



State of
New Hampshire

HOUSE RECORD

Second Year of the 169th General Court Calendar and Journal of the 2026 Session

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Vol. 48

Concord, N.H.

Thursday, May 7, 2026

No. 12

HOUSE JOURNAL NO. 11 (Cont'd)

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Rep. Osborne moved that the House adjourn.
Motion adopted.

HOUSE JOURNAL NO. 12

Thursday, May 7, 2026

The House assembled at 10:00 a.m., the hour to which it stood adjourned, and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer was offered by House Chaplain, Reverend Kevin Twombly, Pastor at Restoration Foursquare Church in Concord.

Heavenly Father, as this House gathers again today, we pause at the start of this session to acknowledge something greater than ourselves, that leadership is a sacred trust, and service carries both privilege and weight. Grant wisdom to those who speak, patience to those who listen and clarity to those who must discern difficult decisions. Where there is tension, sow understanding. Where there is weariness, renew strength. Where there is uncertainty, give steady resolve. Guard this chamber from empty words, hardened hearts and shallow division. Instead, cultivate honesty, humility and a genuine desire for the common good. Help each representative remember that behind every bill debated and every vote cast are real people, real families, real communities and real lives being impacted by what is done here. Bless this state; from our small towns and rural communities to our growing cities, from those who prosper to quietly struggle, from young who are full of hope to the elderly who carry wisdom earned over many years. Today, may each person serving in this room be guided not merely by what is expedient, but by what is right, just and worthy of the trust placed in them. Give peace to restless hearts, wisdom to active minds and grace for the day's work. Amen.

Rep. Kathy Staub, member from Manchester, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The National Anthem was sung by Lily Fitzpatrick from Hooksett.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Reps. Berch, Buco, Gibbs, Hill, Lloyd, Scherr, Sheehan and Sofikitis, the day, illness.

Reps. Bennett, Arnold Davis, Gregg, Hakken-Phillips, Harvey-Bolia, Janigian, Leavitt, John MacDonald, MacKenzie, Malone, Raynolds, Rice, Sellers, Vallone, Varney and Wilhelm, the day, important business.

Reps. Fedolfi and Scully, the day, death in the family.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mary Jane Beauregard, guest of Representative Kofalt, Brian Verville, brother of Representative Verville; and Robert Fox, guest of Representative Preece.

SENATE MESSAGES

REQUESTS CONCURRENCE WITH AMENDMENTS

HB 1228, relative to the enforcement of alimony orders and relative to waivers of alimony. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. DeSimone moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1460-FN, prohibiting the sale of a child's personal data. (Amendment printed SJ 4/9/26)

Rep. DeSimone moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1514, requiring the department of education and the department of revenue administration to send school monitoring and financial reports to relevant school and school board authorities. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Ladd moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 131, relative to bullying and cyberbullying prevention. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Noble moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

On a division vote, with 169 members having voted in the affirmative, and 133 in the negative, the motion was adopted.

HB 292-FN, establishing a revolving loan fund for school districts. (Amendment printed SJ 1/7/26)

Rep. Noble moved that the House nonconcur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 564, relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets. (Amendment printed SJ 4/23/26)

Rep. Noble moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Rep. Sweeney requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 184 - NAYS 140

YEAS - 184

BELKNAP

Bogert, Steven
Dumais, Russell
Terry, Paul

Bordes, Mike
Freeman, Lisa
Toner, Travis

Coker, Matthew
Ploszaj, Tom

Comtois, Barbara
Minor, Sheri

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike
Brown, Richard

Hamblen, Joseph
Taylor, Brian

Smith, Jonathan

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Durkin, Sean
Ouellet, Mike

Korzen, Lori
Tierney, James

Murphy, Michael
Tremblay, Marc

Morency, Pete

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Pauer, Diane
Prout, Andrew
Slottje, Jeremy
Ulery, Jordan

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Suiter, John
Warden, Mark

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Murphy, Mary
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Presa, Adam
Schneller, John
Tenczar, Jeffrey
Wherry, Robert

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Drew, Matt
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Paquette, Kathleen
Proulx, Mark
Sirois, Shane
Mannion, Tom

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambrils, Jose
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

McGuire, Carol
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Foote, Charles
Harb, Robert
Walsh, Lilli
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Spillane, James
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Ford, Mary
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Sweeney, Joe
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Guthrie, Joseph
Kuttab, Katelyn
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sytek, John
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Guzofski, James
Miner, Laurence
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Turcotte, Len

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Walker, David

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

**NAYS - 140
BELKNAP**

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Boudman, Bobbi
Woodcock, Stephen

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
O'Rorke, Terri

Harvey, Cathryn
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Fox, Dru
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Faulkner, Barry
Newell, Jodi

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

HILLSBOROUGH

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Murray, Megan
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Telerski, Laura
Dolan, William

Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Hartnett, Tim
Jeudy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Thomas, Wendy

Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
LeClerc, Daniel
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne

Chretien, Suzanne
Elberger, Susan
Grill, Jessica
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
Howard, Molly
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Roesener, James
Soucy, Timothy

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Snodgrass, Jim

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Gilman, Julie
Paige, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Sorensen, Carrie

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Meuse, David
Ward, Gerald

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Muns, Chris
Weinstein, Toni

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Simpson, Alexis

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Johnson, Erik
Miller, Seth
Pearson, Wayne

Bixby, Peter
Howard, Heath
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Wade, Alice

Burton, Wayne
Horrigan, Timothy
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wall, Janet

England, Myles
Howland, Allan
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the motion was adopted.

HB 1031, enabling candidates for state office to use campaign funds to pay for security measures. (Amendment printed SJ 4/9/26)

Rep. Berry moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1266, allowing election moderators access to the area designated for counting votes during the performance of their duties. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Berry moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1298, relative to the disposal of electronic ballot counting device external memory devices. (Amendment printed SJ 4/23/26)

Rep. Berry moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1013-FN, relative to games wherein the object is to capture a pig. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Judy Aron moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1153-FN-LOCAL, establishing a committee to study New Hampshire statutes relative to cats and dogs. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Judy Aron moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1253, exempting dogs guarding livestock or crops from nuisance dog statutes when engaged in such work. (Amendment printed SJ 4/9/26)

Rep. Judy Aron moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1766-FN, relative to cruelty to livestock. (Amendment printed SJ 4/23/26)

Rep. Judy Aron moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1780, relative to seed laws. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Judy Aron moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1199-FN, enabling the fish and game department to create a permit and fee for the use of fish and game staff by other state agencies and departments. (Amendment printed SJ 4/9/26)

Rep. Spillane moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1308-FN, relative to increasing the penalty for passing a stopped school bus. (Amendment printed SJ 4/23/26)

Rep. Rhodes moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1363, relative to employee candidate background checks. (Amendment printed SJ 4/23/26)

Rep. Rhodes moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 524-FN, relative to disbursement of funds by the New Hampshire vaccine association. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Wayne MacDonald moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1318, renewing the committee to study non-pharmacological treatment options for patients with chronic pain. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Wayne MacDonald moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1763-FN, establishing a committee to study siting and maintenance rules regarding certain intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) and acquired brain disorder (ABD) community residences. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Wayne MacDonald moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.
Motion was adopted.

HB 1726-FN, relative to the sale of surplus state-owned land and establishing a commission to study the sale of state-owned property. (Amendment printed SJ 4/23/26)

Rep. Alexander moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.
Motion was adopted.

HB 1369, relative to the manner of posting the warrant for town meetings. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Pauer moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.
Motion was adopted.

HB 1468, relative to a flood resilience section in municipal master plans. (Amendment printed SJ 4/9/26)

Rep. Pauer moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.
Motion was adopted.

HB 1535, relative to clarifying eligible renewable energy classes under the renewable portfolio standard. (Amendment printed SJ 4/9/26)

Rep. Vose moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.
Motion was adopted.

HB 1733, relative to the reconciliation of default electric service rates. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Vose moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.
Motion was adopted.

HB 1742, relative to customer-generators inadvertently enrolled in a municipal or county aggregation program. (Amendment printed SJ 4/9/26)

Rep. Vose moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.
Motion was adopted.

HB 1758, relative to school bus drivers' certificates. (Amendment printed SJ 4/23/26)

Rep. Thomas Walsh moved that the House concur and spoke in favor.
Motion was adopted.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Rep. Osborne moved that the Consent Calendar with the relevant amendments as printed in the day's House Record be adopted.

Consent Calendar was adopted.

SB 491-FN, enabling students to utilize education freedom account funds to pay for certain career and technical education funding. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Rick Ladd for Education Funding. As introduced, this bill requires the scholarship organization, in cooperation with the New Hampshire Department of Education (DOE), to make available to Education Freedom Account (EFA) students in grades 9-12 information about enrolling in career and technical education classes and programs. This bill was also amended with several new sections. First, the DOE shall, in rules adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A, develop a formula for determining separately the transportation and tuition costs for approved career and technical education programs with established procedures for disbursement of said funds. This financial accounting practice will better provide the department and legislature the actual costs required for sending school students to attend at regional career and technical centers. The second amended change provides clarity to the academic standards identified for each substantive content learning area of education. The term "curriculum frameworks" which serves as a guideline, has been deleted and replaced with "academic standards," that identify what a student should know and be able to do in a course, program, or at grade level. This needed change was recommended by both the Legislative Oversight Committee and the DOE. Statute as proposed in this bill, clearly states that the General Court requires every 10 years the State Board of Education and the DOE to institute procedures for maintaining, updating, improving, and refining the minimum standards for public school approval and the academic standards for each substantive content area of education. Successful student learning will occur when curriculum, instruction, and assessment are aligned with well-developed, challenging state board approved academic standards. Vote 17-0.

Amendment (1707h)

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

AN ACT enabling students to utilize education freedom account funds to pay for certain career and technical education funding and removing references to "curriculum frameworks" as they relate to the substantive educational content of an adequate education.

Amend RSA 188-E:6, IV as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

IV. ~~[In consultation with the house and senate committees responsible for education policy and financial matters, the state board]~~ **The department** of education shall, in rules adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A, develop a formula for determining *separately* the tuition and transportation costs for approved career technical education programs and procedures for disbursement of funds.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 3 with the following:

4 Adequate Public Education; Substantive Educational Content of an Adequate Education. Amend RSA 193-E:2-a, V and VI to read as follows:

V.(a) The general court requires every 10 years the state board of education and the department of education to institute procedures for maintaining, updating, improving, and refining the minimum standards for public school approval and the ~~[curriculum frameworks]~~ **academic standards** for each area of education identified in paragraph I. Each school district shall be responsible for maintaining, updating, improving, and refining curriculum. The curriculum shall present educational goals, broad pedagogical approaches, and strategies for assisting students in the development of the skills, competencies, and knowledge called for by the minimum standards for public school approval and academic standards for each area of education identified in paragraph I. ~~[The curriculum frameworks shall serve as a guide and reference to what New Hampshire students should know and be able to do in each area of education identified in paragraph I. Curriculum frameworks do not establish a statewide curriculum.]~~ It is the responsibility of local teachers, administrators, and school boards to identify and implement approaches best suited for the students in their communities to acquire the skills and knowledge included in the curriculum, to determine the scope, organization, and sequence of course offerings, and to choose the methods of instruction, the activities, and the materials to be used.

(b) The state board of education shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to the approval of alternative programs for granting credit leading to graduation.

VI. In this section:

(a) “Minimum standards for public school approval” mean the applicable criteria that public schools and public academies shall meet in order to be an approved school, as adopted by the state board of education through administrative rules.

(b) “Academic standards” means what a student should know and be able to do in a course, **program**, or at each grade level.

(c) “Curriculum” means the lessons and academic content taught in school or in a specific course or program.

~~[(d) “Curriculum framework” means an organized plan of study that serves as a guide and reference to what New Hampshire students should know and be able to do in a learning area and identifies the academic standards aligned with each learning area pursuant to RSA 193-E:2-a, I(a).]~~

~~[(e)]~~ (d) “Applied learning” means an educational approach whereby students have the opportunity to directly engage in learning activities using knowledge and skills.

~~[(f)]~~ (e) “Logic” means a reasoning skill that better enables a student to analyze problems in learning areas such as mathematics and to develop problem solutions; to better understand the principle of cause and effect; and to develop critical thinking skills to better identify fact from unverified information or data.

~~[(g)]~~ (f) “Rhetoric” means the skill of speaking and writing as a means of communication or persuasion.

5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2027.

2026-1707h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill enables students to utilize education freedom account funds to pay for certain career and technical education funding and removes references to “curriculum frameworks” as they relate to the substantive educational content of an adequate education.

SB 445, relative to adjudicative proceedings where there is a council or board with jurisdiction. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Molly Howard for Environment and Agriculture. This bill was requested by the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to mitigate the burdensome and redundant hearings, rehearings, and appeals required by RSA 541-A. It recognizes the fact that within NHDES, existing statutes already provide hearings before the Environmental Council for the same matters and eliminates internal hearing procedures as well as the need for “firewalls” between decision-makers and appeal-reviewers. It also aligns the process for fines and licensing, which are routed to one of four independent environmental councils rather than through an internal appeal process. Additionally, it allows the NH Department of Justice to hire a hearing officer with only a juris doctor, which expands the pool of candidates by not requiring passage of the bar exam. This bill provides an improved pathway for appeals of fines and licensing by making them more fair because appeals are heard by subject matter experts instead of agencies that issued the decisions. It also makes the process more efficient by reducing need for internal separation of staff and attorneys and also makes the hearing process more transparent by ensuring impartial review. The bill also includes a number of housekeeping

changes, such as giving the Water Well Board sole discretion for hearings related to licensing actions, eliminates antiquated references to defunct divisions, clarifies the dates on wastewater operator certificates and eliminates unneeded committees. The committee amendment corrects a typographical error in section 45 of the bill. Vote 13-0.

Amendment (1661h)

Amend RSA 541-A:30, IV as inserted by section 45 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

IV. An agency shall be exempt from the requirements in this chapter to provide for an adjudicative proceeding prior to making a final decision, if such final decision is subject to appeal to a council or board with jurisdiction over such agency, or divisions thereof, that provides for notice and an opportunity to be heard. Unless based on an immediate risk to human health or the environment, the agency decision under this paragraph shall not become effective for 30 days following the date of the decision or, if an appeal is filed to a council or board with jurisdiction, until the council or board issues a decision.

SB 535, (New Title) defining residential breeder and imported animal for the purposes of animal transfers and removing references to commercial kennels. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Liz Barbour for Environment and Agriculture. This bill defines “residential breeder” and “imported animal” for the purposes of animal transfers and removes references to commercial kennels. The bill balances responsible animal welfare by defining that dogs or cats can be raised in a home environment rather than a commercial kennel producing well-adjusted pets ready for a happy life in their forever homes. The bill raises the annual transfer threshold for residential breeders from 30 to 50 dogs or cats. This change is expected to increase compliance, as more breeders will obtain a pet vendor license and pay the required fee. It will also encourage greater in-state breeding and reduce New Hampshire’s reliance on out-of-state imported animals. In addition, the bill clarifies that animals brought into the state while pregnant are considered “imported animals,” and that their offspring are also classified as imported animals. As such, the offspring must comply with the same regulations and requirements that apply to any other imported animal. Finally, the bill reduces the burden on residential breeders and the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food by not requiring routine home inspections. Residential breeders still must obtain a pet vendor license and follow record-keeping/transfer rules protecting homeowner privacy. The amendment updates the cross-reference from the outdated “commercial kennel” definition still appearing in RSA 466:4, III to the current pet vendor definition in RSA 437:1, IV and corrects an incorrect RSA citing as well. Vote 13-0.

Amendment (1740h)

Amend RSA 466:6, I as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. The owner or keeper of 5 or more dogs shall annually by April 30 pay the required fee and obtain a license authorizing the owner or keeper to keep the dogs upon the premises described in the license, or off the premises while under such owner’s or keeper’s control. Such owner or keeper shall not be required to obtain a [~~“commercial kennel”~~] **“pet vendor”** license under RSA 466:4, III unless such person [~~has a commercial kennel~~] **is a pet vendor** as defined under [~~RSA 466:4, III~~] **RSA 437:1, IV**.

Amend RSA 466:4, III as inserted by section 3 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

III. Fees for dogs licensed [~~in a commercial kennel~~] **as a pet vendor** shall be based on the numbers of dogs licensed, as in RSA 466:6 for group licenses. For purposes of this paragraph, [~~“commercial kennel”~~] **“pet vendor” shall have the same meaning as RSA 437:1, IV** [~~means the establishment or domicile of any person who sells dogs at wholesale or retail; and, if retail, who sells or transfers 10 or more litters per year; or sells or transfers 50 or more puppies per year; or who derives 40 percent or more of gross annual income from the sale or transfer of dogs~~]. The owner or keeper of any dog licensed under this paragraph shall not be assessed a companion animal population control fee. Amend RSA 466:6, I as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. The owner or keeper of 5 or more dogs shall annually by April 30 pay the required fee and obtain a license authorizing the owner or keeper to keep the dogs upon the premises described in the license, or off the premises while under such owner’s or keeper’s control. Such owner or keeper shall not be required to obtain a [~~“commercial kennel”~~] **“pet vendor”** license under RSA 466:4, III unless such person [~~has a commercial kennel~~] **is a pet vendor** as defined under [~~RSA 466:4, III~~] **RSA 437:1, IV**.

Amend RSA 466:4, III as inserted by section 3 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

III. Fees for dogs licensed [~~in a commercial kennel~~] **as a pet vendor** shall be based on the numbers of dogs licensed, as in RSA 466:6 for group licenses. For purposes of this paragraph, [~~“commercial kennel”~~] **“pet vendor” shall have the same meaning as RSA 437:1, IV** [~~means the establishment or domicile of any person who sells dogs at wholesale or retail; and, if retail, who sells or transfers 10 or more litters per year; or sells or transfers 50 or more puppies per year; or who derives 40 percent or more of gross annual income from the sale or transfer of dogs~~]. The owner or keeper of any dog licensed under this paragraph shall not be assessed a companion animal population control fee.

SB 644-FN, requiring background checks for solid waste and hazardous waste facility owners. **OUGHT TO PASS.** Rep. Judy Aron for Environment and Agriculture. This bill was requested by the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). It amends the language of the state's solid and hazardous waste management statutes to correct deficiencies in the law related to the performance of background investigations of permit applicants. The department testified that without these required changes, the state is unable to conduct the required national criminal records checks. NHDES worked with the NH Department of Justice, who has worked closely with the NH Department of Safety in an effort to craft the correct language and processes to accomplish these background checks for solid and hazardous waste facility owners. The provisions of the two statutes that required further refinement included the following: 1) clarifying and making explicit which persons/company officials are subject to the records check; 2) clearly identifying the NHDES officials who are authorized recipients of the records; and 3) simplifying the process by removing the NH Department of Justice's involvement, so that applicants submit the required authorization forms to NHDES, who in turn submits them directly to the Division of State Police for processing. This bill makes those necessary changes and will make possible these important records checks. Vote 13-0.

SB 56, relative to consolidating the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority within the business finance authority. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill consolidates the New Hampshire Health and Education Facilities Authority with the Business Finance Authority at the request of these two entities. Both perform similar functions including providing access to lower cost financing by reducing the risk of the loan. As amended, the bill provides a mechanism for unused land held by the Department of Transportation (DOT) to be requested by the business finance authority, approved by the DOT, the governor and the executive council in order to lease or sell the land. While there is a current process for the DOT to sell surplus land, this is not a focus of the department and would require additional staffing focused on land disposal to effectively sell surplus land. This bill as amended provides a framework to transfer the sale or lease of land to a more appropriate entity and provides a five year sunset on the transfer process to ensure that the program proves valuable enough to extend by a future legislature. This bill supplements and does not replace the current process for surplus land, including certain time-bound rights of first refusal for the prior owner of the land. Vote 16-0.

Amendment (1494h)

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

AN ACT relative to consolidating the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority within the business finance authority and establishing a surplus land revitalization program.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 19 with the following:

20 Powers Of The Governor And Council In Certain Cases; Acquisition And Disposal Of Real Estate; Disposal of Highway, Federal, or Turnpike Funded Real Estate. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 4:39-c to read as follows:

[Disposal] **Except as provided in RSA 204-D, RSA 162-V, and RSA 228:31-b, disposal** of real estate purchased with state or federal highway funds, or both, or with turnpike funds shall occur as follows:

21 Powers Of The Governor And Council In Certain Cases; Acquisition And Disposal Of Real Estate; Disposal of Real Estate. Amend RSA 4:40, I to read as follows:

I. Except as provided in RSA 4:39-c, **RSA 162-V**, RSA 228:31-b, and RSA 204-D, upon recommendation of the head of any state department having jurisdiction over the same, all requests for the disposal or leasing of state-owned properties shall be reviewed and approved by the long range capital planning and utilization committee, with advice from the council on resources and development, prior to submission to the governor and council for approval. Upon determination that the property is no longer needed by the state, the governor and council shall first offer it to the town, city, or county in which the property is located. If the town, city, or county refuses the offer, the governor and council may sell, convey, transfer, or lease the real property.

22 New Chapter; Surplus Land Revitalization Program. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 162-U the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 162-V

SURPLUS LAND REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

162-V:1 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

I. "Authority" means the business finance authority established under RSA 162-A.

II. "Department" means the department of transportation established under 21-L:2.

III. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of transportation.

IV. "Committee" means the long range capital planning and utilization committee established under RSA 17-M.

V. "State owned property" means real property held by the department of transportation.

162-V:2 Transfer of Property. The provisions of RSA 4:40 and 4:39-c notwithstanding, the governor and council may transfer surplus state owned property to the authority for certain uses consistent with the authority's purpose under the following procedure:

I. The authority shall petition the department to acquire property the authority determines to be suitable for purposes authorized by RSA 162-A:6, V, VI, VII, VIII, XIV, and XXIII, and such petition shall include a certification of the authority's intention to use the property for such authorized purposes. The petition shall also state whether the authority desires to lease or purchase the property from the department.

II. The department shall, in response to such petition, notify the authority in writing whether the department considers the property surplus and whether it agrees with the authority's determination that the property is suitable for use or uses authorized by RSA 162-A:6, V, VI, VII, VIII, XIV, and XXIII. This determination shall be at the department's sole discretion.

III. If the department considers the property surplus and suitable for the authority's intended use or uses, the department may decide to lease or sell the property to the authority. Upon making such determination, the department shall include in its written notice any terms and conditions of such transfer, including the price as provided for by RSA 162-V:3.

IV. If the department and the authority reach an agreement on the transfer of the property, the department may submit the proposed transfer to the committee for review of whether the property is no longer needed by the state.

V. If the committee has already determined that the property is surplus under the processes set forth in RSA 4:39-c or RSA 4:40, then the committee's review shall be limited to whether any circumstances have changed that would affect its original determination. If the committee determines the property is surplus, it shall notify the authority and the department. The department may then request that the governor and council approve the agreement to transfer, and the same shall be effective upon approval.

VI. The department may, at any time prior to approval of the governor and council, rescind any agreement with the authority. Nothing herein shall require the department to transfer property to the authority.

162-V:3 Compensation. Transfer of property under this chapter shall be for such price and subject to said further terms and conditions as in the opinion of the commissioner, are reasonable and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this chapter, provided, however, that:

I. All proceeds from sales of surplus property owned by the department shall be deposited in the fund from which they originated.

II. Surplus property held by the department which was acquired, in whole or in part, with highway funds shall be transferred to the authority for not less than the minimum compensation required to replenish the highway fund in the amount for which the property was originally acquired.

III. Surplus property held by the department which was acquired, in whole or in part, with federal or turnpike funds shall be transferred to the authority for no less than the minimum compensation required by federal law or controlling turnpike revenue bond resolution.

162-V:4 Uses of Property So Acquired.

I. After acquiring state owned property through the procedure set forth in this chapter, the authority may develop such land and take any actions it deems necessary to further use or uses authorized by RSA 162-A:6, V, VI, VII, VIII, XIV, and XXIII.

II. The authority may lease, sell, or otherwise transfer property it acquires under this chapter if the tenant, purchaser, or transferee enters into a written agreement with the authority that the property will be used in a manner authorized by RSA 162-A:6, V, VI, VII, VIII, XIV, and XXIII. If any property so leased, sold, or transferred ceases to be used in such a manner, ownership and/or control of the property shall revert to the authority.

III. If the authority seeks to transfer the property to any third party for use or uses not authorized by RSA 162-A:6, V, VI, VII, VIII, XIV, and XXIII, the authority shall first offer to sell the property to the State of New Hampshire for an amount of compensation equal to that which the authority paid to acquire the property under RSA 162-V:3.

23 Administration of Transportation Laws; Commissioner, Deputy and Assistant Commissioners; Disposal of Highway or Turnpike Funded Real Estate. Amend RSA 228:31-b, VIII to read as follows:

VIII. [AH] ***Subject to the specific processes set forth more fully in RSA 4:39-c, RSA 4:40, RSA 162-V, and RSA 204-D, all*** requests for disposal of surplus property owned by the department of transportation shall be reviewed and approved by the long range capital planning and utilization committee prior to submission to the governor and council for approval.

24 Prospective Repeal. RSA 162-V:2, relative to the transfer of property under the surplus land revitalization program, is repealed.

25 Effective Date.

I. Section 24 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2031.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

2026-1494h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Provides for the consolidation of the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority with and into the New Hampshire business finance authority, including the transfer of all assets, assumption of all debts and obligations, transfer of all employees, and the establishment of the New Hampshire Business finance authority as the successor in interest for all rights and obligations of the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority.

II. Makes changes to provisions of statute governing the business finance authority's issuance of bonds.

III. Establishes a surplus land revitalization program.

SB 423, reestablishing the commission to study the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder in first responders. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Stephen Pearson for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill reauthorizes the post-traumatic stress disorder commission. This is a very active commission that meets monthly and always has well over a quorum. This commission has successfully brought forward legislation over multiple terms. It was interesting to note that the average citizen experiences around 6 incidents in their lifetime that could lead to PTSD. The average first responder averages 900. As amended, the bill to swap the sheriffs to the list of agencies that are on the commission removing the community health center addition. This was done at the request of the sheriffs association and is a logical move. Vote 14-0.

Amendment (1310h)

Amend RSA 281-A:17-e, I(a)(19) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(19) One member appointed by the New Hampshire Sheriffs Association.

SB 470-FN, relative to the expungement of certain disciplinary matters. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Paul Dargie for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill allows licensees subject to certain disciplinary matters that did not involve criminal acts, fraud, deceit, patient safety, public safety, or acts impacting the integrity of the profession, and that did not include suspension or permanent revocation of license, to petition to have the disciplinary records considered expunged for reporting purposes, provided that several requirements are satisfied. Vote 16-0.

SB 486, relative to the administrative procedure act. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill clarifies existing policies regarding rulemaking, and increases transparency through earlier and more robust fiscal impact statements. It streamlines the petition process for rulemaking, expedites repeals, provides an expedited process to update rules and forms with statutorily set fees and fines, and allows agencies to get ahead of the effective date of legislation by permitting rules to become effective on the effective date of the statute rather than trying to line up timelines and effective date windows. As amended, income eligibility limits for "in and out medical assistance" will be permitted to have expedited treatment to reflect cost of living adjustments as defined in 2024's HB 1236. Vote 15-0.

Amendment (1747h)

Amend the bill by inserting after section 31 the following and renumbering the original section 32 to read as 33:

32 New Paragraph; Administrative Procedure Act; Exceptions. Amend RSA 541-A:21 by inserting after paragraph III-b the following new paragraph:

III-c. Rules adopted pursuant to RSA 167:3-c, I relative to the income eligibility requirement for "in and out medical assistance", defined in section 625 of the department of health and human services' medical assistance manual, adjustments in accordance with the federal Social Security Administration's annual cost of living adjustment in effect on January 1 of the respective calendar year shall be exempt from the provisions of RSA 541-A:5 through RSA 541-A:14.

SB 516, relative to certain unclassified positions in the department of health and human services. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill corrects the spelling of counsel for unclassified position titles in the Department of Health and Human Services attorneys for the division for children youth and families, and changes the supervising staff attorney to a lead attorney. Vote 16-0.

SB 572, relative to New Hampshire hospital real estate. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jaci Grote for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill is not necessary, as another bill passed by this body, HB 1569, repeals the sale of the Anna Philbrook Center. Vote 14-0.

SB 600-FN, requiring the governor to submit and present a quarterly fiscal year budget report about the general and education trust funds to the general court fiscal committee. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Gerald Griffin for Finance. This bill would require the Governor to consolidate important financial information and provide reports to the legislature, on a quarterly basis, for their use in the budgeting process. Having periodic consolidated reports, from a single source, will provide an informative record of not only the trend and accuracy of the historical data, but more importantly, over time it will provide a measure of the quality of projected information and the extent that the legislature can rely on such information in its fiscal work. Vote 24-0.

SB 663-FN-A, (New Title) creating a Medicaid methodology working group within the department of health and human services. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Jerry Stringham for Finance. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to convene a working group to study the nursing home rate methodology. In the current biennium, some nursing homes are under great financial stress with one nursing home closing and another nursing home declaring bankruptcy. Nursing homes represent a critical component of the system of care to provide care at the most efficient, least costly location for granite staters in need. The Finance Committee amended the Senate bill to add an administrator at a private or publicly funded nursing home and increase the House representation to the working group. Vote 24-0.

Amendment (1528h)

Amend paragraph I as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. The department of health and human services shall convene a working group for the study of nursing home rate Medicaid methodology. The working group, which shall be exempt from RSA 14:49, shall consist of the following members:

- (a) Three members of the house of representatives, 2 of whom shall be from the majority party and one of whom shall be from the minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- (b) A member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate;
- (c) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee;
- (d) A member of the New Hampshire Association of Counties, appointed by that organization;
- (e) A member of the New Hampshire Health Care Association, appointed by that organization;
- (f) A member of the New Hampshire Hospital Association, appointed by that organization;
- (g) A certified public accountant specializing in nursing home cost reporting, appointed by the governor;

and

- (h) An administrator at a private or publicly funded nursing home, appointed by the governor.

SB 453, authorizing advanced practice registered nurses and physician associates to make certain certifications. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Yury Polozov for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The committee believes this bill will expand access to medical exemptions and promote greater medical freedom for families in New Hampshire. By allowing advanced practice registered nurses and physician associates to issue medical exemptions from required childhood immunizations when they determine that the immunization may be detrimental to the child's health, the bill aligns their authority with that of other licensed medical professionals based on their level of qualification. It also permits these providers to document a lasting medical necessity, which would qualify patients for a vehicle equipment waiver. The bill does not create any new exemptions or new categories of medical necessity. Instead, it makes targeted adjustments that enable more timely and cost-effective access to care. Vote 18-0.

SB 468, relative to enabling alternative treatment centers to operate a greenhouse cultivation location. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Yury Polozov for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The committee believes this bill will improve access and lower the cost of medical marijuana for registered patients in New Hampshire. By allowing alternative treatment centers (ATCs) that provide medical marijuana to registered patients to operate a greenhouse cultivation location, the bill addresses high energy costs associated with indoor-only growing. Currently, these centers are limited to indoor cultivation, which drives up expenses and keeps prices higher for patients, often pushing them to purchase in neighboring states. Permitting greenhouse cultivation will reduce energy costs and help make medicine more affordable for patients. The bill includes added security measures and maintains strict oversight. Any cultivation must comply with all state regulations to ensure safety and security. Vote 18-0.

SB 415, relative to a certain exemption in interest in condominium units. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Joe Alexander for Housing. This bill would raise the exemption of additional Attorney General review on a condominium association approval. The committee believes this extra agency review from the Department of Justice is unnecessary given existing regulations in statute covering fraud. Many on the committee believe the entire section of this law should be repealed as it's duplicative, so the amendment adds a committee to study the repeal of this chapter and includes stakeholder input including from the Attorney General's Office. Vote 14-0.

Amendment (1576h)

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

AN ACT relative to a certain exemption in interest in condominium units and abbreviated registrations.

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

1 Trade and Commerce; Condominium Act; Exemptions. Amend RSA 356-B:49, I(a) to read as follows:

(a) If not more than ~~[10]~~ **25** units are included in the condominium; provided, however, this exemption shall not apply to a condominium involving time sharing interests;

2 Condominium Act; General Principles; Application. Amend RSA 356-B:2, III to read as follows:

III. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph I, if any condominium instrument recorded under RSA 479-A prior to September 10, 1977, shall be amended after September 10, 1977, for the purpose of creating 10 or more additional units in any such condominium project, this subdivision, General Principles, and subdivision IV, Administration and Enforcement, shall apply to said additional units. If said amendment creates 10 or more, but less than 26, additional units, the applicant shall be permitted to make an abbreviated registration ~~[pursuant to RSA 356-B:51, H;]~~ and shall not be required to prepare a public offering statement pursuant to RSA 356-B:52; provided, however, this sentence shall not apply if time sharing interests are offered with respect to such additional units.

3 Condominium Act; Administration and Enforcement; Application for Registration; Fee. Amend RSA 356-B:51, I(u) to read as follows:

(u) Any other information including any current financial statement, which the attorney general by rules reasonably requires for the protection of purchasers. If the declarant is a corporation, limited liability company, or other entity, ~~[personal financial statements from all principals holding more than a 25 percent ownership interest in the declarant, certified as true and complete by the individual principals, accompanied by federal income tax returns for the 2 most recent full calendar years, may be submitted in lieu of financial statements for the declarant]~~ ***the attorney general may require documentation demonstrating the financial capacity to finance and complete the project.*** Financial information filed with the attorney general shall not be disclosed publicly except in connection with a hearing, civil action, or criminal action involving the party who submitted the information.

4 Condominium Act; Administration and Enforcement; Public Offering Statement. Amend RSA 356-B:52, IV to read as follows:

IV. Any declarant permitted to make an abbreviated registration ~~[pursuant to RSA 356-B:51, H;]~~, and any declarant of a condominium which has been registered under the federal Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act, is not required to prepare a public offering statement to be used in connection with the offer or disposition of any unit of the condominium.

5 New Subdivision; Commission to Study the New Hampshire Condominium Act. Amend RSA 356-B by inserting after section 70 the following new subdivision:

Commission to Study the New Hampshire Condominium Act

356-B:71 Commission to Study the New Hampshire Condominium Act.

I. There is established a commission to study RSA 356-B (condominium act), including, but not limited to, the condominium registration process administered by the department of justice.

II. Notwithstanding RSA 14:49, II(c), the members of the commission shall be as follows:

(a) Two members of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

(c) One individual with experience developing condominium projects in New Hampshire, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(d) One representative of the department of justice, appointed by the attorney general.

(e) One New Hampshire-licensed real estate attorney with experience in condominium law, appointed by the president of the senate.

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) Review existing statutory and regulatory requirements governing condominium development in New Hampshire;

(b) Identify opportunities to modernize the law, reduce unnecessary administrative burdens, and support the creation of quality homeownership opportunities;

(c) Make recommendations that make it easier to develop condominiums and expand access to attainable ownership opportunities for Granite Staters;

(d) Review the condominium registration process under RSA 356-B, including timelines, costs, and administrative requirements;

(e) Evaluate whether the current registration process appropriately balances consumer protection with the need to facilitate condominium development;

(f) Identify barriers within the condominium act that may discourage or delay the construction of new condominium units;

(g) Compare New Hampshire's condominium laws and registration requirements with those of other states, including states that do not require developer registration;

(h) Assess whether existing statutory provisions reflect current market conditions, construction practices, and housing needs;

(i) Examine opportunities to streamline, modernize, or eliminate outdated or duplicative requirements;

(j) Consider recommendations to expand attainable homeownership opportunities through condominium development, including for first-time homebuyers and workforce households;

(k) Recommend legislative or regulatory changes that would reduce unnecessary red tape; and

(l) Study any other related provisions of RSA 356-B that the commission deems relevant to increasing the supply of ownership housing in New Hampshire.

V. The members of the study 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. Four members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

VI. The commission shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the chair of the house housing committee, the chair of the senate commerce committee, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2027.

6 Repeal. RSA 356-B:51, II, relative to abbreviated condominium registrations, is repealed.

7 Prospective Repeal. RSA 356-B:71, and the subdivision heading preceding it, relative to the commission to study the New Hampshire condominium act, is repealed.

8 Effective Date.

I. Section 7 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2027.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

2026-1576h AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Expands the scope of the exemption from the condominium act governing offers or disposition of interests in a condominium unit.

II. Repeals abbreviated condominium registrations.

III. Establishes a commission to study condominium statutes.

SB 490, establishing a task force to assess the development of housing at Great Bay community college and authorizing the college the right to use vacant property for the purpose of developing housing. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. David Paige for Housing. The committee supports this bill establishing a task force to evaluate the feasibility of developing housing on Pease Development Authority land in partnership with Great Bay Community College. With housing costs straining both students and service members assigned to Pease, testimony highlighted a clear need to explore creative, collaborative solutions. The task force will examine existing legal constraints, funding options, and development models and will coordinate as needed with federal authorities. This is a practical first step to determine whether housing at Pease could help relieve pressure in the Seacoast region and is particularly important for active-duty members who are being pushed to live further and further away due to lack of adequate local housing supply. Vote 14-0.

Amendment (1573h)

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

1 New Subdivision; Great Bay Community College Housing Development. Amend RSA 12-G by inserting after section 13 the following new subdivision:

Great Bay Community College Housing Development

12G:13a Great Bay Community College Housing Development; Task Force.

I. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including RSA 188F and RSA 674, the authority may, in consultation with the community college system of New Hampshire and the department of military affairs and veterans services, authorize, lease, or otherwise facilitate the construction and operation of housing on the Great Bay community college property within the Pease development area. Such housing may be designed to accommodate Great Bay community college students, faculty, and staff, and active or reserve military personnel assigned to duties in the New Hampshire national guard.

II. Notwithstanding RSA 14:49, there is established a task force on housing at Great Bay community college to study and make recommendations concerning the feasibility of developing such housing facilities. The task force shall:

(a) Review the permissibility of military and student housing on Pease Development Authority property pursuant to federal and state law, as well as applicable property conveyance documents and agreements with federal agencies, and review possible avenues for amending such laws, conveyance documents, and agreements to make such military and student housing permissible.

(b) Consider community college system residence hall models, leased apartment models, and military dormitory or housing models.

(c) Review potential construction and operation funding sources, including subsidies, grants, low-income housing programs, or state or federal appropriations.

(d) Determine ownership and leasing models, construction financing mechanisms, and revenue sources sufficient to operate and maintain the facility.

(e) Evaluate staffing options for residential life, maintenance, and security.

(f) Compile data on cost, occupancy, resident demographics, student outcomes, affordability and sustainability.

III. The task force shall include the following members:

(a) One senator appointed by the president of the senate.

(b) One representative appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(c) The commissioner of the department of military affairs and veterans services, or designee.

(d) The chancellor of the community college system of New Hampshire, or designee.

(e) The executive director of the Pease development authority, or designee.

(f) The president of Great Bay community college, or designee.

IV. The task force shall submit a report with findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the governor, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the city of Portsmouth no later than December 30, 2026.

V. Legislative members of the task force shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the task force.

2 Repeal. RSA 12-G:13-a, relative to the Great Bay Community College Housing Development task force, is repealed.

3 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2029.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

SB 523-FN, (New Title) establishing a commission to study the implementation of a residential builder registration system. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Brian Cole for Housing. This bill establishes a formal study committee to evaluate the feasibility and necessity of a statewide registration system for residential builders and contractors. While the primary goal of such a system is to enhance consumer protection and mitigate instances of fraud and financial exploitation, the committee is specifically charged with performing a rigorous cost-benefit analysis. Key considerations for this study should include the points made by the committee. Market accessibility: ensuring that any potential regulations do not create undue barriers to entry that could stifle competition or prevent new small businesses from entering the industry. Housing affordability: assessing the risk that increased compliance costs could be passed on to consumers, further impacting the cost of housing. Administrative efficiency: avoiding the creation of redundant bureaucratic 'red tape' that could delay critical housing development projects. Enforcement efficacy: determining whether a formal registration system provides a meaningful deterrent to bad actors, or if existing criminal statutes remain the most effective tool for prosecution. By soliciting testimony from public stakeholders, industry representatives, and consumer advocates, this committee aims to determine if a registration framework truly serves the public interest without compromising the economic vitality of the state's construction industry. Vote 14-0.

Amendment (1589h)

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

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the implementation of a residential builder registration system.

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

2 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the implementation of a statewide registration system for residential builders and contractors. For the purposes of this act, "residential builder" shall mean a person or business entity whose primary source of income is derived from the construction, reconstruction, or substantial renovation of residential properties consisting of 4 or fewer dwelling units in a single building.

3 Membership and Compensation.

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

(a) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

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

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

4 Duties. The committee shall:

I. Examine the viability, process, and necessity of implementing a statewide registration for residential builders.

II. Assess whether a registration system would enhance consumer protection and address instances of fraud, misrepresentation, exploitation, and miscommunication.

III. Evaluate the scope and structure of a registration system, including eligibility requirements, renewal standards, complaint procedures, fee structures, oversight, and disciplinary mechanisms.

IV. Identify which, if any, existing state agency or department would be best suited to oversee and administer a registration system, including but not limited to the department of labor, the office of professional licensure and certification, or the department of justice.

V. Solicit testimony from members of the public, representatives of the residential building industry, municipal officials, consumer protection advocates, and other interested stakeholders.

VI. Recommend a fee structure sufficient to fully fund administration without reliance on general funds.

5 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.

6 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, 2026.

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

2026-1589h AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study the implementation of a residential builder registration system.

SB 655, (New Title) relative to employee leasing companies, workers' compensation coverage options, and a minimum wage exemption for minor league baseball players. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Brian Seaworth for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. As this bill came to the House, it addresses two separate topics. In the first part, it deals with an entity called an employee leasing company. This is a co-employment arrangement where a leasing company provides HR-like functions to multiple small employers. Under current law, the leasing company must provide workers' compensation insurance coverage. The committee found that this bill would provide the flexibility for either employing entity to provide coverage without removing protections afforded the workers. The second section clarifies that NH state law does not interfere with the collectively-bargained contract signed by minor league baseball players. This portion of the bill is requested and supported by both management and player union representation. Vote 20-0.

SB 499, (New Title) relative to the membership, duties, and reporting requirements of the traffic safety commission. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Charles Foote for Transportation. This bill improves New Hampshire traffic safety efforts by requiring the traffic safety commission to analyze and report on the causes of motor vehicle crashes. By adding an additional member from the trauma medical review committee, the goal is to establish better preventative measures by utilizing aggregated data. It poses no new mandates or obligations on drivers and focuses on transparency, prevention, and better use of information to reduce crashes and save lives. Vote 14-0.

SB 500, relative to restroom access for certain commercial motor vehicle operators. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Henry Giasson for Transportation. This bill states that commercial drivers shall be authorized access to restrooms at points of pick up and delivery provided such a facility exists. This bill does not mandate renovation nor the creation of facilities, but rather states that should such facilities exist, that commercial drivers shall be allowed access when in their scope of operation they are servicing such facility. There is a shortage of commercial drivers in the state, and lack of access to restrooms has been identified as a reason for drivers, specifically female drivers, to leave the industry or leave the state. Stating that drivers contracted by the covered establishments shall have access to restrooms while in their scope of duty delivering or picking up cargo is a step to mitigate this issue which is effecting our employment, business and commercial logistical support, and driver quality of life. Vote 14-0.

REGULAR CALENDAR

SB 513-FN, requiring schools to engage an owner's project manager for construction of school building aid projects at the time of application. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Rick Ladd for Education Funding. As amended, this bill provides a school district or chartered public school that accepts school building aid for construction shall engage the services of an owner's project manager (OPM) for construction or reconstruction/renovation projects of \$2 million or more, unless the commissioner waives such requirement as unnecessary. An OPM may be hired before entering into a contract for design services in order to represent the best interests of the school throughout the design process, including assisting the superintendent of schools or charter school director with hiring the architect, analyzing the project feasibility, and selecting a project delivery system. The OPM shall have no contractual ties to the architect, design team, or general contractor to avoid conflicts of interest. In summary, it is reasonable that a school district may benefit by engaging the services of an OPM prior to applying for school building aid when proposing highly complex or complicated projects. The value of an OPM lies in providing objective, expert advice that protects the owner's vision and investment throughout the entire process including pre application work; however, mandating the hiring of an OPM before accepting building aid from the state, should remain a decision made at the local district level. Vote 17-0.

Amendment (1586h)

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

AN ACT relative to the hiring of an owner's project manager (OPM) for construction or renovation projects which utilize school building aid.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 School Building Aid; Approval of Plans; Specifications, and Costs of Construction or Purchase; Owner's Project Manager Requirements Modified. Amend RSA 198:15-c, III to read as follows:

III. A school district or chartered public school that accepts school building aid for construction shall engage the services of an owner's project manager (*OPM*) for construction or reconstruction/renovation projects of [~~\$1,250,000~~] **\$2,000,000** or more, unless the commissioner waives such requirement as unnecessary. ***An OPM may be hired before entering into a contract for design services in order to represent the best interests of the school throughout the design process, including assisting the superintendent of schools or charter school director with hiring the architect, analyzing the project feasibility, and selecting a project delivery system. The OPM shall have no contractual ties to the architect, design team, or general contractor to avoid conflicts of interest.*** The [owner's project manager] *OPM* shall have his or her own comprehensive liability and auto insurance, workers' compensation coverage, and professional liability coverage. The state board of education shall adopt rules pursuant to RSA 541-A relative to the required services, responsibilities, and qualifications for the [owner's project manager] *OPM* to ensure the project owner's best interests are carried out.

2026-1586h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Permits schools to hire an owner's project manager (OPM) before entering into a contract for design services in order for an OPM to represent a school throughout the design process.

II. Requires that a hired OPM maintain no contractual conflicts of interest with any architect, design team member, or general contractor hired by a school for a construction or reconstruction/renovation project.

III. Increases the threshold cost for projects where a school district or chartered public school is required to hire an OPM.

The question being adoption of the committee amendment.

Committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to third reading.

SB 531-FN, establishing a task force to study the feasibility of the creation of cosmetology related programming in Coos County. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Daniel Popovici-Muller for the **Majority** of Education Funding. This is a bipartisan Senate Bill that had no testimony in opposition during its Senate hearing and was adopted by the Senate on the consent calendar. This bill merely creates a task force to report on the feasibility of cosmetology related programming in Coos county; no mandate or obligation would be imposed on our higher education system as a result of this bill becoming law. On a 16-1 vote, the committee also amended the bill to establish that career technical education programs may be located on both University System of New Hampshire and Community College System of New Hampshire campuses. Lastly, the committee amendment includes a non-germane amendment that

requires school districts to report the aggregate debt arising solely from meals provided to students through the USDA Food and Nutrition Service programs. Currently, there is no good data that the Department of Education or the legislature can use to assess the burden that school meals aggregate debt places on the school districts and local taxpayers. The legislature has been asking for such data for years. Lacking this legal mandate, the Department of Education cannot obtain this necessary information; however, this bill as amended provides the department authority to collect the data. Vote 9-8.

Rep. David Luneau for the **Minority** of Education Funding. This bill creates a task force to study the feasibility of establishing a cosmetology program at White Mountain Community College. It also expands the scope of career and technical education (CTE) to include regional partnerships between CTE centers and state colleges and universities and directs the Department of Education to collect data from school districts with respect to student meal debt. The expansion of CTE and collection of student meal debt makes sense, but forcing a college and school district to create a task force to study the feasibility to implement a specific program at a specific location is legislative overreach. Every community college has an advisory board to advise on strategic directions, workforce needs, and educational programs. The advisory boards ensure programs meet the state's economic and job market needs and keep educational programs relevant to the changing job market. The minority amendment keeps the CTE expansion and meal debt reporting provisions and eliminates the cosmetology task force.

Majority Amendment (1704h)

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

AN ACT establishing a task force to study the feasibility of the creation of cosmetology related programming in Coos County and requiring the reporting of student meal debt by school districts and public chartered schools to the department of education.

Amend RSA 188-E:1 as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

188-E:1 Designation of Regional Centers and Programs. The commissioner, department of education, is hereby authorized and directed to designate high schools, and public academies as defined in RSA 194:23, II, offering career and technical education programs as career and technical education centers. In instances where it is educationally and economically feasible to do so, the commissioner may designate individual career and technical education programs in other than the career and technical education centers as regional programs. ***This may include programs located on university system of New Hampshire and community college system of New Hampshire (CCSNH) campuses and programs jointly established by career and technical education centers and the university system of New Hampshire or CCSNH.*** An out-of-state school or program may be designated, when it is in the best interest of the state, as a part of the New Hampshire regional career and technical education plan.

Amend the bill by inserting after section 3 the following and renumbering the original section 4 to read as 5:

4 Food and Nutrition Programs; School Lunch Meal Payments; Debt Reporting Requirement Added. Amend RSA 189:11-a, VIII to read as follows:

VIII.(a) A school lunch meal payment policy which is implemented by a school board either before or after the effective date of this section shall ensure that all students have access to a healthy school lunch, that the school district will make every reasonable effort to inform parents of the policy, and that no student will be subject to different treatment from the standard school lunch meal or school cafeteria procedures. The department of education or the state board of education, upon request of the local school board, may provide communication assistance to school districts and parents of school children regarding the school lunch meal payment policy.

(b) ***Each school district and chartered public school shall maintain accurate annual records of all student meal debt accrued within the district or chartered public school and shall submit such records to the department of education in the manner and form prescribed by the department. For purposes of this subparagraph:***

(1) ***"Student meal debt" means aggregate debt arising solely from meals provided to students through the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service program or meals served pursuant to this section.***

(2) ***"Student meal debt" shall not include debt resulting from a la carte purchases, snacks, beverages, or any other non-meal items. Such non-meal items shall not be included in the aggregate student meal debt reported to the department of education; provided, however, that such debt shall still be recorded and maintained by each school district and chartered public school.***

2026-1704h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Establishes a task force to report on the feasibility of creating cosmetology related programming within Coos County.

II. Extends programming on university system of New Hampshire and community college system of New Hampshire campuses to qualify as career and technical education programs as determined by the commissioner of the department of education.

III. Requires school districts and public chartered schools to maintain accurate annual records of student meal debt and to submit such records to the department of education.

The bill is a request of the department of education.

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

Majority committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Rep. Luneau offered minority committee amendment (1762h).

Minority Amendment (1762h)

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

AN ACT extending programs which may qualify as career and technical education programs and requiring the reporting of student food service debt by school districts and public chartered schools to the department of education.

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

1 Designation of Regional Centers and Program. Amend RSA 188-E:1 to read as follows:

188-E:1 Designation of Regional Centers and Programs. The commissioner, department of education, is hereby authorized and directed to designate high schools, and public academies as defined in RSA 194:23, II, offering career and technical education programs as career and technical education centers. In instances where it is educationally and economically feasible to do so, the commissioner may designate individual career and technical education programs in other than the career and technical education centers as regional programs. ***This may include programs located on university system of New Hampshire and community college system of New Hampshire (CCSNH) campuses and programs jointly established by career and technical education centers and the university system of New Hampshire or CCSNH.*** An out-of-state school or program may be designated, when it is in the best interest of the state, as a part of the New Hampshire regional career and technical education plan.

2 Food and Nutrition Programs; School Lunch Meal Payments; Debt Reporting Requirement Added. Amend RSA 189:11-a, VIII to read as follows:

VIII.(a) A school lunch meal payment policy which is implemented by a school board either before or after the effective date of this section shall ensure that all students have access to a healthy school lunch, that the school district will make every reasonable effort to inform parents of the policy, and that no student will be subject to different treatment from the standard school lunch meal or school cafeteria procedures. The department of education or the state board of education, upon request of the local school board, may provide communication assistance to school districts and parents of school children regarding the school lunch meal payment policy.

(b) Each school district and chartered public school shall maintain accurate annual records of all student food service debt accrued within the district or chartered public school and shall submit such records to the department of education in the manner and form prescribed by the department. Records shall include:

(1) Aggregate student food service debt arising solely from meals provided to students through the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service program or meals served pursuant to this section.

(2) Aggregate student food service debt resulting from a la carte purchases, snacks, beverages, or any other non-meal items.

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

2026-1762h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Extends programming on university system of New Hampshire and community college system of New Hampshire campuses to qualify as career and technical education programs as determined by the commissioner of the department of education.

II. Requires school districts and public chartered schools to maintain accurate annual records of student food service debt and to submit such records to the department of education.

The question being adoption of minority committee amendment (1762h).

Rep. Luneau spoke in favor.

On a division vote, with 152 members having voted in the affirmative, and 188 in the negative, the amendment failed.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment. On a division vote, with 185 members having voted in the affirmative, and 156 in the negative, the majority committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to third reading.

SB 442, relative to pet transfers. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Peter Bixby for Environment and Agriculture. In 2021 in HB 2, we established a database to track pet animal transfers for dogs, cats, and ferrets. When we created the database system, we also changed the term “health certificate” to “official certificate of transfer.” The new term is used correctly in the body of RSA 437:8, but the term “Health Certificate” remains in the section heading and this bill changes it to be the correct term. There is also one location in a subsequent section where the term “certificate of transfer” is used instead of “official certificate of transfer” and this bill corrects that as well. Vote 13-0.

The question being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass.

Rep. Bixby offered floor amendment (1794h).

Floor Amendment (1794h)

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following and renumbering the original section 3 to read as 4:

3 Health Certificate; Official Certificate of Transfer. Amend RSA 437:8, VI(f) to read as follows:

(f) No animal shelter shall transfer any dog, cat, or ferret that is received from outside of the state without an official ~~health certificate~~ **certificate of transfer** and until the quarantine requirements in RSA 437:8, IV have been met.

The question being adoption of floor amendment (1794h).

Rep. Bixby spoke in favor.

Floor amendment (1794h) was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to third reading.

SB 669-FN, relative to on-premises licenses for licensed barbershops and salons. **MAJORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Jeremy Slottje for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill proposes a structural change to the current liquor licensing framework for barbershops and salons by establishing a two-tier licensing system. While the committee acknowledges the intent to clarify and regulate the service of alcohol in these establishments, the proposal introduces complex regulatory, enforcement, and public safety considerations. The committee has determined that a deeper examination is required to address regulatory implementation, enforcement feasibility and public safety by evaluating the administrative burden on the liquor commission regarding the oversight of two distinct licensing tiers, assessing the practical challenges of monitoring “sale” vs. “service without charge” models in a salon environment, and ensuring that the proposed reporting requirements and limitations effectively mitigate risks associated with alcohol consumption in non-traditional venues. Given the complexities inherent in modifying existing licensing statutes and the need for further stakeholder input, the committee believes an interim study is the most appropriate course of action to ensure a comprehensive and well-considered legislative approach. Vote 13-3.

Rep. Erica de Vries for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill, as amended, would create a narrowly tailored, two-tiered on-premises license for professional licensed barbershops and salons, allowing the sale of a single drink per appointment as an incidental complement to professional service. It is a modest extension of the kind of license flexibility the legislature has already granted to cigar bars, athletic clubs, alpine slides, and rail cars. The parity concerns raised by the Lodging and Restaurant Association and Brewers Association were heard and addressed through the amendment, which raised the Tier 2 fee to \$720, placing salon licensees above the \$480 manufacturer rate in recognition of the different commercial context. The structural safeguards, including the professional license prerequisite, one-drink-per-appointment cap, prohibition on standalone bar operation, record keeping requirements, and the additional deterrent of professional license exposure for violations are stronger than those governing many existing license categories.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Refer for Interim Study.

Rep. Slottje spoke in favor.

Rep. de Vries spoke against and requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 173 - NAYS 171

YEAS - 173

BELKNAP

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Brown, Richard

Belcher, Mike
Taylor, Brian

Smith, Jonathan

Peternel, Katy

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Germana, Nicholas
Qualey, James

Hunt, John
Nalevanko, Rich
Thackston, Dick

Jones, Philip
Newell, Jodi
Weber, Lucy

Karasinski, Sly
Parshall, Lucius

COOS

Durkin, Sean
Tremblay, Marc

Morency, Pete

King, Seth

Tierney, James

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Spahr, Terry

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda
Stavis, Laurel

Berezhny, Lex
Ladd, Rick

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise
Louis, Darrell

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Cole, Brian
DiSilvestro, Linda
Erf, Keith
Gould, Linda
Kesselring, Steven
Howard, Molly
Miles, Julie
Paquette, Kathleen
Newman, Ray
Seibert, Christine
Wheeler, Jonah

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Drew, Matt
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie
Labrie, Brian
Murphy, Mary
Mooney, Maureen
Pauer, Diane
Reinfurt, Sherri
Slottje, Jeremy
Wherry, Robert

Boyd, Bill
Booras, Efstathia
Kelley, Diane
Dumont, Dillon
Griffin, Gerald
Jack, Martin
Lascelles, Richard
Mazur, Lisa
Noble, Kristin
Post, Lisa
Newman, Sue
Tenczar, Jeffrey

Barbour, Liz
Chourasia, Manoj
Daniels, Gary
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Leishman, Peter
McLean, Mark
Notter, Jeanine
Presa, Adam
Schneller, John
Warden, Mark

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
McGuire, Dan
Hicks, Matthew
Richards, Beth
Walsh, Thomas

Aures, Cyril
Devoid, Ricky
Hall, Muriel
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

McGuire, Carol
Ebel, Karen
Payeur, Stephanie
Seaworth, Brian

Cambrils, Jose
Gallager, Eric
Pitaro, Matthew
See, Alvin

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
DeSimone, Debra
Edwards, Jess
Guzowski, James
Knab, Allison
Litchfield, Melissa
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Meuse, David
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Tripp, Richard
MacDonald, Wayne

Bernardy, JD
DeVito, Sayra
Ford, Mary
Harb, Robert
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Markell, Jay
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Soti, Julius
Tudor, Paul
Weyler, Kenneth

Bryer, Scott
Drago, Mike
Gilman, Julie
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Sweeney, Joe
Vandecasteele, Susan

Thomas, Douglas
Dunn, Ron
Guthrie, Joseph
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Maggiore, Jim
Melvin, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Pearson, Stephen
Sytek, John
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bixby, Peter
Levesque, Cassandra
Walker, David

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Smith, Marjorie

Smith, Geoffrey
Potenza, Kelley

Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

NAYS - 171**BELKNAP**

Aldrich, Glen
Ploszaj, Tom

Bordes, Mike
Minor, Sheri

Coker, Matthew

Comtois, Barbara

CARROLLBoudman, Bobbi
McAleer, ChrisBurroughs, Anita
Woodcock, Stephen

Paige, David

Hamblen, Joseph

CHESHIREAmes, Dick
Gruber, James
Rhodes, JenniferHarvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, SamanthaFox, Dru
Mattson, RitaFaulkner, Barry
O'Rourke, Terri**COOS**

Korzen, Lori

Murphy, Michael

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTONBaldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Muirhead, Russell
Sykes, GeorgeBeaulier, Calvin
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Oppel, ThomasBolton, Bill
Sullivan, Jared
Rockmore, EllenCormen, Thomas
Lucas, Janet
Stringham, Jerry**HILLSBOROUGH**Murray, Alissandra
Colcombe, Riché
Dargie, Paul
Georges, Mary
Hartnett, Tim
Juris, Louis
Foxx, Loren
Manohar, Sanjeev
Ohm, Bill
Proulx, Mark
Rung, Rosemarie
Spier, Carry
Telerski, Laura
Vail, SuzanneBeauchemin, Paige
Corcoran, Travis
Elberger, Susan
Giasson, Henry
Hegner, Karen
Kerwin, Erin
LeClerc, Daniel
McGhee, Kat
Petrigno, Peter
Prout, Andrew
Ryan, Linda
Staub, Kathy
Tellez, Trinidad
Veilleux, DanielBudathoki, Suraj
Cornell, Patricia
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Herbert, Christopher
Kluger, Lee Ann
Long, Patrick
Morton, Jonathan
Plamondon, Marc
Raymond, Heather
Salvi, Santosh
Suiter, John
Mannion, Tom
Dolan, WilliamChretien, Suzanne
Darby, Will
Foss, Lily
Grill, Jessica
Jeudy, Jean
Kofalt, Jim
Murray, Megan
Murphy, Nancy
Preece, David
Rombeau, Catherine
Sirois, Shane
Swanson, Dale
Ulery, Jordan
Thomas, Wendy**MERRIMACK**Aylward, Deborah
Kelly, Eileen
Moffett, Michael
Roesener, James
Snodgrass, Jim
Woods, GaryBricchi, Tracy
Lane, Connie
Newsom, James
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, TimothyCaplan, Tony
Luneau, David
Plante, Raymond
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary JaneColby, Eleana
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yuri
Schultz, Kris
Wood, Clayton**ROCKINGHAM**Ball, Lorie
de Vries, Erica
Haskins, Linda
Lynn, Bob
McDonnell, Valerie
Selby, Donald
Dolan, Tom
Wilson, VickiBridle, Nicholas
Donnelly, Tanya
Murray, Kate
Paige, Mark
McGrath, Linda
Simpson, Alexis
Verville, KevinCahill, Michael
Edgar, Michael
Kuttab, Katelyn
Malloy, Dennis
Muns, Chris
Sorensen, Carrie
Ward, GeraldMannion, Dennis
Foote, Charles
Lundgren, David
Manos, Zoe
Roy, Terry
Spillane, James
Weinstein, Toni**STRAFFORD**Bailey, Glenn
DeLemus, Susan
Gilmore, Gary
Horrigan, Timothy
LaMontagne, Jessica
Turcotte, LenBay, Luz
DeRoy, Susan
Granger, Michael
Howland, Allan
Miller, Seth
Pearson, WayneBurnham, Claudine
England, Myles
Howard, Heath
Johnson, Erik
Selig, Loren
Wade, AliceBurton, Wayne
Farrington, Samuel
Harrington, Michael
Kaczynski, Thomas
Southworth, Thomas
Wall, Janet**SULLIVAN**

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the majority committee report was adopted.

SB 481-FN-A, (New Title) relative to the sale of the Sununu youth services center property. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**Rep. Brian Seaworth for the **Majority** of Finance. This bill, as it came to us, is a housekeeping bill to address duplication and conflict in two sections of HB 2. The budget's conflict is that it puts proceeds from the sale of the Sununu Center into the general fund (in one section) and the youth development center settlement fund (in another). The unamended bill resolves this conflict by making the destination of the funds conditional.

The majority amendment simplifies by directing the proceeds of the sale into the general fund in all cases. Because neither the timing nor the amounts for the sale nor for the settlements are known at this time, this solution provides needed flexibility. As settlements are reached, general fund money will be allocated to pay for them. The initial disposition of the Sununu Center sale money does not negatively impact the victims or their compensation. Vote 13-11.

Rep. David Preece for the **Minority** of Finance. The State of New Hampshire has acknowledged its responsibility for the abuse that occurred at the Sununu Youth Development Center. That is no longer in question. What remains is whether we will meet that responsibility with clarity and integrity. Claims are ongoing, liabilities are significant, and the obligation to compensate victims is real. The minority amendment ensures any financial benefit from that property's sale is directly applied to the state's liability. That is the right policy—and a responsible fiscal choice. Dedicated funding reduces long-term exposure, enables timely claim resolution, and demonstrates New Hampshire's intent to meet its obligations. Just as importantly, it aligns a state asset with the consequences of state action—acknowledging both benefit and burden. This amendment provides what this moment demands: clarity, accountability, responsibility. When the state assumes a responsibility, it cannot look away—it must pay it forward and make it right. The minority urges the House to adopt its amendment and pass SB 481.

Majority Amendment (1503h)

Amend 2023, 2:4, V as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

V. All proceeds and revenue from the sale of the SYSC shall be deposited in the general fund.

2026-1503h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Directs the department of administrative services to take possession of the Sununu youth services center (SYSC) property, to negotiate any contracts necessary for the sale of the property, subject to approval by the governor and council, and authorizes the department to request an additional appropriation to maintain the property, subject to approval of the fiscal committee and governor and council.

II. Provides that proceeds from the sale of the SYSC property shall be deposited in the general fund.

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

Rep. Preece spoke against.

Rep. Seaworth spoke in favor and yielded to questions.

On a division vote, with 186 members having voted in the affirmative, and 158 in the negative, the majority committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Rep. Germana requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 186 - NAYS 157

YEAS - 186

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Comtois, Barbara
Terry, Paul

Bogert, Steven
Freeman, Lisa
Toner, Travis

Bordes, Mike
Ploszaj, Tom

Coker, Matthew
Minor, Sheri

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike
Brown, Richard

Hamblen, Joseph
Taylor, Brian

Smith, Jonathan

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Durkin, Sean
Ouellet, Mike

Korzen, Lori
King, Seth

Murphy, Michael
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrck, Marie Louise

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian

Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Pauer, Diane
Prout, Andrew
Slottje, Jeremy
Ulery, Jordan

Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Suiter, John
Warden, Mark

Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Murphy, Mary
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Presa, Adam
Schneller, John
Tenczar, Jeffrey
Wherry, Robert

Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Paquette, Kathleen
Proulx, Mark
Sirois, Shane
Mannion, Tom

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriels, Jose
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

McGuire, Carol
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yuri
Walsh, Thomas

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Foote, Charles
Harb, Robert
Miner, Laurence
Lundgren, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Potucek, John
Selby, Donald
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Ford, Mary
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lynn, Bob
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Guthrie, Joseph
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Pearson, Mark
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Roy, Terry
Spillane, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Guzowski, James
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Turcotte, Len

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Walker, David

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy
Spilsbury, Walter

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Smith, Steven

NAYS - 157 BELKNAP

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Boudman, Bobbi
Woodcock, Stephen

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rourke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Foss, Lily
Hartnett, Tim

Beauchemin, Paige
Chretien, Suzanne
DiSilvestro, Linda
Georges, Mary
Hegner, Karen

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Elberger, Susan
Grill, Jessica
Herbert, Christopher

Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie
Jack, Martin

Jeady, Jean
 Foxx, Loren
 Howard, Molly
 Murphy, Nancy
 Newman, Ray
 Ryan, Linda
 Spier, Carry
 Tellez, Trinidad
 Thomas, Wendy

Juris, Louis
 LeClerc, Daniel
 Murray, Megan
 Petrigno, Peter
 Raymond, Heather
 Newman, Sue
 Staub, Kathy
 Vail, Suzanne
 Wheeler, Jonah

Kerwin, Erin
 Leishman, Peter
 Manohar, Sanjeev
 Plamondon, Marc
 Rombeau, Catherine
 Salvi, Santosh
 Swanson, Dale
 Veilleux, Daniel

Kluger, Lee Ann
 Long, Patrick
 McGhee, Kat
 Preece, David
 Rung, Rosemarie
 Seibert, Christine
 Telerski, Laura
 Dolan, William

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
 Ebel, Karen
 Luneau, David
 Richards, Beth
 Schultz, Kris
 Woods, Gary

Caplan, Tony
 Gallager, Eric
 Hall, Muriel
 Roesener, James
 Snodgrass, Jim

Colby, Eleana
 Hicks, Matthew
 Newsom, James
 Sargent, Gregory
 Soucy, Timothy

Kelly, Eileen
 Lane, Connie
 Payeur, Stephanie
 Schamberg, Thomas
 Wallner, Mary Jane

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
 Gilman, Julie
 Love, David
 Mandelbaum, Jennifer
 Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
 Weinstein, Toni

Cahill, Michael
 Haskins, Linda
 Paige, Mark
 Manos, Zoe
 Simpson, Alexis
 Wilson, Vicki

de Vries, Erica
 Murray, Kate
 Maggiore, Jim
 Meuse, David
 Sorensen, Carrie

Edgar, Michael
 Knab, Allison
 Malloy, Dennis
 Muns, Chris
 Ward, Gerald

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
 Smith, Geoffrey
 Howland, Allan
 Levesque, Cassandra
 Schmidt, Peter
 Wade, Alice

Bixby, Peter
 Gilmore, Gary
 Johnson, Erik
 Smith, Marjorie
 Selig, Loren
 Wall, Janet

Burton, Wayne
 Howard, Heath
 LaMontagne, Jessica
 Miller, Seth
 Southworth, Thomas

England, Myles
 Horrigan, Timothy
 Larochelle, John
 Potenza, Kelley
 Pearson, Wayne

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

Majority committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to third reading.

SB 592-FN, enabling regional, conservation, and energy resource planning for habitat strongholds and wild-life corridors and creating a commission to study transferring ownership of the Winnepesaukee River Basin program to an alternative authority. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Carol McGuire for Finance. This bill has three separate parts. First, it reminded conservation districts, regional planning organizations and energy resource planning groups to consider wildlife corridors and habitat strongholds. It doesn't cost anything, and timberland owners have reported that it respects private property. The second section added a technical director for the Winnepesaukee River Basin waste water district, a person employed by the state – since the state owns the facilities and operates the district – but requested and paid by the municipalities in the district. The third part of the bill creates a study commission on this system and its ownership, also requested by the towns in the district. Vote 24-0.

The question being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass.

Committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to a third reading.

MOTION TO PRINT DEBATE

Rep. Germana moved that the debate on **HB 481**, relative to the state primary date, be printed in the Permanent Journal.

DEBATE ON SB 481-FN

Representative Preece: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and members of the House, I rise to the opposition of SB 481 with the majority amendment (2026-1503h). The amendment takes the proceeds from the sale of the Sununu Youth Services Center property and sends them directly into the general fund. That may be legally permissible, but Mr. Speaker, it is profoundly wrong. The State of New Hampshire has already acknowledged the responsibility for decades of horrific abuse at the Youth Development Center. We know victims were harmed, we know claims remained unresolved, and we know that the fiscal liability facing the state is enormous. So the question before us is simple. When the state sells the very property tied to the abuse, where should that money go? Should it go toward helping to meet our moral and legal obligations to the victims? Or should it disappear into the general fund to be spent on unrelated government operations? The minority believes that the answer should be obvious. This is not about accounting. It's about accountability. The majority amendment sends a terrible message to survivors that when the state finally liquidates

this property, the first priority is not justice, not restitution, not responsibility, but balancing budgets and funding unrelated expenditures. That is backward. If the state incurs a liability through its own misconduct, then the state should dictate available assets toward addressing that liability. That is fiscally responsible, that is morally responsible, and frankly, that is what the public expects from us. Members, the general fund will always have demands. There will always be another program, another budget line, another fiscal pressure. But this situation is unique. We are talking about one of the darkest chapters of New Hampshire's history. A scandal that destroyed lives, shattered families and permanently damaged public trust in government. We cannot undo what has happened. But we can decide whether this body responds with integrity, or do we match those words with action? The majority amendment chooses convenience over accountability. It treats those proceeds as ordinary revenue when they are anything but ordinary. Members, survivors have waited for decades for justice. Many endured silence, intimidation, shame, and trauma while the state failed them again and again. At the very least, the proceeds from this department should be directed toward resolving the obligations created by that failure. Not diverted elsewhere. Not absorbed into the general fund. And that disconnected from the very harm that created this moment in the first place. For those reasons, I urge the House to reject the majority amendment (2026-1503h) and oppose SB 481 as amended And Mr. Chairman, I ask for a division of the House. Thank you.

Speaker Packard: Chair recognizes Representative Seaworth.

Representative Seaworth: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the bill before us, the amendment before us is a lot simpler than it was made out to be. The bill itself is a housekeeping bill. It simply cleans up some duplicative and conflicting language that is currently in HB 2. The conflict is what we do with the money when this sale proceeds. It does not create new revenue. It does not redirect spending. If payments need to be made to the claimants, those will be funded one way or another. The question is really, where do we park the money in the interim in between receiving it and spending it? The answer really depends, it depends on the order that things happen. We don't know when this sale might take place, we don't know how much money we'll receive from it, we don't know how many claims that we'll have to pay and how much and we don't know the order that's coming in. So given all the possible options, it makes sense to keep the future decision about what we might do with money a year from now, two years from now, ten years from now open to respond to the situation at hand. And for that reason, I ask you to please vote in favor of the majority amendment. Thank you.

Speaker Packard: Does the member yield to questions?

Representative Seaworth: I do.

Speaker Packard: Member yields, you may inquire.

Representative Edwards: Thank you, Representative. It was a pleasure serving with you on Division III. As I recall, and I'd ask you to clarify for me, didn't Division III have a robust discussion on what we should do with the financial assets that may come out of the Sununu Center sale? And didn't we decide that we needed to put the money into the general fund in order to cover a deficit that would have remained? And if that's the case, isn't it the responsible thing to meet our obligations under the budget that we passed so that we are balanced-neutral?

Representative Seaworth: Thank you for the question. Yes, that is accurate. If you can imagine the situation with the timing where the first thing that happens is that we realize that there isn't enough money in the settlement fund and we have to find the money to put it there. So what do we do? We might need to cancel contracts, we might need to reduce staff, we might need to take away services from our constituents who need them. Then the money comes in from the sale. So what do we do? Do we add it to the fund that we've already put enough money in for what we know we need to spend, or do we use it to make up the costs that we've incurred to cover it? Again, it depends exactly on the timing, what order things come in, but there are situations that, yes, we discussed on Division III, that it can be important to deal with the costs that we have at hand rather than allocate that money years in advance.

Speaker Packard: Representative Seaworth has requested a division. This will be a division vote on the amendment. Members, take your seats, please. The motion before us is amendment (1503h). This is a division vote. The Chair recognizes Representative Wallner for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Wallner: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I know that it is only right that the proceeds of the sale of the Sununu Youth Services Center go to settle claims of the victims who were abused at the facility during their confinement in state custody, and if I know that if the proceeds of the sale go into the general fund, budget writers will be under pressure to use the funds to meet other pressing state needs, and if I know that the State of New Hampshire has an obligation to fund the victim settlement fund, would I now vote no to placing the proceeds from the sale of the Sununu Youth Services Center in the general fund by pressing the red button?

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Weyler for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Weyler: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I know that putting an amount in the budget expected from the sale of a property almost never works, and if I further know that budgets need a definite figure at a definite time, and this proposal does not deliver anything definite, so would I then push the green button so that we do not create a budget problem? Thank you.

Speaker Packard: The motion before us is amendment (1503h). This is a division vote. If you're in favor, you'll press the green button. If you're opposed, you'll press the red button. Voting stations are open for 30 seconds. Have all members present had an opportunity to vote? The House will attend to the state of the vote. With 186 voting yea, 158 voting nay, the motion passes. The motion before us now is Ought to Pass with Amendment. A division has been requested. Members, take your seats. This will be a division vote. Representative Germana has requested a roll call. Is that sufficiently seconded? This will be a roll call vote. The motion before us is a motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment. This is going to be a roll call vote. The Chair recognizes Representative Wallner for a parliamentary inquiry. Representative Wallner is waving off. Representative Weyler is waving off. The motion before us is Ought to Pass on Senate Bill 481. This is a roll call vote. If you're in favor, you'll press the green button. If you're opposed, you'll press the red button. Voting stations are open for 30 seconds. Have all members present had an opportunity to vote? The House will attend to the state of the vote. 186 voting yea, 157 voting nay. The committee report is adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR CONTINUED

SB 603-FN, relative to the funding of the SNAP program by the department of health and human services. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Samuel Farrington for the **Majority** of Finance. This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer funds within and among accounting units as necessary to address any budget reduction for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) incurred by the state as a result of a reduction in federal funding. In the committee hearing, Finance Division 3 heard from the department that this is already their current practice. Therefore, this bill is not necessary. Vote 13-11.

Rep. Jerry Stringham for the **Minority** of Finance. This bill passed on a unanimous basis in the Senate and was sent to the House for consideration. SB 603, with the minority amendment would restore funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that was eliminated by the federal government in HR1. HR1 passed on July 4, three days after New Hampshire's biennium budget went into effect. One provision of HR1 was to increase the percentage of SNAP program administration costs that the state is responsible for from the current 50% to 75% beginning October 1, 2026. This unexpected and unforeseen change results in an additional expenditure of approximately \$4.4 million in state funds this biennium due to the downshifting of administrative burden from the federal government to the state. The SNAP program is valuable for those in need and for New Hampshire's businesses. About 75,000 Granite Staters receive \$154 million in nutritional benefits provided through personal electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards that can be used in over 1,000 New Hampshire stores, including small businesses. The \$154 million is 100% provided by the federal government. New Hampshire pays only a share of the administrative costs. Another element of the federal HR1 bill was to require an administrative error rate of below 6%. If the rate is above this amount, the state becomes responsible for a portion of the SNAP benefits, potentially increasing the state's budget by \$20 million per year. The minority believes that failure to pass SB 603 with the minority amendment, eliminates substantial administration management and oversight funds for this valuable program, increasing the risk of future financial penalties. This bill without the amendment indicates the Department of Health and Human Services should find other funds, but the department is already struggling to find \$51 million in back-of-the-budget cuts from funded programs. For these reasons, the minority supports the appropriation with the minority amendment and an OTPA motion.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Reps. Wheeler and Stringham spoke against.

Rep. Farrington spoke in favor.

Rep. Telerski requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 186 - NAYS 158

YEAS - 186

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, Lisa
Toner, Travis

Bogert, Steven
Ploszaj, Tom

Bordes, Mike
Minor, Sheri

Comtois, Barbara
Terry, Paul

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike
Brown, Richard

Hamblen, Joseph
Taylor, Brian

Smith, Jonathan

CHESHIRE

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

COOS

Durkin, Sean
Ouellet, Mike

Korzen, Lori
King, Seth

Murphy, Michael
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

GRAFTON

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise

Franz, Linda

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
Mazur, Lisa
Noble, Kristin
Pauer, Diane
Prout, Andrew
Slottje, Jeremy
Ulery, Jordan

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
McLean, Mark
Notter, Jeanine
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Suiter, John
Warden, Mark

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Presa, Adam
Schneller, John
Tenczar, Jeffrey
Wherry, Robert

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Murphy, Mary
Morton, Jonathan
Paquette, Kathleen
Proulx, Mark
Sirois, Shane
Mannion, Tom

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriels, Jose
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

McGuire, Carol
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Foote, Charles
Harb, Robert
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Packard, Sherman
Potucek, John
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Ford, Mary
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McMahon, Charles
Nelson, Jodi
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Selby, Donald
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Guthrie, Joseph
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Roy, Terry
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Guzofski, James
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Markell, Jay
Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Turcotte, Len

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Walker, David

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Spilsbury, Walter

**NAYS - 158
BELKNAP**

Coker, Matthew

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Boudman, Bobbi
Woodcock, Stephen

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

Harvey, Cathryn
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

Baldwin, Heather
Fellows, Sallie
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Barton, Joseph
Fracht, David
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Foss, Lily
Hartnett, Tim
Jeudy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Howard, Molly
Miles, Julie
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Dolan, William

Beauchemin, Paige
Chretien, Suzanne
DiSilvestro, Linda
Georges, Mary
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Thomas, Wendy

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Elberger, Susan
Grill, Jessica
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wheeler, Jonah

Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Long, Patrick
McGhee, Kat
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Richards, Beth
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Roesener, James
Snodgrass, Jim

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Gilman, Julie
Paige, Mark
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Muns, Chris
Weinstein, Toni

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Pearson, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Simpson, Alexis

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Maggiore, Jim
McDonnell, Valerie
Sorensen, Carrie

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Malloy, Dennis
Meuse, David
Ward, Gerald

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wall, Janet

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Miller, Seth
Pearson, Wayne

England, Myles
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Schmidt, Peter
Wade, Alice

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the majority committee report was adopted.

SB 421, (New Title) relative to the membership and duties of the trauma medical review committee and establishing a study committee to review the membership and duties of other boards and an appointment related to emergency medical services. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.** Rep. Lisa Mazur for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The committee majority finds that this legislation alters the composition of the trauma medical review committee in a way that may dilute essential clinical expertise. Testimony raised concerns that the changes appear to be a bureaucratic maneuver driven by dissatisfaction with the commissioner's current appointments, despite the existing flexibility to include trauma center representatives. Notably, the removal of a clear physician requirement could result in a committee lacking surgeons altogether, as trauma program managers and registrars, while valuable, are not typically physicians, potentially undermining the quality of medical oversight. For these reasons, the committee majority recommends Inexpedient to Legislate. Vote 10-8.

Rep. Gary Woods for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill will create an appropriate, timely, and well-crafted review with recommendations to improve the current status of state-wide emergency services. Especially with the intrusion of private equity into this arena, this review will help modernize guidelines aimed at avoiding duplicity yet expanding scope of services to ensure all of New Hampshire residents have timely access to appropriate emergency health care going forward. It also revises the membership of the trauma medical review committee to reflect the changes in trauma treatment over time. For these reasons, the minority recommend Ought to Pass.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Mazur moved that **SB 421**, relative to the membership and duties of the trauma medical review committee and establishing a study committee to review the membership and duties of other boards and an appointment related to emergency medical services, be laid on the table.

On a division vote, with 164 members having voted in the affirmative, and 178 in the negative, the motion failed.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Reps. Drye and Woods spoke against.

Rep. Mazur spoke in favor.

On a division vote, with 158 members having voted in the affirmative, and 183 in the negative, the motion failed.

The question now being adoption of the minority committee report of Ought to Pass.

Minority committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to third reading.

SB 422, relative to membership of the governor's commission on addiction, treatment, and prevention. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Matt Drew for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This is the Governor's Commission on Addiction, Treatment, and Prevention. The Governor did not request these additions and changes, so the majority of the committee found that these changes were unnecessary. Vote 10-8.

Rep. Lucy Weber for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This simple, common-sense bill makes two small changes to the membership of the Governor's Commission on Addiction, Treatment and Prevention. Because gaming addiction has been added to the charge of the commission, the bill adds one new member with expertise in gaming addiction. In addition, another member in long-term recovery has been added to the commission so that it would include a member with that lived experience.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Weber spoke against.

Rep. Drew spoke in favor.

On a division vote, with 183 members having voted in the affirmative, and 156 in the negative, the majority committee report was adopted.

MOTION TO PRINT DEBATE

Rep. Heath Howard moved that the debate on **SB 603-FN**, relative to the funding of the SNAP program by the department of health and human services, be printed in the Permanent Journal.

DEBATE SB 603

Representative Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I remember very clearly walking in the very dark basement of the Unitarian Congregational Church in Peterborough where the Peterborough Food Bank was, and those were on dark sort of cloudy days. I remember my mom wasn't exactly happy about the fact that we were there. It was on days where we had to grab rice and beans because we couldn't necessarily afford them. But when you're a kid, all you care about is the candy. I just wanted the Dots, but Dots are quite disgusting, and so I wasn't exactly happy about the fact that it was the only candy available, but that's what your mindset is on when you're a kid. I was reminded of that when I came and read the calendar this last week on this piece of legislation and got the emails from my constituents who work at the nonprofits such as End Hours of Hunger, and the Peterborough Food Bank and others that service hundreds of families in my region. We are in a town of 7,000 people. And last year, 238 of those families were assisted by End 68 Hours of Hunger, 150 of them by the Peterborough Food Bank. And so, Mr. Speaker, just very briefly, I think as brief as I ever may be in this House of Representatives, wanted to relay both how disgusting Dots were and the fact that kids deserve choices, but also, exactly, smarties, Mr. Chairman, that's 100% true, but also the fact that these state dollars do have an impact. It's not all fraud. I think in this era of government and political culture, we hear a lot of fraud stories, and there is a lot of fraud in government. But there are programs such as SNAP, which provide dollars to programs such as End 68 Hours of Hunger or the Peterborough Food Bank that allow people such as my family, when we couldn't afford rice and beans, to grab rice and beans, and no matter how disgusting Dots are, Mr. Speaker, we were able to eat that night. So, thank you very much. I hope you overturn the ITL on this piece of legislation. Join our friends on the other side of the wall in passing this legislation onto the governor's desk and make sure that the money going to these programs continues to go to them. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Packard: The Chair recognizes Representative Stringham.

Representative Stringham: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to speak against the ITL motion. As the previous speaker said, this bill relates to the very popular Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, which provides food for hungry, hard-working Granite Staters. A vote for the ITL motion is a vote against the SNAP program. It's as simple as that. SB 603 was passed unanimously by the Senate on a bipartisan basis and, as written, requires no appropriation. SB 603 is needed to support the SNAP program because of House

Resolution 1. HR 1, which is also known as the Big Beautiful Bill, passed on July 4th of last year, three days after New Hampshire's biennium budget went into effect. One provision of HR 1 was to increase the percentage of SNAP program administrative costs that the state is responsible for from 50% to 75% beginning on October 1st of this year. So that means for the last nine months of this biennium, the state now picks up 75% of the cost instead of 50%. This unexpected and unforeseen change results in an additional expenditure of \$4.4 million in state funds due to the downshifting of administrative burden from the federal government to the state. The SNAP program is valuable for those in need and for New Hampshire's businesses. About 75,000 Granite Staters receive \$154 million in nutritional benefits provided through personal electronic benefit transfer cards, or EBT cards, that can be used in over 1,000 businesses, including small businesses in the state. The \$154 million is 100% funded by the federal government. New Hampshire pays only a share of the administrative costs, which I said is unexpectedly changing. But there's another important element of HR 1 that makes this bill important, and that is that it requires that the administrative error rate be below 6%. The error rate does not involve anyone receiving benefits. It shouldn't. It's just about having the forms that are needed to be filled out, done perfectly, no typos or anything. If the rate goes above 6%, the state becomes responsible for a portion of the SNAP benefits in the future, potentially increasing the state's budget by \$20 million or more. As written, this bill, would signal that we support this program and direct the department to find funds in other parts of the budget, and that's not easy to do. We're dealing in this department with a \$51 million back of the budget that they're struggling with. They have a hiring freeze right now. They don't have as many people to administer this program as in the budget. An ITL motion would recklessly eliminate substantial administrative management and oversight for this valuable program, increasing the risk for future financial penalties. So please vote red on the motion of ITL so we can support hungry, hardworking granter staters and those businesses that support them, so that additional motions can be made. Mr. Speaker, thank you.

Speaker Steven Smith: Representative Farrington is recognized to speak for the committee report.

Rep. Farrington: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This bill does not relate to junk food or benefits. It doesn't even change how New Hampshire fundamentally administers SNAP. This bill, as was mentioned previously, relates to a deficit in federal funding. If you've read the text of this bill, the language permits the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer funds within and among accounting units, and in Finance Division III, we heard testimony from the department that they're already doing this. So this bill is redundant. It's not necessary. And when speaking to the prime sponsor of the bill, he was not even aware of this because that was not mentioned in the Senate testimony hearing. So this bill is redundant. The department is already doing this practice, and this will have no meaningful change on SNAP policy in New Hampshire. Please support the committee recommendation.

Speaker Steven Smith: Representative Telerski requests a roll call. Is that sufficiently seconded? It is sufficiently seconded. This will be a roll call vote. Members, take your seats. The question is the majority committee report of inexpedient to legislate on Senate Bill 603. Representative Telerski is recognized for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Telerski: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I know that the state budget signed in June was balanced with \$4.4 million expected in federal funds for the SNAP program, but HR 1 changed aspects of SNAP funding, and the department now has to backfill that \$4.4 million on top of the \$51 million back of the budget cut they already have, and if I know that not properly funding administrative costs will undoubtedly result in an increased error rate where we will face significant penalties, putting us even further in the hole, and if I know that SNAP brings \$154 million to New Hampshire to be spent at local businesses and corner markets and is an economic lifeline, both for those who can access nutritious food and for the businesses that accept SNAP, would I then support Granite Staters and our local businesses by pressing the red button to overturn the ITL so we can ensure this important program can continue seamlessly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Steven Smith: Representative Weyler is recognized for a parliamentary inquiry.

Representative Weyler: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I know that the money in this bill has no effect on the distribution of the \$154 million that is going in supplemental nutrition assistance programs, it only affects how much the agency pays. In this case, they think another \$4 million in administrative costs, and they say that they can find that \$4 million cost in their \$2 billion budget and suggests we don't need this bill. Please press the green button for Inexpedient to Legislate.

Speaker Steven Smith: The question is a majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate on Senate Bill 603. This is a roll call vote. If you're in favor, press the green button, opposed, press the red. Voting stations are open for 30 seconds. Have all members present, we've got an opportunity to vote? The House will attend to the state of the vote, 186 in the affirmative, 158 in the negative. The committee report is adopted.

SB 454-FN, requiring the department of health and human services to update existing relevant public health outreach programs by incorporating information to aid public understanding and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Wayne MacDonald for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to engage in certain public health outreach regarding Alzheimer's disease and other related dementia. The Legislative Budget Assistant has determined that this initiative will

cost less than \$10,000.00 per year in each of the fiscal years of 2026 through 2029. This is a tremendous cost savings, when considering the millions of dollars that have been spent on dementia-related diseases over the years. One estimate predicts as much as \$63,000.00 per dementia victim could be saved by the early detection of such a disease. In view of the fact that New Hampshire has an aging population and that dementia usually affects older citizens, this effort makes perfect sense. Further, the success of this legislation will be realized without the creation of any new services or benefits created by DHHS. For these reasons, a majority of the committee recommends ought to pass. Vote 14-4.

The question being adoption of the committee report of Ought to Pass.

Committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to third reading.

SB 501, relative to authorization of seclusion or restraint during a personal safety emergency by a physician, physician associate, or advanced practice registered nurse. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Matt Drew for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. Physical restraint, seclusion (isolation), and chemical restraint are some of those most serious impositions on patient rights. Current law already permits emergency restraint of out-of-control patients to protect both them and the workers and patients around them, with a doctor's approval required after the fact. The majority of the committee finds that expanding this authority is unnecessary. Vote 10-8.

Rep. Tim Hartnett for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This common-sense bill simply allows advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician associates (PAs), both of which are considered licensed practitioners under the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), in addition to physicians, to issue seclusion and restraint orders when necessary for safety at New Hampshire Hospital or the regional receiving hospitals when a patient is a danger to themselves or others while in a mental health crisis. The use of seclusion and restraint are last-resort interventions. They are used in personal safety emergencies to ensure the physical safety of the patient and the medical staff who are treating them. These interventions are routinely implemented in time frames where seconds matter to prevent injury to the patient or the treatment team. At New Hampshire Hospital and the other hospitals, the PA and/or APRN may be the primary treatment provider for a patient in crisis. Under current law, the APRN or PA may issue a seclusion or restraint order, but a physician must be contacted within 15 minutes to continue the order, or the seclusion or restraint must cease entirely. This puts the providers, other patients, and the patient in crisis at extreme risk of harm. Every case is currently reviewed to ensure that the decision to use restraint or seclusion was made correctly and procedures were followed to ensure the civil rights of the patient were preserved, while also protecting the civil rights of all other persons who might be endangered. This practice would not change. In addition, passage of the bill will bring state mental health law into alignment with federal law, as CMS and accrediting bodies already authorize physicians, APRNs and PAs to make these orders during a safety emergency. There is no meaningful reason to oppose this bill, only callous disregard for the care and treatment of patients and the safety of medical staff who treat them.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Wayne MacDonald moved that **SB 501**, relative to authorization of seclusion or restraint during a personal safety emergency by a physician, physician associate, or advanced practice registered nurse, be laid on the table.

Rep. Weber requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 188 - NAYS 154

YEAS - 188

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, Lisa

Bogert, Steven
Ploszaj, Tom

Bordes, Mike
Terry, Paul

Comtois, Barbara
Toner, Travis

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Smith, Jonathan

Belcher, Mike
Peternel, Katy

Burroughs, Anita
Brown, Richard

Hamblen, Joseph
Taylor, Brian

CHESHIRE

Harvey, Cathryn
Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

COOS

Korzen, Lori
King, Seth

Murphy, Michael
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Flanagan, Jack
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Paquette, Kathleen
Prout, Andrew
Slotte, Jeremy
Mannion, Tom

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Griffin, Gerald
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Pauer, Diane
Reinfurt, Sherri
Spier, Carry
Ulery, Jordan

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Post, Lisa
Schneller, John
Suiter, John
Warden, Mark

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Murphy, Mary
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Presa, Adam
Sirois, Shane
Tenczar, Jeffrey
Wherry, Robert

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriels, Jose
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

Aures, Cyril
McGuire, Dan
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

Aylward, Deborah
Devoid, Ricky
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

McGuire, Carol
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yury
Walsh, Thomas

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Foote, Charles
Harb, Robert
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
McDonnell, Valerie
Milz, David
Packard, Sherman
Potucek, John
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Bernardy, JD
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Ford, Mary
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
McGrath, Linda
Nadeau, Brian
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Selby, Donald
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

Bridle, Nicholas
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Guthrie, Joseph
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McMahon, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Roy, Terry
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Guzofski, James
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Markell, Jay
Melvin, Charles
Brown, Pam
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Turcotte, Len

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Walker, David

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Spilsbury, Walter

NAYS - 154**BELKNAP**

Coker, Matthew

Minor, Sheri

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Boudman, Bobbi

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

Woodcock, Stephen

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Aissandra
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Foss, Lily
Hartnett, Tim
Judy, Jean
Foxx, Loren
Howard, Molly
Murphy, Nancy
Proulx, Mark
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Tellez, Trinidad
Thomas, Wendy

Beauchemin, Paige
Chretien, Suzanne
DiSilvestro, Linda
Georges, Mary
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne
Wheeler, Jonah

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Elberger, Susan
Grill, Jessica
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Davis, Fred
Grund, Stephanie
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Long, Patrick
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Telerski, Laura
Dolan, William

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Richards, Beth
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

Caplan, Tony
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Roesener, James
Snodgrass, Jim

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Gilman, Julie
Paige, Mark
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
Nelson, Jodi
Weinstein, Toni

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Pearson, Mark
Manos, Zoe
Simpson, Alexis

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Maggiore, Jim
Meuse, David
Sorensen, Carrie

Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Malloy, Dennis
Muns, Chris
Ward, Gerald

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan
Levesque, Cassandra
Southworth, Thomas

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik
Smith, Marjorie
Pearson, Wayne

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica
Schmidt, Peter
Wade, Alice

England, Myles
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John
Selig, Loren
Wall, Janet

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the motion was adopted.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Having voted with the prevailing side, Rep. Knab moved that the House reconsider its action whereby, on a roll call vote with 173 voting in the affirmative and 171 voting in the negative, the House adopted the motion of Refer for Interim Study on **SB 669-FN**, relative to on-premises licenses for licensed barbershops and salons. On a division vote, with 147 members having voted in the affirmative, and 196 in the negative, the motion to reconsider failed.

SB 520, relative to breast surgeries for minors. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Lisa Mazur for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. HB 712 was signed by Governor Ayotte in 2025 and established a comprehensive framework regulating breast surgeries for minors, prohibiting transgender chest surgeries while allowing clearly defined medical exceptions, including treatment for cancer, injury, congenital conditions, gynecomastia, and symptomatic macromastia, along with enforcement provisions. As amended, SB 520 makes a narrow amendment to the existing law by adding an additional exception for elective breast reduction based on physical discomfort. However, such conditions are already addressed under the current law as amended by HB 712. As a result, SB 520 is redundant and does not meaningfully change the existing statutory framework. For these reasons, the committee majority recommends Inexpedient to Legislate. Vote 10-8.

Rep. Jessica LaMontagne for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill would make changes to the prohibition on breast surgeries for minors passed last year (HB 712, Ch. 287, Laws of 2025). As currently written, a surgery that does not meet strict definitions of qualifying exceptions opens the provider to disciplinary action and lawsuits. Elective breast reduction surgery may be an option for minors who experience trauma related to unwanted sexual attention, harassment, or abuse, physical discomfort, or diminished ability to participate in sports. These conditions would not meet the strict definition of macro-

mastia currently in statute. This bill would allow for more nuanced, individualized decisions to take place in these situations, decisions made between the provider, parent, and minor as with every other medical practice. Elective surgeries for minors are common in NH: oral surgeries as part of orthodontic care and plastic surgery, as examples, are likewise not for strictly medical reasons but sometimes psychological ones. This bill would allow similar wellness concerns to be considered for breasts, surely a body part with significant societal, physiologic, and emotional ramifications.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE

Rep. Mazur moved that **SB 520**, relative to breast surgeries for minors, be laid on the table and requested requested a roll call; sufficiently seconded.

YEAS 193 - NAYS 150

YEAS - 193

BELKNAP

Aldrich, Glen
Freeman, Lisa
Toner, Travis

Bogert, Steven
Ploszaj, Tom

Bordes, Mike
Minor, Sheri

Comtois, Barbara
Terry, Paul

CARROLL

Avellani, Lino
Peternel, Katy

Belcher, Mike
Brown, Richard

Hamblen, Joseph
Taylor, Brian

Smith, Jonathan

CHESHIRE

Harvey, Cathryn
Mattson, Rita
Thackston, Dick

Murphy, Denis
Nalevanko, Rich

Hunt, John
Qualey, James

Karasinski, Sly
Rhodes, Jennifer

COOS

Korzen, Lori
King, Seth

Murphy, Michael
Tierney, James

Morency, Pete
Tremblay, Marc

Ouellet, Mike

GRAFTON

Barton, Joseph
Franz, Linda

Beaulier, Calvin
Ladd, Rick

Berezhny, Lex
Louis, Darrell

Bjelobrk, Marie Louise

HILLSBOROUGH

Alexander, Joe
Berry, Ross
Corcoran, Travis
Drew, Matt
Flanagan, Jack
Giasson, Henry
Kesselring, Steven
Murphy, Mary
Mooney, Maureen
Ohm, Bill
Presa, Adam
Schneller, John
Tenczar, Jeffrey
Wheeler, Jonah

Ammon, Keith
Boehm, Ralph
Creighton, James
Dumont, Dillon
Griffin, Gerald
Gorski, Ted
Kofalt, Jim
Mazur, Lisa
Morton, Jonathan
Paquette, Kathleen
Proulx, Mark
Sirois, Shane
Mannion, Tom
Wherry, Robert

Boyd, Bill
Colcombe, Riché
Kelley, Diane
Dupont, Pierre
Gagne, Larry
Gould, Linda
Labrie, Brian
McLean, Mark
Noble, Kristin
Pauer, Diane
Prout, Andrew
Slottje, Jeremy
Ulery, Jordan

Barbour, Liz
Cole, Brian
Daniels, Gary
Erf, Keith
Georges, Mary
Kenny, Catherine
Lascelles, Richard
Miles, Julie
Notter, Jeanine
Post, Lisa
Reinfurt, Sherri
Suiter, John
Warden, Mark

MERRIMACK

Andrus, Louise
Cambriels, Jose
Mehegan, Peter
Polozov, Yuri
Walsh, Thomas

Aures, Cyril
Caplan, Tony
Moffett, Michael
Boyd, Stephen
Thibault, James

Aylward, Deborah
McGuire, Dan
Pitaro, Matthew
Seaworth, Brian
Wood, Clayton

McGuire, Carol
Devoid, Ricky
Plante, Raymond
See, Alvin

ROCKINGHAM

Ball, Lorie
Thomas, Douglas
Drago, Mike
Ford, Mary
Katsakiores, Phyllis
Walsh, Lilli
Lundgren, David
Markell, Jay

Bernardy, JD
DeSimone, Debra
Dunn, Ron
Guthrie, Joseph
Khan, Aboul
Layon, Erica
Lynn, Bob
McDonnell, Valerie

Bryer, Scott
DeVito, Sayra
Edwards, Jess
Guzofski, James
Kuttab, Katelyn
Litchfield, Melissa
Pearson, Mark
McGrath, Linda

Mannion, Dennis
Donnelly, Tanya
Foote, Charles
Harb, Robert
Miner, Laurence
Love, David
Mandelbaum, Jennifer
McMahon, Charles

Melvin, Charles
Osborne, Jason
Popovici-Muller, Daniel
Roy, Terry
Soti, Julius
Dolan, Tom
Verville, Kevin
Wilson, Vicki

Milz, David
Brown, Pam
Porcelli, Susan
Pearson, Stephen
Spillane, James
Tripp, Richard
Vose, Michael

Nadeau, Brian
Packard, Sherman
Potucek, John
Sabourin dit Choinière, Matt
Sweeney, Joe
Tudor, Paul
MacDonald, Wayne

Nelson, Jodi
Perez, Kristine
Prudhomme-O'Brien, Katherine
Selby, Donald
Sytek, John
Vandecasteele, Susan
Weyler, Kenneth

STRAFFORD

Bailey, Glenn
DeRoy, Susan
Kaczynski, Thomas

Burnham, Claudine
Farrington, Samuel
Potenza, Kelley

DeDe-Poulin, Denise
Granger, Michael
Turcotte, Len

DeLemus, Susan
Harrington, Michael
Walker, David

SULLIVAN

Drye, Margaret
Aron, Judy

Girard, Dale
Aron, Michael

Grant, George
Rollins, Skip

Hemingway, Wayne
Spilsbury, Walter

NAYS - 150 BELKNAP

Coker, Matthew

St. Clair, Charlie

CARROLL

Boudman, Bobbi
Woodcock, Stephen

Burroughs, Anita

Paige, David

McAleer, Chris

CHESHIRE

Ames, Dick
Jacobs, Samantha
O'Rorke, Terri

Fox, Dru
Jones, Philip
Parshall, Lucius

Faulkner, Barry
Germana, Nicholas
Weber, Lucy

Gruber, James
Newell, Jodi

GRAFTON

Almy, Susan
Fellows, Sallie
Lucas, Janet
Spahr, Terry

Baldwin, Heather
Fracht, David
Muirhead, Russell
Stavis, Laurel

Bolton, Bill
Hakken-Phillips, Mary
Oppel, Thomas
Stringham, Jerry

Cormen, Thomas
Sullivan, Jared
Rockmore, Ellen
Sykes, George

HILLSBOROUGH

Murray, Alissandra
Chourasia, Manoj
Dargie, Paul
Foss, Lily
Hegner, Karen
Juris, Louis
LeClerc, Daniel
Murray, Megan
Petrigno, Peter
Raymond, Heather
Newman, Sue
Staub, Kathy
Vail, Suzanne

Beauchemin, Paige
Chretien, Suzanne
DiSilvestro, Linda
Grill, Jessica
Herbert, Christopher
Kerwin, Erin
Leishman, Peter
Manohar, Sanjeev
Plamondon, Marc
Rombeau, Catherine
Salvi, Santosh
Swanson, Dale
Veilleux, Daniel

Booras, Efstathia
Cornell, Patricia
Elberger, Susan
Grund, Stephanie
Jack, Martin
Kluger, Lee Ann
Long, Patrick
McGhee, Kat
Preece, David
Rung, Rosemarie
Seibert, Christine
Telerski, Laura
Dolan, William

Budathoki, Suraj
Darby, Will
Davis, Fred
Hartnett, Tim
Judy, Jean
Foxy, Loren
Howard, Molly
Murphy, Nancy
Newman, Ray
Ryan, Linda
Spier, Carry
Tellez, Trinidad
Thomas, Wendy

MERRIMACK

Bricchi, Tracy
Gallager, Eric
Hall, Muriel
Roesener, James
Snodgrass, Jim

Colby, Eleana
Hicks, Matthew
Newsom, James
Sargent, Gregory
Soucy, Timothy

Kelly, Eileen
Lane, Connie
Payeur, Stephanie
Schamberg, Thomas
Wallner, Mary Jane

Ebel, Karen
Luneau, David
Richards, Beth
Schultz, Kris
Woods, Gary

ROCKINGHAM

Balboni, Peggy
Edgar, Michael
Knab, Allison
Manos, Zoe
Sorensen, Carrie

Bridle, Nicholas
Gilman, Julie
Paige, Mark
Meuse, David
Ward, Gerald

Cahill, Michael
Haskins, Linda
Maggiore, Jim
Muns, Chris
Weinstein, Toni

de Vries, Erica
Murray, Kate
Malloy, Dennis
Simpson, Alexis

STRAFFORD

Bay, Luz
Smith, Geoffrey
Howland, Allan

Bixby, Peter
Gilmore, Gary
Johnson, Erik

Burton, Wayne
Howard, Heath
LaMontagne, Jessica

England, Myles
Horrigan, Timothy
Larochelle, John

Levesque, Cassandra
Selig, Loren
Wall, Janet

Smith, Marjorie
Southworth, Thomas

Miller, Seth
Pearson, Wayne

Schmidt, Peter
Wade, Alice

SULLIVAN

Sullivan, Brian

Cloutier, John

Damon, Hope

Palmer, William

and the motion was adopted.

ENROLLED BILLS REPORT

The Committee on Enrolled Bills has examined and found correctly enrolled Senate Bill 593.
Rep. Osborne, Sen. Ward for the Committee

REGULAR CALENDAR CONTINUED

SB 615-FN, (New Title) establishing a commission to study the use and regulation of SNAP in New Hampshire. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Lisa Mazur for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. As amended by the Senate, the majority of the committee believes this bill establishes a large and unbalanced commission to study the use and regulation of SNAP despite the legislature already having sufficient information to act. The proposal adds unnecessary bureaucracy, delays meaningful reform, and risks stacking the commission with stakeholders who may oppose needed changes. At a time when program integrity, work requirements, and responsible use of taxpayer dollars require decisive action, creating a study commission is redundant and inefficient as there are several House bills addressing this issue as well. For these reasons, the committee majority recommends Inexpedient to Legislate. Vote 10-8.

Rep. Trinidad Tellez for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill, as amended by the Senate, addresses an important need to have real data from New Hampshire about what is currently going on in New Hampshire, to understand where we are at in light of federal policies, and to gain clarity on the impacts from changing state policies related to keeping people fed, healthy, and alive. This would give us an opportunity to be better prepared to deal with impending changes to the SNAP program coming to us from the federal government. The study commission would: (a) research the practicality and feasibility of changing SNAP, (b) study how to prioritize SNAP dollars going to healthy food, including the feasibility of healthy eating educational campaigns, (c) study the economic impacts of SNAP changes to various industries (including stores and food banks), (d) work with the department of health and human services to examine the prevalence of fraud, waste, and abuse within the SNAP program, and determine what the department would require to identify fraud, waste, and abuse in the SNAP program, and (e) study the impacts of a waiver on New Hampshire retailers. In changing this bill to establishing a commission to study the use and regulation of SNAP in New Hampshire, the Senate deemed this topic worthy of study to inform better decision-making, before we make more policy changes. A study commission would have appropriate representation from the various known stakeholders who are engaged in the work, and would provide a process for any additional stakeholders to be heard so that good policy recommendations can be made going forward.

The question being adoption of the majority committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Rep. Mazur spoke against.

Majority committee report failed.

The question now being adoption of the minority committee report of Ought to Pass.

Minority committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to third reading.

SB 670-FN-A, (New Title) establishing a developmental services oversight commission; relative to reporting requirements regarding the death of a child in residential care; and relative to the registry of founded reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jim Kofalt for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill establishes some initial safeguards against abuse in developmental services. This includes a dedicated oversight commission, increased reporting requirements, and a confidential registry of individuals with founded reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The committee amendment makes minor changes to membership and chairmanship duties, requires the commission to solicit input from the Developmental Services Quality Council, and requires DHHS to comply with all reasonable data requests. Vote 13-5.

Rep. Mark McLean for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill as amended establishes a developmental services oversight commission and a registry of perpetrators against whom reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of an individual have been founded. Any person whose name is listed in the registry shall be prohibited from being employed to care for a vulnerable individual. While the minority of the committee had no problem with the oversight commission, they found the due process surrounding the registry to be inadequate. Under the bill, a report is determined to be founded following an investigation

which may or may not include input from the accused perpetrator, and the right to contest any accusation with counsel is only available upon appeal. Given the severe consequences of being placed on the list as a perpetrator, the minority felt that the accused should have the right to address the charges before a finding is made, and not just during the appeals phase.

Majority Amendment (1516h)

Amend RSA 171-A:35, III(h) as inserted by section 1 of this act by replacing it with the following:

(h) One member representing the area agency system, appointed by the governor.

Amend RSA 171-A:35, IV as inserted by section 1 of the bill by inserting after subparagraph (f) the following new subparagraph:

(g) Solicit input from the developmental services quality council, established in RSA 171-A:33.

Amend RSA 171-A:35, V as inserted by section 1 of this act by replacing it with the following:

V. The first meeting of the oversight commission shall be called by the first-named senate member, who shall serve as the chairperson. Thereafter, the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members every 3 years, or when a vacancy occurs in that position. 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.

Amend RSA 171-A:35, VII as inserted by section 1 of this act by replacing it with the following:

VII. The department shall provide consultative and administrative support to the commission and comply with all reasonable data requests.

The question being adoption of the majority committee amendment.

Majority committee amendment was adopted.

The question now being adoption of the majority committee report of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Majority committee report was adopted and the bill was ordered to third reading.

RESOLUTION

Rep. Osborne offered the following: RESOLVED, that the House now adjourn from the early session, that the business of the late session be in order at the present time, that the reading of bills be by title only and resolutions by caption only and that all bills ordered to third reading be read a third time by this resolution, and that all titles of bills be the same as adopted, and that they be passed at the present time, and when the House adjourns today it be to meet, Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion was adopted.

LATE SESSION

Third Reading and Final Passage

SB 482-FN, establishing consumer protections for digital access transaction kiosks.

SB 491-FN, enabling students to utilize education freedom account funds to pay for certain career and technical education funding and removing references to "curriculum frameworks" as they relate to the substantive educational content of an adequate education.

SB 445, relative to adjudicative proceedings where there is a council or board with jurisdiction.

SB 535, defining residential breeder and imported animal for the purposes of animal transfers and removing references to commercial kennels.

SB 644-FN, requiring background checks for solid waste and hazardous waste facility owners.

SB 56, relative to consolidating the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority within the business finance authority and establishing a surplus land revitalization program.

SB 423, reestablishing the commission to study the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder in first responders.

SB 470-FN, relative to the expungement of certain disciplinary matters.

SB 486, relative to the administrative procedure act.

SB 516, relative to certain unclassified positions in the department of health and human services.

SB 600-FN, requiring the governor to submit and present a quarterly fiscal year budget report about the general and education trust funds to the general court fiscal committee.

SB 663-FN-A, creating a Medicaid methodology working group within the department of health and human services.

SB 453, authorizing advanced practice registered nurses and physician associates to make certain certifications.

SB 468, relative to enabling alternative treatment centers to operate a greenhouse cultivation location.

SB 415, relative to a certain exemption in interest in condominium units and abbreviated registrations.

SB 490, establishing a task force to assess the development of housing at Great Bay community college and authorizing the college the right to use vacant property for the purpose of developing housing.

SB 523-FN, establishing a committee to study the implementation of a residential builder registration system.

SB 655, relative to employee leasing companies, workers' compensation coverage options, and a minimum wage exemption for minor league baseball players.

SB 499, relative to the membership, duties, and reporting requirements of the traffic safety commission.

SB 500, relative to restroom access for certain commercial motor vehicle operators.

SB 513-FN, relative to the hiring of an owner's project manager (OPM) for construction or renovation projects which utilize school building aid.

SB 531-FN, establishing a task force to study the feasibility of the creation of cosmetology related programming in Coos County and requiring the reporting of student meal debt by school districts and public chartered schools to the department of education.

SB 442, relative to pet transfers.

SB 481-FN-A, relative to the sale of the Sununu youth services center property.

SB 592-FN, enabling regional, conservation, and energy resource planning for habitat strongholds and wildlife corridors and creating a commission to study transferring ownership of the Winnepesaukee River Basin program to an alternative authority.

SB 421, relative to the membership and duties of the trauma medical review committee and establishing a study committee to review the membership and duties of other boards and an appointment related to emergency medical services.

SB 454-FN, requiring the department of health and human services to update existing relevant public health outreach programs by incorporating information to aid public understanding and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

SB 615-FN, establishing a commission to study the use and regulation of SNAP in New Hampshire.

SB 670-FN-A, establishing a developmental services oversight commission; relative to reporting requirements regarding the death of a child in residential care; and relative to the registry of founded reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Rep. Bay requested Unanimous Consent of the House regarding Asian-American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month and addressed the House.

MOTION TO PRINT REMARKS

Rep. Weber moved that the remarks made by Rep. Bay during Unanimous Consent be printed in the Permanent Journal.

Without objection, the Speaker ordered.

REMARKS

Rep. Bay: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak in honor of Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. For us standing here, AAPI Heritage Month is not simply a celebration on the calendar. It is a reflection of a journey, a journey that began thousands of miles away, carried through uncertainty and hope, and eventually led us to raise our hands, take an oath, and serve the people of New Hampshire in this chamber. Like so many immigrants, we arrived in the United States with the belief that if you work hard, if you contribute, if you show up for your community, you can build a life of dignity and purpose. That belief is shared by millions of Asian-American and Pacific Islander families who have made this country their home across generations. This month honors their stories; the railroad workers who helped build the nation's infrastructure, the farm workers who organized for fairness, the Pacific Islanders who have served our country with extraordinary commitment, and the teachers, nurses, engineers, and small business owners and public servants who strengthen our communities every day. But it also honors quieter stories, the ones that rarely make it into history books, stories of parents working night shifts so their children can study, stories of families navigating a new language, a new culture, and a new system while holding tightly to the traditions that shape them, stories of young people who grow up straddling two worlds and learning to claim both. We carry those stories with us. They shape our understanding of what it means to belong, and they shape our commitment to public service. Standing here today as naturalized citizens is a reminder that the American story is still being written and that people like us, people who once wondered whether they ever truly belong, are part of that story. Here in New Hampshire, our AAPI neighbors are woven into the fabric of our state. They are business owners, caregivers, innovators, students and community leaders. They contribute to our economy, enrich our culture and strengthen our civic life. And like all granite staters, they deserve to be seen, heard and valued. AAPI Heritage Month also calls us to acknowledge the challenges that persist, barriers in language access, disparities in data collection and the rise in anti-Asian hate that has affected families across the country. Recognizing these challenges is not about division. It is about responsibility. It is about ensuring that every person, regardless of where they were born or what language they first spoke, can participate fully in our democracy and access the opportunities this state offers. Mr. Speaker, we stand here today because others opened doors for us. Our hope is that our work, through thoughtful policy, through inclusion and through listening, we can continue opening doors for the next generation of AAPI granite staters who will shape the future of our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

RECESS MOTION

Rep. Osborne moved that the House stand in recess for the purposes of the introduction of bills, enrolled bill amendments, enrolled bill reports and receiving messages.

Motion was adopted.

The House recessed at 12:29 p.m.

RECESS

(Speaker Packard in the Chair)

SENATE MESSAGES**REQUESTS CONCURRENCE WITH AMENDMENTS**

HB 1807-FN, relative to mandatory reports to voters. (Amendment printed SJ 4/23/26)

Rep. Ladd moved that the House nonconcur and request a Committee of Conference.

Motion was adopted.

The Speaker appointed Reps. Ladd, Erf, Spilsbury and Dan McGuire.

NONCONCURS WITH AMENDMENT**REQUESTS COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE**

SB 564, prohibiting certain municipal development restrictions.

The President appointed Sens. Innis, Murphy and Perkins Kwoka.

Rep. Alexander moved that the House accede.

Motion was adopted.

The Speaker appointed Reps. Alexander, Dumont, Reinfurt and Howland.

RECESS

(Speaker Packard in the Chair)

SENATE MESSAGES**REQUESTS CONCURRENCE WITH AMENDMENTS**

HB 1042, raising the unified contingent credit limit and relative to the cap on outstanding obligations for which the housing finance authority is allowed. (Amendment printed SJ 4/16/26)

Rep. Weyler moved that the House nonconcur and request a Committee of Conference.

Motion was adopted.

The Speaker appointed Reps. Sweeney, Dan McGuire, Alexander and Leishman.

NONCONCURS WITH AMENDMENT**REQUESTS COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE**

SB 599-FN, relative to the renewable energy fund.

The President appointed Sens. Avard, Pearl and Watters.

Rep. Vose moved that the House accede.

Motion was adopted.

The Speaker appointed Reps. Vose, Douglas Thomas, Bernardy and McGhee.

NONCONCURRENCE

HB 1213, relative to the number, selection, and terms of town highway agents and relative to the appointment of an expert highway agent.

HB 1226, relative to restricting the issuance of identification documents by unauthorized individuals.

HB 1286, relative to the practice of dentistry and when radiographic examinations are required.

HB 1295, relative to eligibility requirements for charitable and nonprofit housing projects.

HB 1406, relative to health carrier record keeping requirements in utilization review, including specifications regarding the use of artificial intelligence.

HB 1805-FN, relative to physical fitness performance requirements for certified law enforcement officers.

HB 1809-FN, establishing a medical psilocybin advisory board to assess the advantages and disadvantages of the use of psilocybin for therapeutic purposes.

RECESS

(Representative Steven Smith in the Chair)

ENROLLED BILLS REPORT

The Committee on Enrolled Bills has examined and found correctly enrolled House Bills numbered 365, 649, 1113, 1151, 1175, 1190, 1696 and 1795 and Senate Bill numbered 503.

Rep. Osborne, Sen. Avard for the Committee

**SENATE MESSAGES
REFERRED FOR INTERIM STUDY**

HB 215-FN, requiring a landfill permit applicant to submit a report listing potential harms and benefits of the project.

HB 219-FN, relative to changes to the minimum electric renewable portfolio standards.

HB 1132, prohibiting the display of certain flags and banners in public schools and public charter schools and establishing penalties for the display of prohibited flags and banners.

HB 1138, limiting the placement of out-of-state waste going into New Hampshire landfills.

HB 1155, repealing the home education advisory council.

HB 1189-FN, establishing a solid waste site evaluation committee.

HB 1211, relative to the scope of review of state agency interpretations.

HB 1224, relative to the default budget for official ballot town meetings.

HB 1285, establishing a commission to study if New Hampshire may implement an R-PACER program.

HB 1319, enabling towns, village districts, or school districts to adopt or rescind a local fiscal accountability committee for towns and schools.

HB 1355, relative to eliminating the default budget from the official ballot referenda.

HB 1426-FN, requiring the department of environmental services to employ certified personnel in each program area.

HB 1458-FN, relative to the licensing of massage establishments and massage, reflexology, structural integration, and Asian bodywork facilities.

HB 1478-FN, requiring the department of environmental services to revise the rules for proposed new landfills.

HB 1601-FN, requiring the secretary of state to create a voter education program that includes information on recent changes to voting laws.

HB 1604-FN, requiring suitable public facilities such as schools and town halls be made available as polling places upon request by local election officials.

HB 1622-FN, requiring the state to develop additional solid waste disposal capacity.

HB 1631-FN, relative to the contents of the attorney general's annual report detailing state forfeiture information for the preceding fiscal year.

HB 1676, limiting consumer access to certain high-risk rodenticides.

HB 1695, preventing any guide or explanation regarding the effect of a proposed constitutional amendment from appearing on the ballot.

HB 1719-FN, removing Hepatitis B from the list of diseases for which immunization is required under state law.

HB 1797-FN, relative to eligibility for public assistance, including the New Hampshire employment program, family assistance program, and SNAP.

HB 1832-FN, adding students with a parent or guardian on active military duty to the education freedom accounts priority guidelines.

REFUSES TO ACCEDE TO REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

HB 191-FN, providing criminal penalties for the transporting of an unemancipated minor in order to obtain a surgical procedure or a termination of the minor's pregnancy without parental permission.

HB 510-FN, establishing a commission to study due process in higher education disciplinary proceedings.

HB 1130-FN, establishing a committee to study the procedure for judicial performance evaluations.

RECESS

(Speaker Packard in the Chair)

ENROLLED BILLS REPORT

The Committee on Enrolled Bills has examined and found correctly enrolled House Bills numbered 59, 126, 348, 1157, 1161, 1274, 1366 and 1515.

Rep. Osborne, Sen. Avard for the Committee

(Speaker Packard in the Chair)

ENROLLED BILL AMENDMENTS

SB 598, establishing the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund task force. (Amendment printed SJ 4/9/26) Motion was adopted.

HB 1771-FN, removing prospective repeal of child care staffing ratios and the associated waiver system and requiring the department of health and human services to provide certain notice regarding availability of the waiver.

Amendment 2026-1795EBA

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

AN ACT removing the prospective repeal of child care staffing ratios and the associated waiver system and requiring the department of health and human services to provide certain notice regarding availability of the waiver.

Motion was adopted.

HB 1837-FN, relative to the New Hampshire marine patrol.

Amendment 2026-1880EBA

Amend RSA 270:67, I(c) as inserted by section 3 of the bill by replacing line 1 with the following:

(c) Each public mooring field applicant shall be assessed [a] ***an annual mooring*** fee [of

Motion was adopted.

SENATE MESSAGES

REQUESTS CONCURRENCE WITH AMENDMENTS

HB 1540, relative to municipal health ordinances and accessory dwelling units and relative to on-premises licenses for licensed barbershops and salons. (Amendment printed SJ 5/7/26)

Rep. Alexander moved that the House nonconcur and request a Committee of Conference.

Motion was adopted.

The Speaker appointed Reps. Alexander, Hunt, Hicks and Cole.

ACCEDES TO REQUESTS FOR COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

HB 158, requiring the secretary of state to review absentee ballot data biennially, forward certain requests to the election law unit for review, and make a report to the general court.

The President appointed Sens. Gray, Lang and Long.

HB 244, updating and recodifying the municipal enforcement of the building and fire code.

The President appointed Sens. Gray, Lang and Reardon.

HB 281, requiring electronic voter checklists to be supplied in a sortable format.

The President appointed Sens. Gray, Lang and Long.

HB 317, preventing a supervisor of the checklist from verifying a person's identity without identification, even if they personally know that person.

The President appointed Sens. Gray, Lang and Perkins Kwoka.

HB 1042, raising the unified contingent credit limit and relative to the cap on outstanding obligations for which the housing finance authority is allowed.

The President appointed Sens. Gray, Innis and Rosenwald.

HB 1091, relative to unauthorized camping on private property.

The President appointed Sens. Gannon, Abbas and Reardon.

HB 1215, relative to supporting the preferred method of communication of an individual with a communication disability and relative to transfers from freestanding hospital emergency facilities.

The President appointed Sens. Rochefort, Birdsell and Prentiss.

HB 1260-FN, relative to marriage registration forms and delayed certificates of marriage and relative to the confidentiality of divorce records.

The President appointed Sens. Gannon, Abbas and Reardon.

HB 1541-FN, requiring the secretary of state to provide all voting precincts with secure containers for storing ballots.

The President appointed Sens. Gray, Lang and Perkins Kwoka.

HB 1807-FN, relative to mandatory reports to voters.

The President appointed Sens. Gray, Lang and Perkins Kwoka.

RECESS