject to the provisions of RSA 358-A.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0441h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill also persons using virtual currency from being licensed as money transmitters.

Amendment to HB 439

(2017-0319h)

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary - c

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

AN ACT relative to the admissibility of proffered evidence in sexual assault cases.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Sexual Assault and Related Offenses; Testimony and Evidence. Amend RSA 632-A:6 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

II-a. Proffered evidence excluded under this section, and related pleadings, shall remain under seal and exempt from public disclosure unless and until the New Hampshire supreme court overturns the trial court's evidentiary ruling, in which case only the evidence that the supreme court rules admissible would be subject to public disclosure.

2017-0319h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a procedure to determine the admissibility of proffered evidence in sexual assault cases.

Floor Amendment to HB 441

(2017-0679h)

Proposed by Rep. Cahill

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

1 New Paragraph; Access to Governmental Records and Meetings; Exemption. Amend RSA 91-A:5 by inserting after paragraph X the following new paragraph:

XI. Employment applications and other records directly related to an individual's application for employment with a public body or agency and the public employer's consideration of the application, unless the public body or agency has publicly disclosed the identity of the applicant with the applicant's consent. This exemption shall cease to apply to an individual after he or she has been hired and has begun employment with the public body or agency. This exemption shall not be construed to limit the exemption in paragraph IV.

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

Amendment to HB 442

(2017-0108h)

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services - r

Amend RSA 275-H:1, III as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

III. "Employer" means any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or governmental agency or instrumentality employing any person. "Employer" does not, however, include:

(a) Any bank holding company, financial holding company, bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, credit union, or trust company, or any subsidiary or affiliate thereof, that is chartered by any state or the United States.

(b) Any state or local government agency which requires use of the employee's or applicant's criminal history or criminal background.

Amendment to HB 450

(2017-0126h)

Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs - c

Amend RSA 125-Q:1, I(f) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(f) One representative of the administrative office of the courts, appointed by the director.

Amend RSA 126-Q:1, I(q) and (r) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing them with the following:

(q) The executive director of the Disability Rights Center, or designee.

(r) One representative of the New Hampshire Academy of Audiology, appointed by the president of the academy.

(s) A mental health care provider experienced in working with members of the deaf and hard of hearing community, appointed by the governor.

Amendment to HB 451

(2017-0402h)

Proposed by the Committee on Transportation - c

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

AN ACT relative to motorcycle endorsements and restrictions and relative to enhanced drivers' licenses and identification cards.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 3 with the following:

4 Enhanced Licenses and Cards; Implementation Date. Amend 2016, 71:17, II to read as follows:

II. The department shall commence issuance of enhanced nondrivers' picture identification cards and enhanced drivers' licenses by ~~[July 1, 2017]~~ **January 1, 2018**.

5 Effective Date.

I. Sections 1-3 of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

2017-0402h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill modifies provisions relating to motorcycle licensing and relating to moped operation. This bill also postpones the implementation date for enhanced drivers' licenses and identification cards to January 1, 2018.

This bill was requested by the department of safety.

Amendment to HB 457-FN

(2017-0439h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

Amend the bill by deleting sections 7 through 10 and renumbering the original sections 11 and 12 to read as 7 and 8, respectively.

2017-0439h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Adds certain requirements for mortgage services.

II. Expands the definition of small loans.

Amendment to HB 460

(2017-0155h)

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary - c

Amend RSA 91-A:2, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Subject to the provisions of RSA 91-A:3, all meetings, whether held in person, by means of telephone or electronic communication, or in any other manner, shall be open to the public. Except for town meetings, school district meetings, and elections, no vote while in open session may be taken by secret ballot. Any person shall be permitted to use recording devices, including, but not limited to, tape recorders, cameras, and videotape equipment, at such meetings. Minutes of all such meetings, including nonpublic sessions, shall include the names of members, persons appearing before the public bodies, and a brief description of the subject matter discussed and final decisions. ***Minutes of all such meetings, including nonpublic sessions, shall also include any objections made to any discussion in a meeting of such body if a member of a public body believes that the discussion in a meeting of such body is in violation of the provisions of this chapter. If such an objection is made in nonpublic session, the same information regarding such an objection shall also be specifically recorded in the public minutes. The objection shall include the name of the person objecting to the discussion and a description of the specific violation. If such member's objections to the discussion in the meeting are overruled by the majority of those present, such member may continue to participate in such meeting, provided he or she has complied with the duties imposed upon him or her by this chapter, he or she shall not be subject to the penalties under RSA 91-A:8, IV for such action.*** Subject to the provisions of RSA 91-A:3, minutes shall be promptly recorded and open to public inspection not more than 5 business days after the meeting, except as provided in RSA 91-A:6, and shall be treated as permanent records of any public body, or any subordinate body thereof, without exception. Except in an emergency or when there is a meeting of a legislative committee, a notice of the time and place of each such meeting, including a nonpublic session, shall be posted in 2 appropriate places one of which may be the public body's Internet website, if such exists, or shall be printed in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town at least 24 hours, excluding Sundays and legal holidays, prior to such meetings. An emergency shall mean a situation where immediate undelayed action is deemed to be imperative by the chairman or presiding officer of the public body, who shall post a notice of the time and place of such meeting as soon as practicable, and shall employ whatever further means are reasonably available to inform the public that a meeting is to be held. The minutes of the meeting shall clearly spell out the need for the emergency meeting. When a meeting of a legislative committee is held, publication made pursuant to the rules of the house of representatives or the senate, whichever rules are appropriate, shall be sufficient notice. If the charter of any city or town or guidelines or rules of order of any public body require a broader public access to official meetings and records than herein described, such charter provisions or guidelines or rules

of order shall take precedence over the requirements of this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph, a business day means the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday, excluding national and state holidays.

Amendment to HB 473

(2017-0310h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 Custody and Escheat of Unclaimed and Abandoned Property; Gift Certificates and Store Credits. Amend RSA 471-C:16 to read as follows:

471-C:16 Gift Certificates and Store Credits. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, gift certificates of [~~\$100~~] **\$250** or less, and store credits that were issued for store merchandise credit, regardless of when issued, shall not be property presumed abandoned and shall not be subject to RSA 471-C or any other past or present law. All gift certificates and store credits remitted to the state prior to January 1, [~~1998~~] **2018**, and gift certificates and store credits that are properly determined to be reportable in any compliance audits initiated prior to January 1, [~~1998~~] **2018** and subsequently remitted, shall remain in the custody of the state unless and until returned to the owner. This section shall not apply to season passes or coupons that are nonrefundable and nonredeemable.

Amendment to HB 474-FN

(2017-0268h)

Proposed by the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety - c

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

AN ACT regulating the use of a cell site simulator device.

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

1 New Section; Cell Site Simulator Devices. Amend RSA 570-A by inserting after section 2 the following new section:

570-A:2-a Cell Site Simulator Devices.

I. In this section:

(a) "Cell site simulator device" means a device that transmits or receives radio waves for the purpose of conducting one or more of the following operations:

- (1) Identifying, locating, or tracking the movements of a communications device.
- (2) Intercepting, obtaining, accessing, or forwarding the communications, sorted data, or metadata of a communications device.
- (3) Affecting the hardware or software operations or functions of a communications
- (4) Forcing transmissions from or connections to a communications device.
- (5) Denying a communications device access to other communications devices, communications protocols, or services.

(6) Spoofing or simulating a communications device, cell tower, cell site, or service including, but not limited to, an international mobile subscriber identity catcher or other invasive cell phone or telephone surveillance or eavesdropping device that mimics a cell phone tower and sends out signals to cause cell phones in the area to transmit their locations, identifying information, and communications content, or a passive interception device or digital analyzer that does not send signals to a communications device under surveillance.

(b) A "cell site simulator device" shall not include any device used or installed by:

(1) An electric utility solely to the extent such device is used by that utility to measure electrical usage or to operate the electric grid efficiently.

(2) A telecommunications company solely to the extent such device is used by that company to operate its communications network efficiently.

(c) "Communications device" means a device that is capable of creating, receiving, accessing, or storing electronic communications, including but not limited to cellular telephones.

(d) "Metadata" means structured information that describes, explains, locates, or otherwise makes it easier to retrieve, use, or manage an information resource.

II. No person shall use a cell site simulator device to locate or track the location of an individual's communications device without:

(a) The individual's informed consent; or

(b) A warrant issued by a judge authorizing the use of a cell site simulator device, that is based upon probable cause and that describes with particularity the person, place, or thing to be searched or seized; or

(c) A judicially-recognized exception to the warrant requirement, for information to be collected by a cell site simulator device.

III. A law enforcement agency authorized to use a cell site simulator device in accordance with paragraph II shall:

(a) Permanently delete any information, data, or metadata collected from any party not specified in the applicable court order as soon as reasonably possible and not later than the end of the day on which it was obtained immediately following such collection, and shall not transmit, use, or retain such information or metadata for any purpose.

(b) Delete any information, data, or metadata collected from the target specified in the court order within 30 days if there is no longer reason to believe that such information or metadata is evidence of a crime.

IV. Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor and, notwithstanding RSA 651:2, IV(a), may be fined up to \$10,000.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

2017-0268h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill limits the use of cell site simulator devices for the purposes of locating and tracking the movements of communications devices.

Floor Amendment to HB 478

(2017-0663h)

Proposed by Rep. True

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

AN ACT eliminating the state commission on human rights.

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

1 Discharge of Home Health Care Clients; Cross Reference Removed. Amend RSA 151:26-a, V(b) to read as follows:

(b) The home health care provider has valid reason to believe that its personnel will be subjected to continuing and severe verbal abuse or sexual harassment~~[-as defined in RSA 354-A:7, V,]~~ which will jeopardize the home health care provider's ability to secure sufficient personnel resources or to provide care that meets the needs of the client.

2 Public Accommodations; Discrimination; Cross Reference Removed. Amend RSA 155:39-b to read as follows:

155:39-b Public Accommodations Discrimination. All persons shall be entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations of any place of public accommodation. ~~[Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to supersede or contradict the provisions of RSA 354-A:8, IV, relative to discriminatory practices in places of public accommodation.]~~

3 Housing Finance Authority; Definitions; Cross Reference Removed. Amend RSA 204-C:1, VII to read as follows:

VII. "Elderly" shall mean a person who qualifies to live in housing for older persons~~[-as defined in RSA 354-A:15].~~

4 Repeal. The following are repealed:

I. RSA 354-A, relative to the state commission on human rights.

II. RSA 141-H:1, III, relative to the definition of employment agency for the purposes of genetic testing.

III. RSA 141-H:1, VII, relative to the definition of labor organization.

IV. RSA 353:3-bb, II, relative to refusal or denial of accommodations.

V. RSA 356-B:14, III, relative to the validity of condominium instruments.

VI. RSA 457:37, V, relative to the protections and exemptions provided to religious organizations regarding affirmation of freedom of religion in marriage.

5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0663h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill eliminates the state commission on human rights.

Floor Amendment to HB 478

(2017-0664h)

Proposed by Rep. True

Amend the bill by inserting after section 10 the following and renumbering the original section 11 to read as 12:

11 Place of Public Accommodation. Amend RSA 354-A:2, XIV to read as follows:

XIV. "Place of public accommodation" includes any inn, tavern, or hotel, whether conducted for entertainment, *for* the housing or lodging of transient guests, or for the benefit, use, or accommodations of those seeking health, recreation, or rest, any restaurant, eating house, public conveyance on land or water, bathhouse, barbershop, theater, golf course, sports arena, health care provider, and music or other public hall,

store, or other establishment which caters or offers its services or facilities or goods to the general public. "Public accommodation" shall not include any institution or club which is in its nature distinctly private *and shall not, for any purpose or matter involving gender identity and expression, involve bathrooms, lavatories, public dressing rooms, schools, playgrounds, parks, sports lockers, or dressing rooms.*

2017-0664h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits discrimination based on gender identity.

This bill also defines gender identity.

This bill further defines "places of public accommodation."

Floor Amendment to HB 478

(2017-0675h)

Proposed by Rep. Itse

Amend RSA 354-A:2, XIV-e as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

XIV-e. "Gender identity" means a person's gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology. Gender-related identity may be shown by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related identity, or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held as part of a person's core identity provided, however, that gender-related identity shall not be asserted for any improper purpose.

Floor Amendment to HB 478

(2017-0686h)

Proposed by Rep. Itse

Amend RSA 354-A:2, XIV-e as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

XIV-e. "Gender identity" means a person's gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or recognized sex at birth. Gender-related identity may be shown by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related identity, or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held as part of a person's core identity provided, however, that gender-related identity shall not be asserted for any improper purpose.

Amendment to HB 479-FN

(2017-0540h)

Proposed by the Committee on Transportation - c

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

AN ACT authorizing Rotary Foundation number plate decals.

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

1 New Section; Authorized Organization; Rotary District 7870 Foundation. Amend RSA 261-B by inserting after section 8 the following new section:

261-B:9 Authorized Organization. The Rotary District 7870 Foundation is authorized to issue decals under this chapter.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0540h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes the Rotary District 7870 Foundation to issue decals for use on multi-use decal plates.

Amendment to HB 484

(2017-0651h)

Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs - c

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

1 Statement of Intent.

I. The general court recognizes that the department of health and human services found on February 2, 2016 the existence of the first cancer cluster ever identified in the state of New Hampshire. Specifically, the department found higher than expected incidences of 2 forms of pediatric cancer, rhabdomyosarcoma and pleuropulmonary blastoma, in a 5-town area of the seacoast.

II. Therefore, the general court hereby establishes a commission to investigate and analyze the findings and related materials, develop prioritized governmental and community actions, and report recommendations for proposed legislation.

2 New Subdivision; Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation. Amend RSA 126-A by inserting after section 72 the following new subdivision:

Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation

126-A:73 Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation Established; Membership; Duties.

I. There is established the commission on the seacoast cancer cluster investigation.

II.(a) The members of the commission shall be as follows:

(1) Five members of the house of representatives, 3 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and 2 appointed by the minority leader.

(2) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

(3) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee.

(4) The commissioner of the department of environmental services, or designee.

(5) A representative from each of the towns and cities of Portsmouth, Greenland, New Castle, Hampton, and North Hampton, appointed by the governing body of such town or city.

(6) Three residents of the seacoast, appointed by the governor.

(7) The New Hampshire remedial project manager, United States Environmental Protection Agency, or designee.

(8) A hydrogeologist, appointed by the New Hampshire chapter of the United States Geological Survey.

(9) A toxicologist or environmental health professor from Boston University or the university of New Hampshire, appointed by the dean of the selected entity with jurisdiction over public health.

(b) Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the commission.

III.(a) In response to the department of health and human services' findings on February 2, 2016, the commission shall:

(1) Develop a common understanding of the key definitions and concepts of cancer clusters and environmental investigation.

(2) Review the progress made by state and federal agencies and their partners.

(3) Delineate the potential roles and responsibilities for municipalities, state agencies, and their partners.

(4) Provide informed communication about the cancer cluster investigation to their constituencies.

(5) Calibrate and utilize the Seacoast New Hampshire Groundwater Availability Study developed by the United States Geological Survey in 2003 to assess localized groundwater flow and contaminant migration from sites selected by the commission.

(b) The commission shall solicit information from any person or entity the commission deems relevant to its study.

IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named house member. The first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Eleven members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

V. The commission shall make 2 interim reports, one on or before November 1, 2017, and one on or before November 1, 2018, and issue a final report on its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, the oversight committee on health and human services, and the state library on or before June 30, 2020.

3 Repeal. RSA 126-A:73, relative to the commission on the seacoast cancer cluster investigation, is repealed.

4 Effective Date.

I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect June 30, 2020.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Amendment to HB 485

(2017-0322h)

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development - c

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

1 New Subdivision; Contaminants in Drinking Water. Amend RSA 485 by inserting after section 16-d the following new subdivision:

Emerging Contaminants

485:16-e Emerging Contaminants of Concern. The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of health and human services, shall annually identify pollutants of emerging concern to the public's health relative to drinking water and ambient groundwater and shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A relative to drinking water standards pursuant to RSA 485:3, and ambient groundwater quality standards pursuant to RSA 485-C:6 which are applicable to such contaminants. For purposes of this section, contami-

nants of emerging concern shall mean any synthetic or naturally occurring chemical or any microorganism that is not commonly monitored in the environment but has the potential to enter the environment and cause known or suspected adverse ecological or human health effects. In establishing standards relative to such contaminants, the commissioner shall follow methodology pursuant to RSA 485-C:6.

485:16-f Perfluorochemicals and 1,4 Dioxane. The commissioner shall, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of health and human services, no later than 60 days from the effective date of this act, adopt rules under RSA 541-A relative to drinking water standards pursuant to RSA 485:3, and ambient groundwater quality standards pursuant to RSA 485-C:6 applicable to Perfluorooctanesulfonate (PFOS), Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), and 1,4-dioxane. In establishing such standards, the commissioner shall follow methodology pursuant to RSA 485-C:6.

2 Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards. Amend RSA 485-C:6 to read as follows:

485-C:6 Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards.

I. The commissioner shall establish and adopt ambient groundwater quality standards for regulated contaminants which adversely affect human health or the environment. Ambient groundwater standards shall apply to all regulated contaminants which result from human operations or activities, but do not apply to naturally occurring contaminants. Where federal maximum contaminant level or health advisories have been promulgated under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act or rules relevant to such act, ambient groundwater quality standards shall be [equivalent to] ***no less stringent than*** such standards. ***The commissioner may adopt standards more stringent than federal maximum contaminant levels or health advisories if, accounting for an adequate margin of safety to protect human health at all life stages, including but not limited to pre-natal development, the commissioner determines federal standards are insufficient for protection of human health. Where such standards are based upon non-cancer risk, the ambient groundwater quality standards shall be based on an oral reference dose and a relative source contribution factor of 20 percent. When the oral reference dose is based on an effect that can occur from early life exposure in animals or in humans, the drinking water ingestion rate used shall be 0.175 liters per kilogram body weight per day.*** Where such standards are based upon cancer risks, the ambient groundwater quality standards shall be equivalent to that exposure which causes a lifetime exposure risk of one cancer in 1,000,000 exposed population. Where no federal maximum contaminant level or health advisory has been issued, the commissioner may adopt ambient groundwater quality standards on a basis which provides for an adequate margin of safety to protect human health and safety.

II. ***Health advisories that are adopted as ambient groundwater quality standards shall be reviewed by the department at least every 3 years to determine if new research warrants revising the current ambient groundwater quality standard. If the department finds a revision is necessary they shall begin rulemaking to adopt the revised standard within 60 days of such finding.***

III. Ambient groundwater quality standards shall be the water quality basis for issuance of groundwater discharge permits under RSA 485-A:13.

[HH:] IV. Except for discharges of domestic wastewater regulated under RSA 485-A:13 and RSA 485-A:29, no person shall violate ambient groundwater quality standards.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0322h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the department of environmental services to use exposure scenarios in children and other vulnerable populations to determine ambient groundwater quality standards.

Amendment to HB 499

(2017-0536h)

Proposed by the Committee on Children and Family Law - c

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

AN ACT relative to the age at which persons may marry.

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

1 Marriageable; Age of Consent. Amend RSA 457:4 and 457:5 to read as follows:

457:4 Marriageable. ~~[No male below the age of 14 years and no female below the age of 13 years shall be capable of contracting a valid marriage that is entered into by one male and one female, and all marriages contracted by such persons shall be null and void.]~~ No male below the age of 18 and no female below the age of 18 shall be capable of contracting a valid marriage ~~[between persons of the same gender]~~, and all marriages contracted by such persons shall be null and void.

457:5 Of Consent. The age of consent shall be in the male and in the female, 18 years. Any marriage contracted by a person below the age of consent~~[- except as hereinafter provided, may in the discretion of the superior court be annulled at the suit of the party who at the time of contracting such marriage was below the age of consent, or at the suit of his or her parent or guardian, unless such party after arriving at such~~

~~age shall have confirmed the marriage]~~ ***shall be null and void; provided that any marriage recognized as valid in the state prior to the effective date of this section and RSA 457:4 shall continue to be recognized as valid on or after the effective date of this section.***

2 Marriage; Prohibitions. Amend RSA 457:8 to read as follows:

457:8 Prohibitions. No town clerk shall issue any certificate for the marriage of any person below the age of consent, and no magistrate or minister of religion shall solemnize the marriage of any such person, if such clerk, magistrate or minister knows or has reasonable cause to believe that such person is below such age; ~~unless permission for such marriage has been given under this subdivision].~~ No magistrate or minister of religion shall solemnize any marriage by proxy.

3 Marriage Registration Form; Reference to Waiver for Age Removed. Amend RSA 5-C:41, III to read as follows:

III. The clerk of the town or city shall complete the following statistical and legal information on the marriage application worksheet for both the bride and groom with information supplied by the bride and groom: the number which represents of the currently intended marriage; if previously married, whether a civil annulment occurred or the marriage ended by death or divorce; the date of civil annulment or that the last marriage ended; their race and ancestry; their level of education; any ~~[waivers]~~ ***waiver for time*** presented by the groom or the bride, ~~[either for time or age pursuant to RSA 457:4 through RSA 457:9 or]~~ ***pursuant to*** RSA 457:26 ~~[and RSA 457:27];~~ whether proof of age of the bride and groom was demonstrated using identification with photograph; if applicable, the divorce decree; and, if applicable, the death record of the former spouse.

4 Documentation of Marriage; Procedure for Waiver of 3-Day Waiting Period. RSA 457:28 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

457:28 Procedure. Upon receipt of an application under RSA 457:27, the court shall at once hear the parties, and, if satisfied that special cause exists for shortening the period of 3 days provided in RSA 457:26, shall grant permission therefor, which shall be filed with the court and shall be reported to the division of vital records. The division shall note the fact of the granting of such permission upon the certificate and upon all copies thereof which are by law required to be kept.

5 Powers and Duties of Guardians of Minors; Reference Change. Amend RSA 463:12, III(e) to read as follows:

(e) Consent to the ~~[marriage or]~~ adoption of the minor as provided in RSA 170-B:5 ~~[and RSA 457:6].~~

6 Repeal. The following are repealed:

I. RSA 5-C:41, XIV, relative to the marriage registration form for a minor.

II. RSA 5-C:45, relative to marriage by minors.

III. RSA 457:6, relative to petition by party under age.

IV. RSA 457:7, relative to permission for minor to marry.

V. RSA 457:28-b, relative to destruction of records related to petition.

VI. RSA 547:3, II(c), relative to probate court jurisdiction over waivers for marriage of minors.

7 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

2017-0536h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires individuals to be at least 18 years of age to marry.

Amendment to HB 501

(2017-0396h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Meetings of Condominium Unit Owner's Associations; Minutes. Amend RSA 356-B:37, VI to read as follows:

VI. The secretary or other designee duly authorized by the board of directors shall take minutes of all meetings held in accordance with this section and RSA 356-B:37-c. The board of directors shall make copies of the minutes of all meetings available to the unit owners within 60 days of the meeting or 15 days of the date such minutes are approved by the board, whichever occurs first. The association may opt to provide the minutes electronically or publish them on the association website, in which case the owners shall be informed of the web address. ***An electronic or paper copy of all meeting minutes shall be available to the unit owners for at least 3 years after the date of the meeting. The board shall respond to a unit owner's written request for the minutes within 15 days of receipt of the request.***

Amendment to HB 502

(2017-0397h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Section; Condominium Act; Disclosure of Financial Information to Unit Owners. Amend RSA 356-B by inserting after section 37-d the following new section:

356-B:37-e Disclosure of Financial Information and Meeting Minutes to Unit Owners.

I. Financial information shall be presented on a profit and loss statement and shall be available to the unit owners 30 days prior to the annual meeting. The format of the profit and loss statement shall remain constant from year to year. It shall include specification of all revenues received in the budget year less future revenue liabilities, and specification of all expenses by general type. When the annual meeting is held before the end of the fiscal year, year-to-date spending shall be provided in each category, and a final year-end accounting shall be sent to each unit owner within 90 days of the close of the fiscal year.

II. Each unit owner shall have access to all financial information within 15 days of the unit owner's request regarding any contracts, mortgages, loans, and the terms of such loans, and any outstanding debts and balances of all accounts held by the association. The individual accounts of unit owners shall not be included unless a lien for nonpayment of assessments or fees has been recorded, in which case, the account shall be disclosed pursuant to a request for financial information under this section.

III. Each unit owner shall have access to the names of all direct employees of the association and the salaries paid to employees with association funds, including any third party arrangements for services. If an employee is related to a board member, or is a former officer of the association, the board shall disclose this fact to the unit owners at the next regular or annual meeting.

IV. A fee may be charged to unit owners for provision of information requested beyond the last 3 fiscal years.

V. The board of directors shall make copies of the minutes of all meetings available to the unit owners within 60 days of the meeting or 15 days of the date such minutes are approved by the board, whichever occurs first. The association may opt to provide the minutes electronically or publish them on the association website, in which case the owners shall be informed of the website address. A unit owner who submits a written request for access to the association's website shall be granted access within 15 days of the request, at no additional charge to the owner.

VI. The board of directors may approve the minutes through the use of electronic means such as email, video conferencing, fax machine, or PDF files transmitted over the Internet.

Amendment to HB 511

(2017-0554h)

Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs - c

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

AN ACT establishing a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

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

1 Statement of Intent. The general court recognizes that nearly half of adults in the United States have at least one chronic health condition and chronic diseases are responsible for increased health care costs. Seventy percent of health care costs in the United States are for chronic diseases. Some chronic diseases are known or thought to be associated with environmental causes. Therefore, the general court hereby establishes a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

2 New Subdivision; Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness. Amend RSA 126-A by inserting after section 72 the following new subdivision:

Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness

126-A:73 Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness.

I. There is established a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

II.(a) The members of the commission shall be as follows:

(1) Five members of the house of representatives, 3 of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and 2 of whom shall be appointed by the house minority leader.

(2) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

(3) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee.

(4) The director of the university of New Hampshire institute for health policy and practice, or designee.

(5) A representative from the New Hampshire Medical Society, appointed by the society.

(6) The chair of the board of trustees of the New Hampshire Hospital Association, or designee.

(7) An advanced registered nurse practitioner, appointed by the New Hampshire Nurses Association.

(b) Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the commission.

III.(a) The commission's study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Determining which entities may report confirmed cases of chronic conditions or other health-related impacts to the public health oversight program.

(2) Recommending ways to alert public health officials regarding higher than expected rates of chronic disease or other health-related impacts which may be related to exposures of unrecognized environmental contaminants.

(3) Recommending a method to inform citizens regarding programs designed to manage chronic disease or other environmental exposure health-related impacts.

(4) Recommending data sources and a method to include data compiled by a public or private entity to the greatest extent possible in the development of the public health oversight program.

(5) Defining by codes, the health status indicators to be monitored, including chronic conditions, medical conditions, and poor health outcomes.

(6) Studying current health databases, including years available, potential for small area analysis, and privacy concerns.

(7) Researching currently existing health data reports by agency, bureau, or organization.

(8) Creating a model of desired data outputs and reports for chronic conditions and other health-related impacts.

(9) Identifying the gaps between what currently exists and the model output.

(10) Recommending the organizational structure responsible for the oversight function and mandatory reporting requirements.

(11) Collaborating with the National Institutes of Health, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop protocols for the department of health and human services to educate and provide guidelines for physicians and other advanced health care practitioners to identify and evaluate appropriate diagnostic screening tests to assess health effects from exposure to emerging contaminants.

(12) Collaborating with the National Institutes of Health, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop protocols for programs to streamline education and outreach to health care providers about how to implement the guidelines specified in subparagraph (11). The protocols shall include education relative to methods to reduce further exposures and to eliminate the contaminants, if effective methods are available.

(b) The commission shall solicit information from any person or entity the commission deems relevant to its study.

IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named house member. The first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Seven members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

V. The commission shall submit an interim report of its findings on November 1, 2017, and a final report of its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.

3 Repeal. RSA 126-A:73, relative to the commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness, is repealed.

4 Effective Date.

I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2018.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

2017-0554h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

Amendment to HB 513

(2017-0550h)

Proposed by the Committee on State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs - c

Amend RSA 115-A:8, IV as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

IV. The committee shall have the authority to accept and expend funds from any public or private source, including private gifts, grants, and donations. The funds shall be used exclusively to pay the costs of the committee in performing its duties.

Floor Amendment to HB 520

(2017-0413h)

Proposed by Reps. Dyer and Stone

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

AN ACT relative to the right to work and eliminating the duty of a public employee labor organization to represent employees who elect not to join the employee organization.

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

2 New Paragraph; Obligation to Bargain. Amend RSA 273-A:3 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

V. The employee organization certified by the board as the exclusive representative of the bargaining unit shall not be required to represent employees who elect not to join the employee organization. A collective bargaining agreement reached under this chapter shall apply only to public employees in the bargaining unit who are members of the employee organization.

2017-0413h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits collective bargaining agreements that require employees to join a labor union.

This bill also provides that no public employee labor organization shall be required to represent employees who elect not to join the employee organization.

Amendment to HB 524

(2017-0354h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Judiciary - r

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

AN ACT relative to the definition of “emergency” for purposes of a quorum under the right-to-know law.

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

1 Right-to-Know Law; Quorum. Amend RSA 91-A:2, III(b) to read as follows:

(b) Except in an emergency, a quorum of the public body shall be physically present at the location specified in the meeting notice as the location of the meeting. For purposes of this subparagraph, an “emergency” means ~~[that immediate action is imperative]~~ **there is immediate peril to the public health or safety and that immediate action is imperative** and the physical presence of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the period of time requiring action. The determination that an emergency exists shall be made by the chairman or presiding officer of the public body, and the facts upon which that determination is based shall be included in the minutes of the meeting.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0354h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill clarifies the definition of “emergency” for purposes of a quorum under the right-to-know law.

Amendment to HB 527

(2017-0483h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

Amend RSA 400-A:15-e, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. An approved filing and any supporting information that is not otherwise exempt from disclosure by law or rule, shall be open to public inspection on or after the date the filing is approved or its effective date, whichever is later, provided however, that for health filings for markets in which there is a specific, mandatory open enrollment period established by law, forms and rates shall be available for public review no later than the first day of the mandated open enrollment period.

2017-0483h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill clarifies when forms and rates filed with the insurance department are open to public inspection.

Amendment to HB 535

(2017-0447h)

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Science, Technology and Energy - r

Amend RSA 362-A:1-a, II-b as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II-b. “Eligible customer-generator” or “customer-generator” means an electric utility customer who owns, operates, or purchases power from an electrical generating facility either powered by renewable energy or which employs a heat led combined heat and power system, with a total peak generating capacity of up to and including one megawatt, **or up to and including 5 megawatts for a municipal customer-generator or a public school district customer-generator**, that is located behind a retail meter on the customer’s premises, is interconnected and operates in parallel with the electric grid, and is used to offset the customer’s own electricity requirements. Incremental generation added to an existing generation facility, that does not itself qualify for net metering, shall qualify if such incremental generation meets the qualifications of this paragraph and is metered separately from the non qualifying facility.

2017-0447h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill raises the total peak generating capacity for group net metering when the generator is a city, town, or school district.

**Amendment to HB 538-FN
(2017-0648h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

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

AN ACT requiring occupational regulatory boards and commissions to post reciprocity information.

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

1 New Section; General Administration; Boards and Commissions; Reciprocity Information. Amend RSA 332-G by inserting after section 11 the following new section:

332-G:12 Reciprocity Information.

I. All boards or commissions, including the board of hearing care providers established in RSA 137-F:3, shall post information on their website relative to reciprocal licensure or certification for persons holding a current and valid license or certification for the practice of the regulated profession in another state. Such information shall include a list of the states which the board or commission has determined to have license or certification requirements equal to, or greater than, the requirements of this state. The posting shall also list states with which the board or commission has:

- (a) Entered into a reciprocity agreement;
- (b) Entered into a multistate compact;
- (c) Established criteria for licensure by endorsement.

II. In addition, the posted reciprocity information shall clearly identify and describe the terms, conditions, or criteria under which a licensee or certificate holder from a listed state may obtain a license or certification in this state. Such terms, conditions, and criteria, may include, but shall not be limited to, the successful completion of an examination addressing the laws of the state of New Hampshire and the payment of a fee.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

2017-0648h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires that occupational regulatory boards and commissions provide information on their website concerning reciprocity for persons holding a current and valid license or certification in another state.

**Amendment to HB 540-FN
(2017-0539h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

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

AN ACT repealing the voluntary greenhouse gas emissions reductions registry.

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

1 Repeal. RSA 125-L, relative to the voluntary greenhouse gas emissions reductions registry.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

2017-0539h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill repeals the voluntary greenhouse gas emissions reductions registry administered by the department of environmental services.

**Amendment to HB 545
(2017-0238h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary - c

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

AN ACT relative to immunity from prosecution for persons involved in a drug-related emergency.

Amend the bill by deleting section 1 and renumbering the original sections 2-3 to read as 1-2, respectively.

2017-0238h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill repeals a previously enacted repeal of the statute providing a defense for persons involved in a drug-related emergency.

**Amendment to HB 548-FN
(2017-0534h)**

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - r

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

AN ACT increasing the age at which a normal retirement age pension begins for newly-hired group I members of the retirement system.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Retirement System; Definitions; Normal Retirement Age. Amend RSA 100-A:1, XXXVII(a) to read as follows:

(a) For a group I member, age 60 if the member commenced service before July 1, 2011; ~~otherwise,~~ age 65 ***if the member commenced service on or after July 1, 2011 and before July 1, 2017; otherwise, at the member's normal "retirement age" as that term is defined in the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. section 416(l).***

Amendment to HB 549-FN

(2017-0443h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

Amend RSA 178:29, III(b)(4) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(4) \$15,000 for each manufacturer with sales of more than 50,000 barrels per year;

Amendment to HB 552-FN

(2017-0634h)

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

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

AN ACT relative to investigation of voter verification letters.

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

1 Letters of Identity Verification. Amend RSA 654:12, V(c) to read as follows:

(c) The secretary of state shall ~~cause~~ ***investigate*** any letters mailed pursuant to subparagraph (b) that are returned as undeliverable by the United States Post Office to ~~be referred~~ ***determine whether improper registration or voting may have occurred. If the investigation results in a finding of improper registration or improper voting, the secretary of state shall forward the results to the attorney general for further investigation or prosecution.*** The secretary of state shall also ~~prepare and forward to the attorney general a list of~~ ***investigate*** all persons who were mailed letters under subparagraph (b) and have not confirmed their registration, ***and shall prepare and forward to the attorney general for further investigation or prosecution a list of such persons whose registration the secretary of state's investigation did not confirm.*** Upon receipt of notice from a person who receives a letter of identity verification that the person did not register and vote, or upon receipt of a referral from the secretary of state, the attorney general shall cause an investigation to be made to determine whether fraudulent registration or voting occurred.

2 Letters of Driver's Obligation. Amend RSA 654:12, V(e)-(f) to read as follows:

(e) The secretary of state shall ~~cause~~ ***investigate*** any letters mailed pursuant to subparagraph (d) that are returned as undeliverable by the United States Post Office to ~~be referred~~ ***determine whether improper registration or voting may have occurred. If the investigation results in a finding of improper registration or improper voting, the secretary of state shall forward the results to the attorney general [and the attorney general shall cause an investigation to be made to determine whether fraudulent registration or voting occurred] for further investigation or prosecution.***

(f) Upon completion of any investigation authorized under ~~[this section]~~ ***RSA 654:12***, the attorney general ***and the secretary of state*** shall forward a report summarizing the results of the investigation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the chairpersons of the appropriate house and senate standing committees with jurisdiction over election law.

3 Letters of Identity Verification. Amend RSA 659:13, IV(b) to read as follows:

(b) The secretary of state shall prepare a list of ~~[voters from any letters mailed pursuant to subparagraph (a) that are returned as undeliverable by the United States Post Office and of]~~ voters who were mailed letters under subparagraph (a) and have not responded to the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall revise the list based on input solicited from the supervisors of the checklist. The secretary of state shall ~~forward~~ ***investigate the voters on*** the revised list of names ~~[to the attorney general who shall cause an investigation to be made]~~ to determine whether ~~[fraudulent]~~ ***improper*** voting ***may have occurred. If the investigation results in a finding of improper voting, the secretary of state shall forward the results to the attorney general for further investigation or prosecution. The secretary of state shall also investigate any letters mailed pursuant to subparagraph (a) that are returned as undeliverable by the United States Post Office to determine whether improper voting may have occurred. If the investigation results in a finding of improper voting, the secretary of state shall forward the results to the attorney general for further investigation or prosecution.***

4 New Subparagraph; Letters of Identity Verification. Amend RSA 659:13, IV by inserting after subparagraph (c) the following new subparagraph:

(d) Upon completion of any investigation authorized under RSA 659:13, the attorney general and the secretary of state shall forward a report summarizing the results of the investigation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the chairpersons of the appropriate house and senate standing committees with jurisdiction over election law.

5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0634h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the secretary of state to investigate a letter of identity verification or driver's obligation if the letter is returned as undeliverable or if the recipient fails to respond.

Amendment to HB 556
(2017-0383h)

Proposed by the Committee on Education - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Subdivision; Child Abuse or Neglect Information. Amend RSA 189 by inserting after section 71 the following new subdivision:

Child Abuse or Neglect Information

189:72 Child Abuse or Neglect Information. The school board of each public school and chartered public school shall post in a clearly visible location in a public area of the school that is readily accessible to students a sign that contains the telephone number operated by the New Hampshire division of children, youth, and families of the department of health and human services, to receive reports of child abuse or neglect and instructions on how to access the division of children, youth, and families website.

Amendment to HB 557-FN
(2017-0548h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Education - r

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

1 Department of Education; Duties of the Commissioner. Amend RSA 21-N:4, XI to read as follows:

XI. Provide to the secretary of state in August of each year a list or lists of all colleges, universities, and career schools approved or licensed to operate in New Hampshire, all public high schools, and all ~~nonpublic high~~ schools in New Hampshire accredited by ~~a private school~~ **an independent** accrediting agency recognized by the department of education **as defined in RSA 193-E:3-b, I(c)(2)**.

2 New Paragraph; School Boards; Duty to Provide Education. Amend RSA 189:1-a by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

IV. Pursuant to RSA 193:3, VI, a school board may execute a contract with any approved nonsectarian private school approved for attendance as defined in RSA 193:3, V or a nonsectarian private school accredited by an independent accrediting agency recognized by the department of education as defined in RSA 193-E:3-b, I(c)(2), to provide for the education of a child who resides in the school district, and may raise and appropriate money for the purposes of the contract, if the school district does not have a public school at the pupil's grade level and the school board decides it is in the best interest of the pupil.

3 New Paragraphs; Change of School or Assignment. Amend RSA 193:3 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraphs:

VI. If there is no public school for the child's grade in the resident district, the school board may assign the child to another public school in another school district or to any nonsectarian private school which has been approved for attendance by the department of education or is a nonsectarian private school accredited by an independent accrediting agency recognized by the department of education as defined in RSA 193-E:3-b, I(c)(2). The school board may execute a contract with an approved nonsectarian private school to provide for the education of a child who resides in the school district, and may raise and appropriate money for the purposes of the contract, if the school district does not have a public school at the pupil's grade level and the school board decides it is in the best interest of the pupil.

VII. In this subparagraph, "approved for attendance" shall mean a school which shall provide students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare them for successful participation in the social, economic, scientific, technological, and political systems of a free government, now and in the years to come, and provides an education that assures quality of academic standards and criteria and measures improvement. The school shall not be exempt from statutes and regulations relating to agency approvals such as physical health, fire safety, and sanitation.

4 Compulsory School Attendance. Amend RSA 193:1, I(d) to read as follows:

(d) The child is attending a public or private school located in another state which has been approved by the state education agency of the state in which the school is located or **is attending a nonsectarian**

private school located in New Hampshire that is approved for attendance by the department of education or is a nonsectarian private school accredited by an independent accrediting agency recognized by the department of education as defined in RSA 193-E:3-b, I(c)(2);

5 Accountability for the Opportunity for an Adequate Education. Amend RSA 193-E:3-b, I(c) to read as follows:

(c)(1) A ***public school or a nonsectarian private school located in New Hampshire*** that furnishes the commissioner with evidence that it has received full accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) ***or other independent accrediting agency recognized by the department,*** shall be deemed to be in compliance with the provisions of subparagraphs (a) and (b) ***and shall qualify as an approved school for providing the opportunity for an adequate education.*** The school shall submit to the commissioner copies of documentation necessary during the school's accreditation process including, but not limited to, the accreditation self-study report, peer review reports, reports of any follow-up activities taken by the school in response to [NEASC's] ***a recognized independent accrediting agency's*** recommendations for accreditation, and the annual school update report as required by [NEASC] ***a recognized independent accrediting agency*** each fall. In the fifth year of the 10-year accreditation, the school shall submit a progress report to the commissioner. A school accredited by [NEASC] ***a recognized independent accrediting agency*** shall meet or exceed [NEASC's] ***such agency's*** standards and shall use those standards to ***assure quality academic standards and criteria and to*** measure improvement.

(2) ***In this subparagraph, "recognized independent accrediting agency" means an accrediting organization such as the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, National Association of Independent Schools, Independent Schools Association of Northern New England, the National Council of Private School Accreditation, or other accrediting agency that engages member schools in a comprehensive peer review accreditation process that provides assurance of quality academic standards and criteria, and measures improvement.***

6 School Districts; Tuition. Amend RSA 194:27 to read as follows:

194:27 Tuition. Any district not maintaining a high school or school of corresponding grade shall pay for the tuition of any pupil who with parents or guardian resides in said district or who, as a resident of said district, ~~[after full investigation by the state board of education]~~ ***and pursuant to RSA 193:3, VI,*** is determined to be entitled to have his or her tuition paid by the district where the pupil resides, and who attends an approved public high school or public school of corresponding grade in another district ~~[or]~~, an approved public academy, ***a nonsectarian private school approved for attendance by the department of education, or a nonsectarian private school accredited by an independent accrediting agency recognized by the department of education as defined in RSA 193-E:3-b, I(c)(2).*** Except under contract as provided in RSA 194:22, the liability of any school district hereunder for the tuition of any pupil shall be the current expenses of operation of the receiving district for its high school, as estimated by the state board of education for the preceding school year. This current expense of operation shall include all costs except costs of transportation of pupils.

7 District Taxes; Estimates. Amend RSA 198:4 to read as follows:

198:4 Estimates. The school board of each district in its annual report shall state in detail the additional sums of money, if any, which will be required during the ensuing fiscal year for the support of the public schools, for the purchase of textbooks, scholars' supplies, flags and appurtenances, for the payment of the tuition of the pupils in the district in high schools ~~[and]~~, academies, ***and nonsectarian private schools approved for attendance by the department of education or accredited by an independent accrediting agency recognized by the department of education as defined in RSA 193-E:3-b, I(c)(2),*** in accordance with law, and for the payment of all other statutory obligations of the district.

8 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0548h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows a school board to assign a child to an approved nonsectarian private school if there is no public school for the child's grade in the child's resident district. The bill also allows a school board to execute a contract with an approved nonsectarian private school to provide for the education of a child who resides in a district which does not have a public school at the child's grade level.

Amendment to HB 560-FN-A-LOCAL

(2017-0481h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Ways and Means - r

Amend RSA 284:45, VI as inserted by section 1 of the bill by inserting after subparagraph (c) the following new subparagraph:

(d) Document that no minor under the age of 18 shall be allowed to purchase or redeem a keno ticket. Amend RSA 284:46 as inserted by section 1 of the bill by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

IV. The lottery commission shall only issue a license for an eligible location where keno tickets shall be sold and the game played within the area apportioned to distribute beverages pursuant to RSA 284:45. The lottery commission shall control the installation of the keno ticket terminals and ensure that the sale of the tickets is limited to the area apportioned to distribute beverages pursuant to RSA 284:45.

Amend RSA 284:47 as inserted by section 1 of the bill by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

IV. No one under the age of 18 years shall be allowed to purchase or redeem a keno ticket.

Amend the bill by replacing section 4 with the following:

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

Amendment to HB 561-FN

(2017-0611h)

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

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

AN ACT relative to contributions by retirement system employers for certain full-time positions changed to part-time or interim employment and relative to enforcement of provisions concerning retired members working part-time after retirement.

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

1 Part-time Employment; Notice. Amend RSA 100-A:7-a to read as follows:

100-A:7-a Certain Part-Time Employment; Notice Required. The retirement system shall annually provide written notice to all retired members of the retirement system of the hourly limitations on part-time employment as defined in RSA 100-A:1, XXXIV and the potential effect that exceeding such hourly limitations could have on the retired member's retirement benefits, including restoration to service as required in RSA 100-A:7 **and the procedures for imposing a penalty for exceeding hourly limitations under RSA 100-A:7-c.**

2 New Sections; Suspension of Benefits; Exceeding Part-Time Hours. Amend RSA 100-A by inserting after section 7-b the following new sections:

100-A:7-c Suspension of Benefits; Exceeding Part-Time Hours.

I. A retired member of the retirement system whose employment with an employer exceeds the hourly limitations in the definition of part-time under RSA 100-A:1, XXXIV and who is not restored to service pursuant to RSA 100-A:7 may have his or her retirement allowance suspended by the executive director for one month for every month, in full or in part, in which the member's part-time employment exceeded the limitations under RSA 100-A:1, XXXIV.

II. The employer of the retired member shall report to the retirement system instances of such retired member exceeding the hourly limitations in the definition of part-time under RSA 100-A:1, XXXIV. The executive director may establish a form or procedure for the reporting by retirement system employers.

III. The executive director may examine the circumstances of the part-time employment which exceeded hourly limitations and may, for good cause, waive or reduce the suspension authorized under paragraph I or otherwise settle the matter in a manner the executive director deems appropriate as a fair and equitable resolution. The executive director shall if requested allow the retired member to explain, in writing or in person, the circumstances relating to the retired member exceeding hourly limitations prior to the imposition of a suspension, if any.

100-A:7-d Exceeding Part-time Limitations; Employer Penalty. A retirement system employer of a retired member employed in a part-time position who knew that the employee inaccurately recorded or failed to record his or her time, including volunteer time, for that employer shall be liable for payment of a penalty equal to 3 times the amount of the employee's penalty under RSA 100-A:7-c, as determined and assessed by the executive director. Any sums collected shall be deposited in the state annuity accumulation fund.

3 New Paragraph; Retirement System; Employer Contributions; Part-time and Interim Employment. Amend RSA 100-A:16 by inserting after paragraph II-a the following new paragraph:

II-b.(a) In addition to employer contributions required under paragraph II, an employer who, on or after July 1, 2017, either (1) converts or replaces a full-time, retirement eligible position with one or more part-time or interim positions with substantially similar duties and responsibilities within 12 months of the full-time position becoming vacant, or (2) fills a full-time, retirement eligible position with a part-time or interim employee within 12 months of the full-time position becoming vacant, shall make contributions at the percentage rates certified by the board of trustees for the compensation paid to such part-time or interim employee; provided that the percentage rates which shall be applied shall only be for the employer's share of the unfunded accrued liability determined under subparagraph II(e) and the medical benefits contributions under RSA 100-A:50 through 100-A:55 for the member classification of such part-time or interim employee.

(b) Employers shall provide, in a format prescribed by the board, notice to the retirement system within 30 days of when either a conversion, replacement, or filling of a full-time retirement eligible position as described in subparagraph (a) is made.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

2017-0611h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows the executive director of the retirement system to suspend a member's retirement allowance and assess a penalty on a retirement system employer for exceeding the limitations for part-time employment.

This bill also requires retirement system employers to make contributions based on the unfunded accrued liability and medical benefits employer share for certain full-time positions changed to part-time or interim employment.

**Amendment to HB 574-FN
(2017-0545h)**

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Ways and Means - r

Amend RSA 162-L:10, IV(b) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(b) Contributions received by the authority for which credit is to be taken shall not exceed [~~\$5,000,000~~] **\$6,000,000** in any state fiscal year. Contributions received by the authority in excess of [~~\$5,000,000~~] **\$6,000,000** in any state fiscal year shall not be eligible for credit in such fiscal year but may be carried forward to the next succeeding fiscal year or years and shall be given priority in determining the total contributions eligible for credit in such fiscal year.

**Amendment to HB 575-FN
(2017-0680h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

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

1 New Paragraphs; Acupuncture; Definitions Added. Amend RSA 328-G:2 by inserting after paragraph VIII the following new paragraphs:

IX. "Acupuncture detoxification," also known as acu-detox, means the treatment by means of the insertion of acupuncture needles in a combination of points on the ear.

X. "Acupuncture detoxification specialist," known as an ADS, means an individual certified by the board to practice acupuncture detoxification in this state.

XI. "NADA" means the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association.

XII. "NADA training" means the standardized auricular acupuncture protocol developed by NADA that is in effect on July 1, 2017.

2 New Paragraph; Acupuncture Detoxification; Rulemaking. Amend RSA 328-G:7 by inserting after paragraph XIII the following new paragraph:

XIV.(a) Procedures and forms for application for certification as an acupuncture detoxification specialist.

(b) Renewal, revocation, or suspension of certification of an acupuncture detoxification specialist.

(c) Any fees required under subparagraphs (a) and (b).

(d) Maintaining a register of persons certified as acupuncture detoxification specialists.

3 New Section; Certified Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist. Amend RSA 328-G by inserting after section 9 the following new section:

328-G:9-a Certified Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist.

I. The board shall certify as an acupuncture detoxification specialist a qualified individual, not licensed by the board as an acupuncturist, who has successfully completed NADA training or other training in acupuncture detoxification protocols as determined by the board and complied with the rules of the board adopted pursuant to RSA 328-G:7, XIV.

II.(a) A "qualified individual" shall mean a licensed health care professional, recovery coach, peer counselor, or other board approved professional, trained in acu-detox, a standardized auricular acupuncture protocol developed by the NADA, or a training that meets or exceeds the NADA training, as determined by the board, provided she or he is under the general supervision of a licensed acupuncturist, trained in the NADA protocol or equivalent for the purposes of behavioral health applications, including addictions, mental health, and disaster and emotional trauma.

(b) "General supervision" includes, but is not limited to, being available by phone or other electronic means during business hours, with at least 2 site visits by a licensed acupuncturist a year.

III. Nothing in this chapter is intended to limit, interfere with, or prevent an acupuncture detoxification specialist certified by the board from practicing within the scope of their certification.

4 Penalties. Amend RSA 328-G:14 to read as follows:

328-G:14 Penalties. It shall be a class A misdemeanor for any natural person, and a felony if any other person, to violate RSA 328-G:9, ***or to act as an acupuncture detoxification specialist without current certification by the board under RSA 328-G:9-a.***

5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

**Amendment to HB 578-FN
(2017-0440h)**

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Judiciary - r

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

AN ACT relative to abortions after viability.

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

1 Statement of Finding. The general court finds that it is the purpose of the state of New Hampshire to assert a compelling state interest in protecting the lives of viable unborn fetuses.

2 New Chapter; Viable Fetus Protection Act. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 132-A the following new chapter:

**CHAPTER 132-B
VIALE FETUS PROTECTION ACT**

132-B:1 Title. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the “viable fetus protection act.”

132-B:2 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. “Abortion” means the use or prescription of any instrument, medicine, drug, or any other substance or device intentionally to terminate the pregnancy of a female known to be pregnant with an intention other than to increase the probability of a live birth, to preserve the life or health of the child after live birth, or to remove an ectopic pregnancy or the products from a spontaneous miscarriage.

II. “Viability” means the point in pregnancy when, in the good faith medical judgment of a physician, there is reasonable likelihood of the fetus’ sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures.

132-B:3 Abortion After Viability Prohibited; Exception.

I. The determination of viability shall be solely that of the treating physician after consultation with and examination of the pregnant woman.

II. No abortion shall be performed upon a pregnant woman after viability of the fetus except when necessary to preserve the life or health of the pregnant woman, in cases of Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome cases, or to remove a fetus with severe anomalies incompatible with life.

III. The physician, when performing an abortion to preserve the life or health of the pregnant woman, shall make every effort to preserve the life of the viable fetus.

IV. All post viability abortions shall be performed by a physician licensed pursuant to RSA 329.

132-B:4 Applicability. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to change accepted medical practice pursuant to RSA 326-B:11 relating to abortions prior to fetal viability or termination of pregnancy pursuant to RSA 132:32 - RSA 132:36.

132-B:5 Disciplinary Action. Any physician who performs an abortion in violation of this chapter shall be subject to disciplinary action under RSA 329.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

2017-0440h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the viable fetus protection act which prohibits abortions after viability.

**Floor Amendment to HB 578-FN
(2017-0643h)**

Proposed by Rep. Wuelper

Amend RSA 132-B:2 as inserted by section 2 of the bill by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. “Health” means a medical condition which, based on reasonable medical judgment, so complicates the medical condition of a pregnant woman as to necessitate the immediate abortion of her pregnancy to avert a serious risk of substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman.

**Floor Amendment to HB 578-FN
(2017-0661h)**

Proposed by Rep. Kenison

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

1 New Chapter; Abortion; Rights and Limitations Established. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 132-A the following new chapter:

**CHAPTER 132-B
ABORTION; RIGHTS AND LIMITATIONS ESTABLISHED**

132-B:1 Policy; Applicability.

I. On January 22, 1973, the United States Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), established that the United States Constitution's guarantee of liberty protects a woman's decision to have an abortion, limits government involvement with private medical decisions prior to fetal viability, and enables states to restrict post-viability abortions with exceptions to protect the health and life of the pregnant woman.

II. It is the intent of this act to enact a policy for the state of New Hampshire that mirrors the rights and limitations established in the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

III. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to change accepted medical practice pursuant to RSA 326-B:11 relating to abortions prior to fetal viability.

132-B:2 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. "Abortion" means the use or prescription of any instrument, medicine, drug, or any other substance or device intentionally to terminate the pregnancy of a female known to be pregnant with an intention other than to increase the probability of a live birth, to preserve the life or health of the child after live birth, or to remove an ectopic pregnancy or the products from a spontaneous miscarriage.

II. "Viability" means the point in a pregnancy when, in the good faith medical judgment of a physician, there is a reasonable likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures.

132-B:3 Abortion Prior to Viability Protected. It shall be the public policy of New Hampshire that the state shall not restrict a woman's exercise of her private decision to terminate a pregnancy before viability except as provided in RSA 132:32 – RSA 132:36.

132-B:4 Abortion After Viability Prohibited; Exceptions.

I. No abortion shall be performed upon a pregnant woman after viability of the fetus except when necessary to preserve the life or health of the pregnant woman.

II. The determination of viability shall be solely that of the treating physician after consultation with and examination of the pregnant woman.

132-B:5 Disciplinary Actions. A physician who violates this chapter shall be subject to disciplinary action under RSA 329.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

2017-0661h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits the abortion of a viable fetus except when necessary to preserve the life or health of the pregnant woman.

Amendment to HB 580-FN-A

(2017-0657h)

Proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means - c

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

AN ACT regulating online fantasy sports contests.

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

1 New Chapter; Fantasy Sports Contests. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 287-G the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 287-H

FANTASY SPORTS CONTESTS

287-H:1 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. "Beginner" means a fantasy sports contest player who has entered fewer than 51 contests offered by a single fantasy sports contest operator and who does not otherwise meet the definition of highly-experienced player.

II. "Commission" means the New Hampshire lottery commission.

III. "Confidential information" means information related to the play of a fantasy sports contest by fantasy sports contest players obtained as a result of or by virtue of a person's employment.

IV. "Entry fee" means cash or cash equivalent that is required to be paid by a fantasy sports contest player to a fantasy sports contest operator to participate in a fantasy sports contest.

V. "Fantasy sports contest" means a fantasy or simulated game or contest in which one or more players compete against each other and winning outcomes reflect the relative knowledge and skill of the players and are determined predominantly by accumulated statistical results of the performance of individuals, including athletes in the case of sporting events.

VI. "Fantasy sports contest operator" means a person that offers fantasy sports contests with an entry fee for a cash prize to the general public.

VII. "Fantasy sports contest player" means a person who participates in a fantasy sports contest offered by a fantasy sports contest operator.

VIII. "Gross fantasy sports contest revenues" means the amount equal to the total of all entry fees that a fantasy sports contest operator collects from all fantasy sports contest players, less the total of all sums paid out as prizes to all fantasy sports contest players, multiplied by the resident percentage for New Hampshire.

IX.(a) "Highly experienced player" means a person who has either:

- (1) Entered more than 1,000 fantasy contests offered by a single fantasy sports contest operator; or
- (2) Won more than 3 fantasy sports contest prizes valued at \$1,000 or more from a single fantasy sports contest operator.

(b) Upon making a determination that a player is a highly experienced player, the fantasy sports contest operator shall continue to classify the player as a highly experienced player indefinitely.

X. "Residence percentage" means, for each fantasy sports contest, the percentage, rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent, of the total of entry fees collected from fantasy sports contest players located in New Hampshire, divided by the total entry fees collected from all fantasy sports contest players in fantasy sports contests.

XI. "Script" means a list of commands that a computer program can execute to automate processes with respect to a fantasy sports contest.

287-H:2 Registration with the Commission.

I. No fantasy sports contest operator shall offer any fantasy sports contests with an entry fee in this state without first being registered with the commission. However, a fantasy sports contest operator that offered fantasy sports contests in this state prior to the effective date of this chapter may continue to offer fantasy sports contests with an entry fee in this state, provided such operator files an application for registration with the commission within 60 days of the application's availability, and may continue to offer fantasy sports contests until such application for registration has been approved or denied.

II. Before obtaining a registration to offer fantasy sports contests in this state, a fantasy sports contest operator shall:

(a) Be authorized to transact business in this state; and

(b) Pay to the commission the annual fee of \$5,000 or 10 percent of the applicant's gross fantasy sports contest revenue from the previous calendar year, whichever is lower.

III. On the anniversary date of the payment made under this section, a fantasy sports contest operator shall pay to the commission an annual registration renewal fee in an amount determined in accordance with subparagraph II(b).

IV. In addition to the registration fee, a fantasy sports contest operator shall annually pay to the commission a tax of 5 percent of the fantasy sports contest operator's gross fantasy sports contest revenues for the preceding 12 months of registration.

V. An application for registration pursuant to this section shall include the following information:

(a) The name of the applicant;

(b) The location of the applicant's principal place of business;

(c) The place where and the date when the applicant was legally established and the form of its organization;

(d) The names and addresses of all principal salaried executive officers;

(e) The name and address of any shareholder holding 5 percent or more of the equity interests of the applicant;

(f) The applicant's criminal record, if any, or, if the applicant is a business entity, the criminal records, if any, of all principal salaried executive officers; and

(g) Information sufficient to show that the applicant is in good standing with the department of revenue administration.

VI. The commission shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A implementing the provisions of this chapter, which shall include the adoption of an application form for registration. The commission shall not adopt rules limiting the digital platforms offered by registered fantasy sports contest operators, or the type or structure of fantasy sports contests offered by registered fantasy sports contest operators, to the extent that such fantasy sports contests are otherwise offered in a manner consistent with this chapter.

287-H:3 Consumer Protection.

I. As a condition of registration, a fantasy sports contest operator shall submit evidence satisfactory to the commission that the operator has established and shall implement commercially reasonable procedures for fantasy sports contests with an entry fee that:

(a) Prevent employees of the fantasy sports contest operator, and relatives living in the same household as such employees, from competing in any fantasy sports contest offered by any fantasy sports contest operator in which the operator offers a prize to the general public;

(b) Prevent sharing of confidential information that could affect such fantasy sports contest play with third parties until the information is made publicly available;

(c) Prevent the fantasy sports contest operator from participating in such fantasy sports contest he or she offers;

(d) Provide that no winning outcome is based on the score, point spread, or any performance of any single actual sports team or combination of such teams or solely on any single performance of an individual athlete or participant in any single actual sporting event;

(e) Prohibit the following persons from participating in any fantasy sports contest:

(1) Athletes and individuals who participate or officiate in a game or competition that is the subject of the fantasy sports contest;

(2) Any sports agent, team employee, referee, or league official associated with a sport or athletic event that is the subject of the fantasy sports contest.

(f) Verify that a fantasy sports contest player in such a fantasy sports contest is 18 years of age or older;

(g) Provide fantasy sports contest players with access to information on responsible play;

(h) Provide fantasy sports contest players with access to information on seeking assistance for compulsive behavior;

(i) Provide fantasy sports contest players with access to the fantasy sports contest player's play history and account details;

(j) Allow individuals to restrict themselves from entering such a fantasy sports contest upon request and provide reasonable steps to prevent the person from entering such fantasy sports contests offered by the fantasy sports contest operator;

(k) Disclose the number of entries that a fantasy sports contest player may submit to each such fantasy sports contest and provide reasonable steps to prevent players from submitting more than the allowable number; and

(l) Take reasonable steps to not advertise or run promotional activities at elementary or secondary schools or on college campuses.

II. The information required to be submitted pursuant to paragraph I shall be exempt from disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A:5, IV.

III. A fantasy sports contest operator shall not offer fantasy sports contests based on the performances of participants in collegiate, high school, or youth athletic events.

IV. A fantasy sports contest operator offering fantasy sports contests with an entry fee in this state shall:

(a) Contract with a third party to annually perform an independent audit to confirm compliance with the provisions of RSA 287-H:3, VIII, consistent with the standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and submit the results of such audit to the commission; and

(b) Contract with a third party annually to perform an independent audit to confirm compliance with RSA 287-H:3, I, and submit the results of such audit to the commission.

V. A fantasy sports contest operator shall not offer a fantasy sports contest to the general public that does not establish and make known all prizes and awards offered to winning participants in advance of the game or contest.

VI. A fantasy sports contest operator offering fantasy sports contests with an entry fee in this state shall not target minors or individuals who have requested a restriction pursuant to paragraph I(j).

VII. A fantasy sports contest operator offering fantasy sports contests with an entry fee in this state shall:

(a) Prohibit the use of scripts in fantasy sports contests that give any fantasy sports contest player an unfair advantage over other fantasy sports contest players;

(b) Monitor fantasy sports contests to detect the use of unauthorized scripts and restrict fantasy sports contest players found to have used such scripts from participation in further fantasy sports contests;

(c) Make all authorized scripts readily available to all fantasy sports contest players; provided, that a licensed operator shall clearly and conspicuously publish its rules on what types of scripts may be authorized in a fantasy sports contest.

VIII. Funds in fantasy sports contest operator consumer accounts shall be:

(a) Held in trust for the consumer in a segregated account, in which case the fantasy sports contest operator shall segregate fantasy sports contest player funds from operational funds or maintain a reserve that exceeds the amount of player funds on deposit, which reserve shall not be used for operational activities. These reserve funds may take the form of cash, cash equivalents, payment processor reserves, payment processor receivables, an irrevocable letter of credit, a bond, or a combination thereof, in the amount that shall exceed the total balances of the fantasy sports contest players' accounts; or

(b) Held in a special purpose account that is maintained and controlled by a properly constituted corporate entity that is not the fantasy sports contest operator and whose governing board includes one or more corporate directors who are independent of the fantasy sports contest operator and of any corporation related to or controlled by the fantasy sports contest operator. Said corporate entity shall require a unanimous vote of all corporate directors to file bankruptcy and shall have articles of incorporation that prohibit commingling of funds with those of the fantasy sports contest operator except as necessary to reconcile the accounts of fantasy sports contest players with sums owed by those fantasy sports contest players to the fantasy sports contest operator. Said special purpose corporate entity shall also be:

(1) Restricted from incurring debt other than to fantasy sports contest players pursuant to the rules that govern their accounts with fantasy sports contest operators;

(2) Restricted from taking on obligations of the fantasy sports contest operator other than obligations to fantasy sports contest players pursuant to the rules that govern their accounts with fantasy sports contest operators; and

(3) Prohibited from dissolving, merging, or consolidating with another company, other than a special purpose corporate entity established by another fantasy sports contest operator that meets the requirements of this section, while there are unsatisfied obligations to fantasy sports contest players.

IX. Fantasy sports contest operators shall clearly and conspicuously identify highly experienced players in fantasy sports contests by a symbol attached to a player's username, or by other easily visible means. Fantasy sports contest operators shall offer some fantasy sports contests that are open exclusively to beginner players and that exclude highly experienced players.

287-H:4 Penalty. Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 for each violation, not to exceed \$5,000 for violations arising out of the same transaction or occurrence, which shall accrue to the state and may be recovered in a civil action brought by the commission.

287-H:5 Authorization of Fantasy Sports Contests. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the conduct of fantasy sports contests shall be authorized in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

287-H:6 Exemptions. Fantasy sports contests with or without an entry fee, conducted in accordance with this chapter, shall be exempt from RSA 647 and RSA 338.

287-H:7 Applicability of RSA 358-A. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as limiting the applicability of RSA 358-A to fantasy sports contest operators.

2 New Paragraph; Business Profits Tax Credit for Fantasy Sports Contest. Amend RSA 77-A:5 by inserting after paragraph XV the following new paragraph:

XVI. Taxes paid pursuant to RSA 287-H:2, IV. The credit for these taxes may be utilized against the business profits tax due pursuant to RSA 77-A, or against the business enterprise tax due pursuant to RSA 77-E, or apportioned against both provided the total credit granted against both shall not exceed the total amount of taxes paid pursuant to RSA 287-H:2, IV.

3 New Section; Business Enterprise Tax; Credit for Fantasy Sports Contest. Amend RSA 77-E by inserting after section 3-d the following new section:

77-E:3-e Credit for Fantasy Sports Contests. Taxes paid pursuant to RSA 287-H:2, IV shall be allowed as a credit against tax due under this chapter. The credit for these taxes may be utilized against the business profits tax due pursuant to RSA 77-A, or against the business enterprise tax due pursuant to RSA 77-E, or apportioned against both provided the total credit granted against both shall not exceed the total amount of taxes paid pursuant to RSA 287-H:2, IV.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0657h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

- I. Allows participation in online fantasy sports contests for money.
- II. Requires fantasy sports contest operators to register with the lottery commission for a fee.
- III. Levies a tax on the revenue of fantasy sports contest operators and allows the amount of such tax to be credited against the business profits tax and the business enterprise tax.

**Amendment to HB 586-FN
(2017-0688h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

Amend section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2 Body Art; Definitions; Executive Director. RSA 314-A:1, III is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

III. "Executive director" means the executive director of the office of professional licensure and certification.

Amend the bill by deleting section 4 and renumbering the original sections 5-17 to read as 4-16, respectively.

Amend the bill by replacing section 6 with the following:

6 Body Art; License Revocation or Suspension. Amend RSA 314-A:9 to read as follows:

314-A:9 License Revocation or Suspension. After notice and hearing the [commissioner] *executive director* may revoke or suspend any license issued under this chapter if the licensee:

- I. Violates any provision of this chapter or rule or order adopted or issued under it[;].
- II. Knowingly makes any false statement on any application or any report required by the [commissioner; or] *executive director*.
- III. Fails to respond to any lawful inquiry of the [commissioner] *executive director*.

IV. Is under a suspension or revocation of a license, similar to one issued under this chapter, in another jurisdiction and not reinstated.

Amend the bill by replacing section 8 with the following:

8 New Section; Advisory Board. Amend RSA 314-A by inserting after section 13 the following new section:

314-A:14 Advisory Board of Body Art Practitioners. The executive director shall establish the advisory board of body art practitioners. The board shall consist of 3 body art practitioners who are licensees in the state of New Hampshire. Each member shall be appointed to a term of 3 years. No member shall serve more than 2 consecutive full terms. Each member of the advisory board shall receive as compensation the sum of \$45 for each day actually devoted to the work of the advisory board and shall be reimbursed for necessary traveling expenses incurred in the discharge of such duty. The advisory board shall:

I. Review the qualifications and requirements of applicants for licensure.

II. Review the disinfection and sterilization requirements for licensees.

III. Review the continuing education requirements for licensees.

IV. Advise the executive director regarding the implementation of this chapter.

Amend the bill by replacing sections 10-11 with the following:

10 Electrologists; Definitions. Amend RSA 314:1, V to read as follows:

V. "Office" means the place of business kept open solely for the business of electrology, or where equipment and facilities for the practice of electrology for compensation are available, as may be authorized by the [department] **executive director**.

11 Electrologists; Fees. Amend RSA 314:10, II to read as follows:

II. Fees collected shall be appropriated to the [department] **office of professional licensure and certification** and used to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

Amendment to HB 595-FN

(2017-0158h)

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

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

1 Secretary of State's Office; Corporations Division; Classified Positions Abolished. The following vacant, classified positions in the corporations division of the secretary of state's office are hereby abolished at the close of business on June 30, 2017:

I. Records control clerk (11362), at labor grade 10.

II. Records control clerk (18096), at labor grade 10.

III. Records control clerk (43452), at labor grade 10.

IV. Records control clerk (43456), at labor grade 10.

V. Records control clerk (11364), at labor grade 10.

VI. Reproducing equip op (40043), at labor grade 8.

VII. Clerk II (43460), at labor grade 5.

2 Secretary of State's Office; Corporations Division; Classified Positions Established. The following classified positions are hereby established in the corporations division of the secretary of state's office:

I. Program specialist I, at labor grade 19.

II. Program specialist I, at labor grade 19.

III. Program assistant II, at labor grade 15.

IV. Data processing supervisor I, at labor grade 15.

V. Data librarian I, at labor grade 14, for archives.

3 The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated for the data librarian I position referenced in paragraph V of section 2.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2017-0158h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill abolishes certain vacant, classified positions in the corporations division of the secretary of state's office and establishes certain new classified positions in that office. The bill also makes an appropriation for the position of data librarian I.

The bill is a request of the secretary of state.

Amendment to HB 600-FN

(2017-0519h)

Proposed by the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs - c

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

1 License Qualifications. Amend RSA 178:3, VII(b) to read as follows:

(b) The applicant and any person listed pursuant to subparagraph V(b) are at least 21 years of age and **the applicant is** of sufficiently good character to leave no substantial doubt that the proposed business shall be operated in strict accordance with all applicable state and federal alcoholic beverage control laws and rules.

2 Repeal. The following are repealed:

I. RSA 178:3, VII(e), relative to character of managers.

II. RSA 179:23, V-VI, relative to approval of employees convicted of felonies.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.

2017-0519h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill eliminates restrictions on being employed by a licensee based on felony convictions and character.

Amendment to HB 607-FN-A

(2017-0248h)

Proposed by the Committee on Education - c

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

AN ACT establishing a New Hampshire student access grant program and making an appropriation therefor.

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

1 New Section; New Hampshire Student Access Grant Program. Amend RSA 21-N by inserting after section 8-b the following new section:

21-N:8-c New Hampshire Student Access Grant Program Established.

I. There is hereby established the New Hampshire student access grant program. The purpose of this program is to provide postsecondary education and training opportunities to graduates of any public or private secondary school approved for operation in New Hampshire by the department of education, including chartered public schools, home educated students, and students who have received a high school equivalency certificate, by providing a grant of up to \$1,000 each year for a maximum of 4 years to eligible students pursuing a full-time degree program at any public postsecondary educational institution in New Hampshire.

II. A student shall be eligible to apply for a grant under this program if the student:

(a) Is admitted as a first-year student to any public postsecondary educational institution in New Hampshire approved by the United States Department of Education to receive Title 4 funds and will be a full-time student in a degree program;

(b) Has graduated secondary school with at least a 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, and has been designated by the secondary school as a New Hampshire scholar or its equivalent; and

(c) Has submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and is eligible to receive a Pell grant.

III. A student shall submit a grant application to the postsecondary educational institution on a form developed by the institution.

IV. Grant recipients shall maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Grant recipients shall receive an award of up to \$1,000 each year for a maximum of 4 years.

V. Not later than August 1 of each academic year, the postsecondary educational institution shall select the applicants who will receive a grant and shall submit to the higher education commission a list of those applicants selected.

VI. Upon notification from the postsecondary educational institution, the higher education commission shall disburse funds from the New Hampshire student access grant fund established in this section to each institution to provide grants. If the amount in the fund is insufficient, the amount shall be prorated proportionally among the applicants selected to receive a grant.

VII. There is hereby established in the office of the state treasurer a fund to be known as the New Hampshire student access grant fund. The fund shall include any sums appropriated for such purpose. In addition, the higher education commission may accept public sector and private sector grants, gifts, or donations of any kind for the purpose of funding the provisions of this section. The moneys in this fund shall be nonlapsing and shall be continually appropriated to the higher education commission. The fund shall be expended by the higher education commission to award grants to selected students in accordance with this section. The state treasurer may invest moneys in the fund as provided by law, with interest received on such investment credited to the fund.

VIII. The higher education commission shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to deadlines for a postsecondary educational institution to request disbursement of funds to grant recipients.

2 New Subparagraph; Application of Receipts; New Hampshire Student Access Grant Fund. Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (333) the following new subparagraph:

(334) Moneys deposited in the New Hampshire student access grant fund established in RSA 21-N:8-c.

3 Appropriation. The sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 and the sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 are hereby appropriated to the higher education commission for the purposes of the New Hampshire student access grant program established in RSA 21-N:8-c. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

Amendment to HB 612

(2017-0652h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Environment and Agriculture - r

Amend RSA 427:33, III(b) as inserted by section 4 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(b) The method of slaughtering ~~[required by the ritual of the Jewish faith]~~ ***in accordance with the ritual requirements of any religious faith that prescribes a method of slaughter*** whereby the animal suffers loss of consciousness by anemia of the brain caused by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of the carotid arteries with a sharp instrument, provided that the method used in bringing the animal into position for slaughter causes no injury or pain which can be avoided without interfering with the requirements of ritualistic slaughter or without imposing unreasonable economic hardship.

Amend RSA 427:39 as inserted by section 6 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

427:39 License. No livestock dealer shall operate such a business without first obtaining a license from the commissioner. Before being issued a license, the livestock dealer shall file with the commissioner an application for such license, giving such information as the commissioner shall require. Said application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee. All licenses shall expire on April 30 of each year. No licenses shall be transferable. ***A farmer shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter when engaged in noncommercial transportation of livestock.***

2017-0652h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

- I. Combines several exemptions to the meat inspection statutes into one section.
- II. Adds to the definition of "humane method" of slaughter for religious purposes.
- III. Makes certain changes to the regulation of livestock auctions and the shipment of livestock.

Amendment to HB 617-FN

(2017-0200h)

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary - r

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

AN ACT relative to penalties for violations of planning and zoning laws.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Planning and Zoning; Fines and Penalties; Continuing Violation. Amend RSA 676:17, I to read as follows:

I. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this title, or any local ordinance, code, or regulation adopted under this title, or any provision or specification of any application, plat, or plan approved by, or any requirement or condition of a permit or decision issued by, any local administrator or land use board acting under the authority of this title shall be guilty of a misdemeanor if a natural person, or guilty of a felony if any other person; and shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$275 for the first offense, and \$550 for subsequent offenses, for each day that such violation is found to continue after the conviction date or after the date on which the violator receives written notice from the municipality that the violator is in violation, whichever is earlier. ~~[Each day that a violation continues shall be a separate offense.]~~

2017-0200h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill removes the authority to charge each day of a continuing violation of planning and zoning laws as a separate offense.

Amendment to HB 620

(2017-0423h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Education - r

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Compliance With Federal Provisions. Amend RSA 186:6 to read as follows:

186:6 Compliance With Federal Provisions. The state board may also make the regulations necessary to enable the state to comply with the provisions of any law of the United States intended to promote vocational or other education, to abolish illiteracy and Americanize immigrants, to equalize educational opportunities, to promote physical health and recreation, and to provide an adequate supply of trained teachers. ***The state***

board shall not propose rules that require a school district or school to expand or modify activities to implement a curriculum, method of instruction, or statewide assessment program that necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues. The state board shall not propose a rule pursuant to RSA 541-A that exceeds the minimum requirements of state or federal law. Proposed rules designed to implement federal law may exceed the minimum requirements of federal law only if, and to the extent that, state statute explicitly authorizes the state board to exceed the minimum requirements of federal law.

2017-0423h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits the state board of education from proposing rules that require a school district to comply with a federally mandated curriculum, method of instruction, or statewide assessment program which necessitates the expenditure of local revenues. The bill also repeals a statute relating to rules which exceed state or federal minimum requirements.

**Amendment to HB 650-FN
(2017-0666h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration - c

Amend RSA 329-B:12, II as inserted by section 5 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. The board ~~[of mental health practice, pursuant to RSA 330-A:12, II,]~~ shall ~~[continue to]~~ establish fees applicable to psychologists for review of applicants; reinstatement of license; inactive license status; reactivation of an inactive license; examination of applicants; transcribing and transferring records; and other services, including investigations and hearings conducted under this chapter.

Amend the bill by replacing section 6 with the following:

6 Psychologist License; Criminal History Records Release; References to Fees Corrected. Amend RSA 329-B:15, I(e) and II to read as follows:

(e) Has paid all fees established and collected by the board ~~[of mental health practice]~~.

(f) Has submitted a complete set of fingerprints and a notarized criminal history records release form in accordance with RSA 329-B:14-a.

II. Examinations for applicants under this chapter shall be held by the board at least once each year. The board shall determine the subject and scope of the examination, which may be written, oral, or both. If an applicant fails the first examination, the applicant may be admitted to a subsequent examination upon the payment of an additional fee in the amount established by the board ~~[of mental health practice under RSA 330-A:12]~~.

Amend RSA 329-B:22, IX as inserted by section 11 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

IX. The board may dismiss complaints when the undisputed allegations do not warrant disciplinary actions and may settle complaints informally with the consent of the licensee. Some or all of the allegations in a complaint may be consolidated with another complaint or with issues which the board chooses to investigate or hear on its own motion. If an investigation of a complaint results in an offer of settlement by the licensee, the board may settle the allegations against the licensee without the consent of a complainant, provided that the complainant is given an opportunity to comment on the terms of the proposed settlement. ***Prior to the settlement or other negotiated termination of proceedings, the board shall provide the licensee with a summary of the investigation, which shall include an overview of the evidence, including incriminating and exculpatory elements. The summary of the investigation shall remain confidential to the licensee and his or her counsel.***

Amend the bill by inserting after section 11 the following and renumbering the original section 12-14 to read as 14-16, respectively:

12 New Section; Criminal History Record Checks. Amend RSA 329-B by inserting after section 14 the following new section:

329-B:14-a Criminal History Record Checks.

I. Every applicant for initial permanent licensure or reinstatement shall submit to the board a notarized criminal history record release form, as provided by the New Hampshire division of state police, which authorizes the release of his or her criminal history record, if any, to the board.

II. The applicant shall submit with the release form a complete set of fingerprints taken by a qualified law enforcement agency or an authorized employee of the department of safety. In the event that the first set of fingerprints is invalid due to insufficient pattern, a second set of fingerprints shall be necessary in order to complete the criminal history records check. If, after 2 attempts, a set of fingerprints is invalid due to insufficient pattern, the board may, in lieu of the criminal history records check, accept police clearances from every city, town, or county where the person has lived during the past 5 years.

III. The board shall submit the criminal history records release form and fingerprint form to the division of state police which shall conduct a criminal history records check through its records and through the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Upon completion of the records check, the division of state police shall release copies of the criminal history records to the board.

IV. The board shall review the criminal record information prior to making a licensing decision and shall maintain the confidentiality of all criminal history records received pursuant to this section.

V. The applicant shall bear the cost of a criminal history record check.

13 New Paragraph; Investigations and Complaints; Confidentiality. Amend RSA 329-B:22 by inserting after paragraph IX the following new paragraph:

X. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, including paragraph VIII, the existence of an allegation of misconduct shall be confidential and shall not be required to be reported by the licensee to any person. Insurance carriers and certifying bodies shall be prohibited from asking about the existence of such allegations and shall not hold the existence of such allegations in this chapter against the licensee in any way, including, but not limited to, denial of any professional privileges or increased costs, fees, or charges.

Amend RSA 329-B:25, II as inserted by section 14 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. If a license is not renewed it may be reinstated not later than 6 months after the date of license expiration upon compliance with rules adopted by the board and payment of the *reinstatement* fee [established by the board of mental health practice under RSA 330-A:12]. A license may be placed on inactive status pursuant to rules adopted by the board.

Amendment to HR 8

(2017-0365h)

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs - r

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

A RESOLUTION urging Congress to investigate whether actions taken by President Trump constitute a violation of the Emoluments Clause and calling on President Trump to divest his interest in and sever his relationship to, the Trump Organization.

Amend the resolution by replacing all after the title with the following:

Whereas, article I, section 9, clause 8 of the United States Constitution (commonly known as the “Emoluments Clause”) declares, “No title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.”; and

Whereas, according to the remarks of Governor Edmund Randolph at the 1787 Constitutional Convention, the Emoluments Clause “was thought proper, in order to exclude corruption and foreign influence, to prohibit any one in office from receiving or holding any emoluments from foreign states”; and

Whereas, the issue of foreign corruption greatly concerned the Founding Fathers of the United States, such that Alexander Hamilton in Federalist No. 22 wrote, “In republics, persons elevated from the mass of the community, by the suffrages of their fellow-citizens, to stations of great pre-eminence and power, may find compensations for betraying their trust, which, to any but minds animated and guided by superior virtue, may appear to exceed the proportion of interest they have in the common stock, and to overbalance the obligations of duty. Hence it is that history furnishes us with so many mortifying examples of the prevalency of foreign corruption in republican governments.”; and

Whereas, the President of the United States is the head of the executive branch of the federal government and is expected to have undivided loyalty to the United States, and clearly occupies an “office of profit or trust” within the meaning of article I, section 9, clause 8 of the Constitution, according to the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice; and

Whereas, the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice opined in 2009 that corporations owned or controlled by a foreign government are presumptively foreign states under the Emoluments Clause; and

Whereas, President Donald J. Trump has a business network, the Trump Organization, that has financial interests around the world and negotiates and concludes transactions with foreign states and entities that are extensions of foreign states; and

Whereas, Michael Cohen, an attorney for President Trump and the Trump Organization, has stated that the Trump Organization would be placed into a “blind trust” managed by the president’s children, Donald Trump, Jr., Ivanka Trump, and Eric Trump; and

Whereas, the very nature of a “blind trust” is such that the official will have no control over, will receive no communications about, and will have no knowledge of the identity of the specific assets held in the trust, and that the manager of the trust is independent of the owner, and as such the arrangement proposed by Mr. Cohen is not a blind trust; and

Whereas, Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, William J. Clinton, and George W. Bush have set the precedent of using true blind trusts, in which their holdings were liquidated and placed in new investments unknown to them by an independent trustee who managed them free of familial bias; and

Whereas, the intermingling of the business of the Trump Organization and the work of government has the potential to constitute the foreign corruption so feared by the Founding Fathers and betray the trust of America's citizens; and

Whereas, the intent of this resolution is to prevent any potential misunderstanding or crisis with regards to whether the actions of Donald J. Trump as President of the United States will violate the Emoluments Clause of the Constitution, federal law, or fundamental principles of ethics; and

Whereas, Congress has an institutional, constitutional obligation to ensure that the President of the United States does not violate the Emoluments Clause and is discharging the obligations of office based on the national interest, not based on personal interest; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the New Hampshire house of representatives hereby calls upon Congress to investigate whether actions taken by President Donald J. Trump constitute a violation of the Emoluments Clause; and

That the New Hampshire house of representatives hereby urges President Donald J. Trump to follow the precedent established by prior Presidents and convert his assets to simple, conflict-free holdings, adopt blind trusts managed by an independent trustee with no relationship to Donald J. Trump or his businesses, or take other equivalent measures, in order to ensure compliance with the Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution; and

That copies of this resolution be transmitted by the house clerk to the office of the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

2017-0365h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This resolution urges Congress to investigate whether actions taken by President Trump constitute a violation of the Emoluments Clause and calls upon President Trump to divest his interest in and sever his relationship to the Trump Organization.