



The New Hampshire
House of Representatives

Office of the Speaker

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House Passes Bipartisan Bill to Ease Delays in Driveway Permitting

Concord, NH- Rep. Joe Alexander (R-Goffstown), Chair of the Special Committee on Housing, Rep. Ben Baroody (D-Manchester), Vice Chair of the Special Committee on Housing, and Rep. Mark McConkey (R-Freedom), Chair of House Public Works and Highways Committee, and member of the Special Committee on Housing, released the following statement in response to the unanimous bi-partisan passage of HB1202, relative to the issuance of permits for the alteration of driveways exiting onto public ways.

Chair Joe Alexander (R-Goffstown)

“The Special Committee on Housing was tasked with finding reasonable solutions to the housing crisis affecting our state. One of the problems commonly brought to our attention, from various stakeholders, was the length of time of obtaining a driveway permit. This legislation puts forward a reasonable timeline for the Department of Transportation to issue permits.”

“This legislation incentivizes the department to work collaboratively with applicants. It supports property rights by ensuring there are reasonable timelines in place to move forward with projects, and it moves the state in the right direction with regard to addressing the underlying problems to our housing crisis. I thank my committee for the work they put into crafting this important piece of legislation, and I thank the Public Works Committee for their work on amending and passing a bill that is agreeable to those involved in the process.”

Vice Chair Ben Baroody (D-Manchester)

“When there are delays in the permitting process, it is often forcing developers of affordable housing to absorb the costs of delays. Although every permit situation that comes to the department has different circumstances that must be evaluated, this is a reasonable bill that gives a more concrete timeline to those who are applying for driveway permitting and can assist developers and property owners on track with their projects. I thank the committees for their hard work and the House for unanimously passing this important bill.”

Chair Mark McConkey (R-Freedom)

“It has been a pleasure to serve on the Housing Committee and have the hard work of that committee come before the Committee on Public Works. There are many who are anxious to speed along the process of adding more affordable housing to our state, and I have seen first hand how location can be a factor relative to inconsistencies in driveway permitting.”

“I am proud of the bipartisan work that both the Housing Committee and Public Works Committee put in this legislation to deliver a product that could streamline the permitting process and move housing projects along in a timelier manner.”

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