

February 27, 2025
No. 11

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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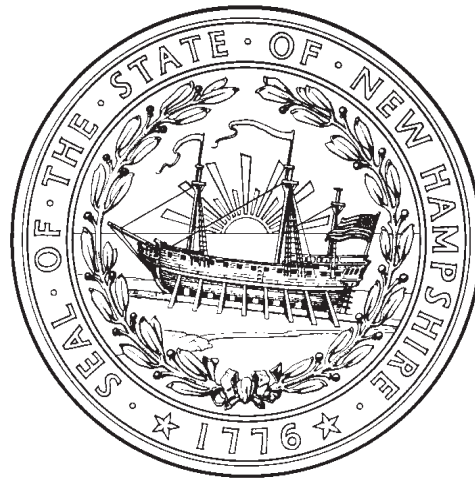
Senate Meeting Schedule Website Address:

<https://gc.nh.gov/senate/schedule/dailyschedule.aspx>

All Standing Committee hearings will be livestreamed on the NH Senate's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/NewHampshireSenateLivestream>

Links are also available on the Senate Meeting Schedule.



**First Year of the 169th Session of the
New Hampshire General Court**

SENATE CALENDAR

**THE SENATE WILL MEET IN SESSION ON THURSDAY,
MARCH 6, 2025, AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE SENATE CHAMBER**

The Senate Session on Thursday, March 6, 2025, in the Senate Chamber will be
live streamed at the following link:

<https://youtube.com/live/5a1rrU9MYcU?feature=share>

Please note, this link will not be live until the Senate Session on
Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 20-FN, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers. **01/30/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 4**

SB 35-FN, making an appropriation for rail trail project matching funds. **01/30/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 4**

SB 64-FN, relative to an appropriation to the department of justice for the purpose of funding the New Hampshire child advocacy centers. **01/30/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 4**

SB 113-FN-A, making appropriations to the department of health and human services for homeless services and homeless prevention. **01/30/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 4**

SB 240-FN-A, making an appropriation to the department of environmental services for eligible water projects. **02/13/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 5**

CONSENT CALENDAR REPORTS

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

SB 161, providing that in-state placements may include placements in New England in certain circumstances and addressing particular statutory technical defects.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0.

Senator Long for the committee.

With a replace-all amendment, this legislation provides that in-state placements can include the greater New England region in certain circumstances and addresses technical defects from past legislation.

SB 278-FN, including qualifying convictions from other states as grounds for termination of parental rights petitions.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0.

Senator Long for the committee.

This legislation includes other crimes from out of state convictions that coincide with New Hampshire convictions at an equivalent level. It enhances accountability and effectiveness of child protection efforts by aligning the termination of parental rights standards with broader best practices.

COMMERCE

SB 27-FN, relative to dwellings over water.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-0.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

This bill would clarify how improvements to dwellings over water could be undertaken. Under RSA 482-A:26, these dwellings are defined as private structures over state submerged lands. There are a limited number of these dwellings throughout the state, so this bill would have a limited application. The Committee Amendment would remove ambiguity from the underlying bill, and it would clarify that the existing footprint could not be expanded and the water could not be penetrated by added columns.

SB 78, relative to the zoning board of adjustments appeal period.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-0.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

RSA 674:33 says that town zoning boards of adjustment must take appeals within a “reasonable” time-frame. Most communities use a 30-day period, but a few use 60 days or even longer. Applicants sometimes find this unpredictability discouraging, preventing some projects from moving forward. This bill would standardize the appeal period at 30 days. By standardizing the process across the state, all parties would be provided with certainty.

SB 81-FN, increasing the annual real estate transfer tax revenue contribution and making an appropriation to the affordable housing fund.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-0.

Senator Innis for the committee.

This bill would increase the amount of annual real estate transfer tax revenues that are transferred to the Affordable Housing Fund from \$5 million to \$10 million. In addition, an appropriation of \$25 million would be directed towards the Fund. The Fund has been able to leverage federal and private investments to help create workforce, affordable, and supportive housing. To date, the Fund has supported 119 developments with 3,500 units of rental housing. While home sales have decreased, values have increased, so it is expected that the transfer tax will remain steady.

SB 82-FN, relative to the housing opportunity project extension and homes for homeland heroes grant program. Re-refer to Committee, Vote 6-0.

Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

This bill, also known as the HOPE Act, would have incentivized New Hampshire counties and municipalities to open land for affordable workforce housing by establishing housing opportunity zones, setting zoning and design requirements, mandating owner-occupancy, providing state grants, and exempting initial property transfers from real estate transfer taxes. The bill was designed to help hardworking families and professionals of all backgrounds to live in the communities that they serve. The Committee recognized it would take various initiatives together to help alleviate the housing crisis; however, they felt additional work was necessary to address concerns.

SB 87-FN, relative to one day liquor license requirements and making salons and barber shops eligible for on-premise licenses.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-0.

Senator Fenton for the committee.

This bill would allow for-profit organizations to receive a one day liquor license, and it would permit barber shops, salons, and spas to be eligible for on-premises licenses. This bill would codify an existing practice to ensure these businesses are not violating the law. Tastings for a one day liquor license would be approved by the Liquor Commission. If violations have occurred, such as underage drinking, a business would have their one day license suspended.

SB 89, enabling non-citizens who are legally authorized to work in the United States to deliver alcohol.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-0.

Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

This bill would update employment statutes to ensure legally authorized workers could deliver alcohol. Presently, these workers are already able to legally serve alcohol. This change would be critical because many non-citizen legal workers are employed in the service industry each summer. The Committee Amendment clarified that non-citizens who are legally authorized to work shall be able to sell or deliver any liquor or beverage.

SB 91-FN, allowing one-time special appraisals of residences located in commercial zones.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-0.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

Currently, residents who live in properties zoned for commercial or industrial use are required to fill out and submit a form to municipalities every year, allowing the municipality to appraise the residence based on its use. This bill allows these residents to fill out the form once, removing the annual requirement.

SB 280-FN, requiring a food delivery service to enter into an agreement with a food service establishment or food retail store before offering delivery service from that restaurant.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-0.

Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

This bill would require a food delivery service to enter into an agreement with a food service establishment or food retail store before offering delivery service from that restaurant. Without this critical protection, delivery applications could list restaurants without their consent. This could create negative experiences for customers, especially if orders are based on inaccurate menus, prices, and hours. Similar legislation was previously adopted by the Legislature; however, it had sunset. The Committee Amendment would add the phrase “shall not take” to Page 1, Line 13.

EDUCATION

SB 57, establishing a study committee to analyze reducing the number of school administrative units. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.
Senator Altschiller for the committee.

SB 57 establishes a study committee to analyze reducing the number of school administrative units (SAUs) in the state. The committee will examine the potential transition to a county-based SAU system, including administrative, financial, and logistical impacts. It will also assess possible cost savings from consolidation. The committee must report its findings and recommendations by November 1, 2025. The committee amendment modifies the committee's duties by explicitly including an analysis of the impact of potential county taxes in the transition to a county-based SAU system. It also allows the committee to consult with county commissioners, the New Hampshire Municipal Association, and the New Hampshire School Boards Association.

SB 69-L, relative to acceptance of or rejection of charitable contributions, gifts, or donations by local school boards. Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.
Senator Sullivan for the committee.

SB 69-LOCAL requires local school boards to discuss and vote in a public session before rejecting any charitable contribution, gift, or donation. This applies to various school-related funds, including trust funds, CTE program donations, and health-related supplies.

SB 98-FN, extending the donations to regional career and technical education center programs. Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.
Senator Prentiss for the committee.

SB 98-FN extends the authorization for school districts to accept charitable donations for career and technical education (CTE) programs until 2031. It also continues the business tax credit for qualifying donations, with a maximum impact of \$500,000 per fiscal year.

SB 99-FN, relative to regional career and technical education agreements. Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.
Senator Abbas for the committee.

SB 99-FN expands access to career and technical education (CTE) by requiring regional CTE agreements to include an access program for full and part-time students. It ensures equal access for sending district students, outlines tuition and transportation responsibilities, and allows non-public and charter school students to attend the nearest regional CTE center.

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

SB 105, enabling towns to adopt budget caps. Ought to Pass, Vote 4-1.
Senator Lang for the committee.

This bill would allow towns to adopt spending caps, much like cities are already permitted to do. It uses population growth and inflation to set the cap and would require a 3/5th majority to adopt the spending cap and the same 3/5th majority to remove it. SB 105 would give towns a goal when setting their budget and provide citizens and taxpayers with predictability. For these reasons, the committee recommends Ought to Pass.

SB 212, changing references from “votes” to “ballots” in the laws regarding elections. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.
Senator Rochefort for the committee.

SB 212 changes the word “votes” to “ballots” in the election law statutes. This change was requested by the Secretary of State's office in order to be consistent with the language used by the Secretary of State when conducting election business and recounts. The amendment simply fixes a couple of drafting errors. For these reasons, the committee recommends this bill Ought to Pass with Amendment.

SB 217, relative to public notice of historic tax rates and tax impacts of proposed projects.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.
Senator Lang for the committee.

SB 217 requires towns and cities to notice historic tax rates for certain taxes publicly and requires towns and cities to provide public notice of the tax impacts for certain proposed building projects. This bill would increase public awareness in a simple, direct way so voters can use this information to help them make informed decisions when voting on new building proposals. The committee amended the bill to use “per one thousand dollars of equalized valuation” of a proposed project instead of “per resident” to account for reporting accuracy and ease of administration. The committee recommends Ought to Pass with Amendment for these reasons.

SB 220-FN, relative to public hearings and deliberation for the denial of tax exemptions.
Re-refer to Committee, Vote 4-0.
Senator Gray for the committee.

SB 220 would allow a public hearing and deliberation after the denial of an application for tax credits or exemptions. The prime sponsor has requested that the bill be re-referred so that work can be done to ensure the protection of personal information. For this reason, the committee recommends that the bill be re-referred to committee.

SB 223-FN, relative to using college or university student identification cards to obtain a ballot.
Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.
Senator Gray for the committee.

SB 223 provides for in-state tuition at any institution in the university system of New Hampshire or community college system for students who are registered to vote in New Hampshire. The bill would also end the use of student IDs to prove identity when obtaining a ballot when voting. The committee would like additional time to work on this bill, and for that reason, the committee recommends re-refer to committee.

SB 225-FN-L, requiring public notice before re-assessment of property values for local tax purposes.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.
Senator Lang for the committee.

SB 225 requires municipalities to post a 90-day notice before conducting any annual or 5-year property revaluation. The amendment addresses concerns the committee heard regarding the length of time between the notice of preliminary value and the tax bill. The amendment shortens the 90-day requirement to 45 days and clarifies the number of locations a municipality must post a notice. For these reasons, the committee recommends Ought to Pass with Amendment.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SB 65-FN, relative to stormwater management for solar arrays.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.
Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 65-FN creates a permit by notification to streamline the permitting process and focuses on environmental outcomes rather than the methods to achieve those outcomes. This legislation applies to solar projects that produce 5 MW or less.

SB 107-FN, enabling the state treasurer to invest certain fish and game funds.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.
Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 107-FN allows the state treasurer to invest funds from the Nongame Species Account within the Fish and Game Fund. Any interest earned from these investments will be credited to the account and used for nongame species management. The bill is expected to decrease General Fund revenue while increasing revenue for the Nongame Species Account. The bill does not authorize new expenditures or positions.

SB 108-FN, relative to the department of energy.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.
Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 108-FN transfers certain regulatory duties from the Public Utilities Commission to the Department of Energy. It strengthens protections against unauthorized telecommunications services, ensures rate-

payers can choose how they receive communications from electricity suppliers, and updates rules for net energy metering. The bill also simplifies complaint procedures, allowing the Department of Energy to investigate and resolve issues before escalating them to formal proceedings. The bill also repeals specific net metering provisions.

SB 109-FN, relative to alteration of terrain permits.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator McConkey for the committee.

SB 109-FN updates the process for obtaining alteration of terrain permits by requiring applicants to consult with the Fish and Game Department if a state agency determines it's necessary. The department must review the request within 60 days and either approve it, suggest conservation measures, or deny it with specific reasons. The bill also sets rules for when payments must be made to the Threatened and Endangered Species Compensatory Mitigation Fund and how those payments are calculated. The Fish and Game Department estimates the bill could increase costs by \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 per year due to additional staff and fund management.

SB 110-FN, relative to terrain permitting.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator McConkey for the committee.

SB110-FN accelerates land development by increasing the threshold for requiring an Alteration of Terrain (AoT) permit from 100,000 to 150,000 square feet of disturbed land. This change enables faster construction of homes and infrastructure. Projects within this range will require an administrative permit submission with a \$3,125 fee, with additional fees based on the extent of soil disturbance. This public-private partnership supports economic growth, expands housing availability, and creates job opportunities in New Hampshire.

SB 111-FN, authorizing a reliability indexing credit pilot program.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 111-FN creates a pilot program to support energy storage by offering reliability indexing credits. The bill allows the Public Utilities Commission to approve multi-year agreements and provides a cost recovery mechanism for utilities. The program aims to enhance grid reliability, support market participation, and could include up to 200 megawatts of energy storage. The Department of Energy will study the program and report their findings by December 1, 2025. The bill is expected to have an implementation cost exceeding \$100,000, assessed to electric distribution utilities.

SB 112-FN, relative to purchased power agreements for electric distribution utilities.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-1.

Senator Avard for the committee.

SB112-FN allows the Department of Energy and electric distribution utilities to request proposals for long-term power supply agreements to help stabilize electricity prices in New Hampshire. These agreements can include power from existing, new, or expanded energy sources, such as nuclear plants operating before 2011. The goal of the bill is to reduce market volatility and lower electricity costs by giving utilities more options for purchasing power, including working with other New England states. The Public Utilities Commission can approve these agreements if they benefit consumers and are in the public interest.

SB 226-FN, suspending applications for new landfills and establishing a committee to study the feasibility of incinerating solid waste.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 4-1.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 226-FN pauses the approval of new landfill applications until July 1, 2031, allowing applications to be submitted but not processed. However, it does not affect existing landfills or approved expansions on sites permitted before December 1, 2022. The bill also creates a committee to explore waste incineration as an alternative to landfills, studying its environmental impact and effects on landfill capacity. The committee would submit its findings by November 1, 2025. The Department of Environmental Services expects higher waste disposal costs, with municipalities potentially paying over \$2.5 million more per year.

SB 227-FN, relative to site setbacks for landfills.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 4-1.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 227-FN requires site-specific setbacks for new landfills near perennial rivers, lakes and coastal waters in New Hampshire. Applicants must fund independent hydrogeological studies to determine groundwater seepage rates, ensuring contaminated groundwater does not reach water bodies within five years. The bill mandates a minimum setback of either this calculated distance or 200 feet, whichever is greater. It also establishes soil permeability requirements, mandates subsurface investigations, and requires land-fill facilities to maintain 24/7 staffing. The Department of Environmental Services estimates the bill will increase county and local expenditures by \$100,000 to \$500,000 annually, beginning in FY 2026.

SB 229-FN, relative to the sale of uninspected bison, red deer, and elk meat.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 229-FN allows retailers to sell uninspected bison, red deer, and elk meat if properly labeled and purchased from producers. Retailers must keep purchase records for at least 90 days. The bill also removes the scheduled repeal of existing laws governing these sales, ensuring continued availability. The Department of Health and Human Services states the bill will have no fiscal impact.

SB 230-FN, allowing microgrids that are in the public interest.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 230-FN adds small modular reactors (SMRs) as a type of clean energy in New Hampshire's energy regulations. The bill defines SMRs as compact nuclear reactors with a capacity of up to 300 MW. The bill also expands the definition of distributed energy resources to include SMRs. These resources help reduce electricity costs, improve grid stability, and manage power demand.

SB 233-FN, establishing an energy reliability and large-scale storage task force.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 233-FN creates an energy reliability and large-scale storage task force to explore ways to improve grid reliability using energy storage technologies. The task force will study current and future energy challenges, identify market barriers, and propose solutions for integrating storage systems in order to enhance grid stability and affordability. The task force will include legislators, energy experts, business representatives, and utility industry members. The task force must submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2025 and a final report on or before June 1, 2026.

SB 234-FN, relative to the electric assistance program.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 234-FN establishes an advisory council for the Electric Assistance Program and caps the system benefits charge at 2 mills per kilowatt-hour, with future adjustments based on inflation. The bill would transfer oversight of the Electric Assistance Program from the Public Utilities Commission to the Department of Energy. The system benefits charge helps fund discounted electricity rates for low-income households, with an expected revenue increase of \$5.3 million annually. Due to the similarity of subject matter to SB236, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee has moved that SB 234-FN is inexpedient to legislate.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 21-FN, relative to establishing a New Hampshire state trooper recruitment loan debt relief program and making an appropriation therefor.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 21-FN establishes the New Hampshire state trooper school loan debt relief program. This bill is designed to help the New Hampshire State Police with trooper retention efforts. The committee amendment clarified that the debt relief would begin on the first anniversary of employment and removed the provision that the disbursement would be tax free.

SB 56, relative to consolidating the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority within the business finance authority.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 56 consolidates the New Hampshire Health and Education Facilities Authority (HEFA) within the New Hampshire Business Finance Authority (BFA). The bill establishes the BFA as the successor for obligations of the HEFA and changes how the BFA issues certain kinds of bonds. This bill is a request of the HEFA and BFA.

SB 74-FN, relative to real property annual reporting requirements of state departments for permitting programs. Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 74-FN requires all state departments administering permitting programs to annually report detailed information on their permitting activities to the Senate President, Speaker of the House, and relevant committee chairs. This bill would primarily affect the Department of Environmental Service's wetland permitting, alteration of terrain permitting, and subsurface permitting programs.

SB 92-FN, relative to the collection of birth worksheet information.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator McGough for the committee.

SB 92-FN updates certain language regarding information collected by hospitals on the birth worksheet. The bill also states that the division of vital records shall not include certain personally identifiable information in the birth information released to the CDC. The committee amendment ensures that the clinical practice of recording one-minute APGAR scores, in addition to recording APGAR score at five and ten minutes.

SB 93-FN, relative to establishing an office of regulatory efficiency and oversight.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 93-FN establishes an Office of Regulatory Efficiency and Oversight. The bill was amended by replacing the previous language and purpose to address an urgent need of the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification. The amendment puts into statute a longstanding practice of allowing students who are enrolled and have completed their first year of a nursing program to be eligible to sit for the LNA exam, become a licensed LNA, and work while they continue their education.

SB 94, prohibiting municipal amendments to the state building code.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-1.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 94 prohibits all local legislative bodies from adopting any new regulations that differ from the state building code. The Committee heard testimony that local amendments to the state building code can discourage homebuilders from development in certain towns. The majority of the Committee felt that this bill was necessary given the ongoing housing crisis.

SB 95, relative to summer camp cabins and the state building code.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 95 establishes specific requirements for summer camp cabins, including definitions, exemptions from stringent codes, and safety measures. The amendment helped to clarify code exemptions for summer camp cabins, as well as how they are codified under existing statutes.

SB 180-FN, designating Coos county as a distressed place-based economy.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-1.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 180-FN designates Coos County as a distressed place-based economy and requires commissioners of state agencies to include input from county commissioners before making regulatory decisions that would affect Coos County. The amendment further clarifies when agency commissioners must report to Coos County regarding agency decisions that would result in an economic downturn and impact private sector job creation and economic development.

SB 181-FN, relative to workers' compensation for firefighters with cancer.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator McGough for the committee.

SB 181-FN extends the presumption that heart or lung disease is occupationally related for firefighters absent clear and convincing evidence to the contrary. The bill also requires payment of workers' compensation benefits within a specified period of time in such cases. The committee amendment added vaping to go along with tobacco products when describing a "tobacco free lifestyle."

SB 182, relative to the maternal mortality review committee.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 182 renames the Maternal Mortality Review Panel as the Maternal Mortality Review Committee and revises its membership. This bill provides for the Committee to be administered by the Department of Health and Human Services and facilitated by the New Hampshire Perinatal Quality Collaborative (NHPQC) affiliated with Dartmouth Health. The bill also revises the definition of "pregnancy-related death" by removing the exclusion of accidental or incidental causes. This bill is a request of the Department of Health and Human Services.

SB 185-FN, relative to office of professional licensure and certification investigations.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 185-FN puts time limitations on investigations conducted by the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC) to allegations of professional misconduct. The committee amendment clarified investigation timelines and provided time for the OPLC to comply with new requirements.

SB 187-FN, adopting the dentist and dental hygienist compact.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 187-FN adopts the dentist and dental hygienist compact. During the public hearing the Committee was informed of a competing dental compact. The Committee felt that more work needed to be done on the compact, and that professionals and organizations in the industry should reach a compromise before the legislature acts.

SB 190, relative to the state health assessment and state health improvement plan advisory council and the commission on the interdisciplinary primary care workforce.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 190 sets quorum requirements and requirements for certain members to be present at the physical location of the meeting, as well as other meeting requirements, for both the State Health Assessment and State Health Improvement Plan Advisory Council and the Commission on the Interdisciplinary Primary Care Workforce. The Committee heard testimony that this would help the Council and the Commission achieve quorum requirements.

SB 191-FN, relative to registration of vehicles in a fleet of 25 or more.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 3-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 191-FN establishes a 5-year fleet vehicle registration program in the Division of Motor Vehicles for fleets of 25 vehicles or more. The Committee heard that there are technical issues to be fixed before the bill is ready to move forward.

SB 192, establishing a committee to study enhanced coordination between county correctional facilities, the department of corrections, and the department of health and human services.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 192 establishes a committee to study implementation of a justice system unique identification number, a unified client information system for justice agencies, and relevant data. The study committee will work to better understand and track trends of high utilizers, develop a unified offender information system for use by county jails, the Department of Corrections, the Parole Board, and supervision agencies including flags for behavioral health, treatment outcomes, and recidivism, and create data dashboards to respond to trends in real-time.

SB 197, relative to the medical supervision of the licensed registered nurse employed by the legislative facilities committee.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 197 removes supervision of the nurse employed by the Legislative Facilities Committee from the Department of Health and Human Services and provides that the nurse shall act within the scope of practice provided by the Board of Nursing and RSA 326-B, the Nurse Practices Act. This bill is a request of the Department of Health and Human Services.

SB 199-FN, relative to establishing a new recruitment and retention program for new New Hampshire state troopers.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 199-FN creates and enumerates the parameters for a new recruitment and retention program for new New Hampshire state troopers. The Committee felt this bill would help the New Hampshire State Police combat the shortage of state troopers.

SB 202, relative to Alzheimer's disease and other related dementia training for first responders.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator McGough for the committee.

SB 202 adds a member of emergency medical services to the Subcommittee on Alzheimer's Disease. The bill also adds a member of the Alzheimer's Association to the Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board. The Committee heard testimony that this would help first responders better interact with the significant population of New Hampshire citizens who live with Alzheimer's disease.

SB 286-FN, creating the New Hampshire office of film and creative media.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 286-FN establishes, and appropriates funds to staff, an Office of Film and Creative Media within the Department of Business and Economic Affairs. The bill also establishes businesses enterprise tax credits for qualifying film and motion picture companies.

FINANCE

SB 63-FN, relative to funding for the division of travel and tourism.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Lang for the committee.

SB 63-FN modifies the calculation of the Meals and Rooms Tax Revenue used to determine the budget for the Division of Travel and Tourism, including the Travel and Tourism Development Fund.

SB 196-FN, relative to the exemption from competitive bidding requirements for certain state agency projects.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-0.

Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 196-FN exempts certain agency projects of not more than \$1 million from the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Public Works Design and Construction competitive bidding requirements. The current statute exempts such projects if the estimated total cost is not more than \$500,000.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SB 17-FN, relative to insurance cost-sharing calculations.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

This bill originally provided that an insurer or pharmacy benefits manager shall include any amount paid by the enrollee or paid on their behalf when calculating an enrollee's contribution to cost-sharing calculations. An amendment has been adopted that will require an insurer to apply an amount paid by a third party, including an independent charity, to the enrollee's cost sharing requirements, except in the case of a covered prescription drug for which there is a generic alternative or interchangeable biological product for our most debilitating conditions, such as cancer and MS.

SB 36, relative to the collection and reporting of abortion statistics by health care providers and medical facilities. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Avar for the committee.

As introduced, this bill required the collection and reporting of abortion statistics by health care providers and medical facilities. Upon stakeholder collaboration, an amendment has been adopted to clarify that certain abortion statistics be reported and that the reporting requirement replaces a provision in the Fetal Life Protection Act stating that nothing in the subdivision shall be construed as creating or recognizing a right to abortion.

SB 118-FN, relative to the personal needs allowance of residents of nursing homes.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

This bill, a request of the Department of Health and Human Services, adjusts the personal needs allowance for nursing home residents to reflect social security increases on an annual basis, rather than the current five-year adjustment. An amendment, also at the request of the Department, was adopted to establish the Hampstead Hospital and Residential Treatment Facility Capital Investment Fund and make an appropriation to fund certain leave accrual and retention payments for temporary classified staff positions at the Hampstead Hospital and residential treatment facility.

SB 119-FN, relative to Medicaid pharmaceutical services.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

This bill, a request of the Department of Health and Human Services, directs pharmacists to dispense brand name drugs to Medicaid beneficiaries when the brand name drug is on the Department's preferred drug list. The bill also directs the Department to develop a standing order for certain Medicaid-covered, over-the-counter medications, medical supplies, and laboratory tests when deemed medically necessary and cost effective by the Department. This will provide cost savings to the State while ensuring patients continue to receive proper benefits.

SB 120-FN, relative to insurance coverage for biomarker testing.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

This bill requires health insurance coverage for biomarker testing and requires the state Medicaid plan to include coverage for biomarker testing. Upon discussion and collaboration among concerned parties, an amendment has been adopted to reflect a compromise between stakeholders.

SB 121-FN, requiring notice to the insurance department of the discontinuance of certain types of insurance, including Medicare Advantage Plans.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Avar for the committee.

This bill, a request of the Insurance Department, will require insurance carriers to notify the Department when they cease writing an entire line of business or in certain circumstances regarding Medicare Advantage Plans. This is intended to prevent confusion between the Department and carriers in the future. An amendment from the Insurance Department has been adopted to address concerns from carriers in the property and casualty space. Therefore, we recommend this bill ought to pass with amendment.

SB 122-FN, relative to financial eligibility for the Medicare savings program.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to remove asset limits and increase income thresholds for the Medicare Savings Program and to submit any amendment to the State Medicaid Plan required for implementation. This will help ensure that the growing population of older adults in New Hampshire have access to affordable healthcare. Therefore, we recommend this bill ought to pass.

SB 123-FN, requiring coverage of ear acupuncture as a treatment for substance misuse under the state Medicaid plan.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill requires coverage of ear acupuncture as a treatment for substance misuse under the state Medicaid plan. This policy takes an important step in addressing the opioid crisis and ensuring that those struggling with substance misuse have access to all medical treatments we can identify and tools to help them thrive in recovery.

SB 126-FN, relative to notice of changes to provider contracts.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

This bill regulates the notice requirements regarding changes to contracts between health carriers and health care providers. The committee does not feel it is currently appropriate for the legislature to become involved with contracting between private entities in these circumstances.

SB 128-FN, relative to children's mental health services for persons 18 years of age and younger.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

This bill creates a public-private partnership to fund the FAST Forward program. FAST Forward provides youth and family-driven wraparound services focused on keeping youth in their home community. This bill establishes an association to assess carriers both equitably and proportionately for children who could access FAST Forward on their respective plans. This will utilize federal, state, and private funding to both prioritize the health of children and save insurers money.

SB 129-FN, relative to establishing an uncompensated health care fund to be administered by the department of insurance and assessed by a surcharge on commercial insurers, reinsurers, and trusts overseeing self-insured plans.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 4-0.

Senator Avar for the committee.

This bill establishes an uncompensated health care fund to be administered by the Department of Insurance and assessed by a surcharge on commercial insurers, reinsurers, and trusts overseeing self-insured plans. The prime sponsor of this bill requested the committee to recommend this bill inexpedient to legislate, so that an identical bill can have the opportunity to move forward.

SB 130-FN, relative to insurance reimbursement for ambulance services.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Rochefort for the committee.

As amended, this bill establishes a commission to study delivery models for emergency medical services in the state of New Hampshire. The purpose of this commission is to complete a comprehensive assessment of emergency medical service delivery models throughout the state, identify common problems and their possible solutions, and understand what role, if any, the State should play in this area.

SB 131-FN-A, relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Rochefort for the committee.

This bill establishes provisional eligibility for Medicaid nursing facility services as part of the long-term care application process and makes an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services for this purpose. This revolving fund will help alleviate the financial burden on nursing homes and the long-term care health system as a whole by making sure those applying for Medicaid nursing facility services are paid for while their applications are pending.

SB 132-FN, relative to health insurance coverage for prosthetics.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill requires health insurance policies to provide coverage for adult activity specific prosthetics. The requirements would be for one activity specific prosthetic every 5 years, if needed, and medically necessary. This is building upon legislation passed in 2024 and signed into law that provides this for children. Upon discussion and collaboration, an amendment has been adopted to reflect a compromise between stakeholders.

SB 133-FN, relative to the designation of emergency medical services performed by ambulance service providers as essential services.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill provides that ambulance service providers are essential service providers for purposes of emergency management at the state and local level. This simple change will specify their role in emergency management and account for the fact that ambulance service providers are often the first to arrive at emergency scenes along with other first responders. Therefore, we recommend this bill ought to pass.

SB 137-FN, relative to hospital stays covered under the state Medicaid plan.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish an administrative day rate and swing bed rate for certain types of hospital stays, including minimum stays under the state Medicaid program for mothers of newborns experiencing neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome. This bill is intended to assist in implementing the evidence based eat-sleep-console treatment for newborns who were exposed to opioids while in utero. A committee amendment was adopted to ensure this bill is applying to this specific population of patients.

SB 246-FN, providing maternal depression screening for new mothers, increasing access to health care services for new mothers, and relative to job protection within the employer-sponsored New Hampshire paid family and medical leave plan.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill provides maternal depression screening for new mothers; makes an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services for a perinatal psychiatric provider consult line and to the Department of Safety for rural maternal health EMS services; directs the Department of Health and Human Services to study barriers to independent birth centers; requires insurance coverage for perinatal home visiting services; expands employee protection to attend medical appointments for postpartum care and an infant's medical appointments; and directs the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a plan for a perinatal peer support certification program. This collaborative effort among stakeholders builds on momentum made by previous legislation in supporting mothers and families throughout New Hampshire.

SB 255-FN, establishing and developing crisis stabilization services.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Avar for the committee.

This bill creates a trust fund to promote awareness of behavioral health crisis service systems, creates a commission to oversee that trust fund, and establishes a crisis services telecommunications surcharge. This will ensure the viability of 988 crisis call centers by establishing a sustainable funding source. An amendment has been adopted upon stakeholder collaboration.

SB 256-FN, relative to the affordability and safety of clinician administered drugs.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator Rochefort for the committee.

SB 256 and the proposed amendment addresses the practice of "brown bagging", where a pharmacy sends medicine directly to the patient, who then brings it into a medical facility, often for infusion. The bill would have prohibited payers from requiring "brown bagging", as it requires the patient to be responsible for the safe storage and transportation of their pharmaceuticals until they are used. The alternative, "white bagging", has the drug sent directly to the medical facility. There are pros and cons to each method, balancing cost, convenience, safety, and effectiveness. The committee recognizes this is a complex issue that both has merits and administrative and clinical concerns. By re-referring the bill, we can work with the pharmacies, health care providers, insurances companies, and various state agencies to reach a consensus and craft appropriate limits that best serves New Hampshire patients.

JUDICIARY

SB 41-FN, changing the reckless driving minimum penalties.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Altschiller for the committee.

Senate Bill 41-FN was a request of the New Hampshire Department of Safety to enhance the penalties for reckless driving. Those operating at speeds at or exceeding 100 miles per hour shall be fined \$750 and subject to license revocation for 90 days, while subsequent offenses carry larger fines and revocation for up to one year.

SB 48-FN, relative to competency to stand trial for certain offenses.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 4-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 48-FN sought to permit the dismissal of charges with prejudice for certain violations and class B misdemeanors in the event a defendant was found incompetent for trial. Members of the Committee had reservations toward the lack of a restoration process and were concerned with the bill's potential efficacy and found the proposal inexpedient to legislate.

SB 53-FN, relative to natural organic reduction of human remains.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 4-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 53-FN provides for the legalization of Natural Organic Reduction (NOR) of human remains. NOR transformed the deceased into a yard of soil via heat and pressure in a steel sarcophagus. The concept's novelty, the lack of data regarding implementation elsewhere, and questions surrounding the licensure, inspection, and compliance of providers and facilities alike resulted in Senate Judiciary re-referring the bill to committee.

SB 58-FN, relative to venue in criminal cases.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 58-FN was a request of the Merrimack County Attorney's Office to broaden the venue for criminal prosecution for cases relative to distribution of a controlled substance with death resulting. In such instances, a case may be prosecuted in either the jurisdiction where the death occurred, or where the manufacture, sale, or dispensation occurred.

SB 139-FN, creating a private right of action in civil rights cases.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Bill 139-FN amends RSA 354-B to provide a private right of action to individuals whose civil rights are infringed or subject to interference. Individuals may initiate their own legal action in some circumstances, as opposed to filing through the Attorney General's office. The Senate Judiciary Committee elected to re-refer the bill to committee for further contemplation.

SB 140-FN, establishing a domestic violence fatality review committee.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Avar for the committee.

Senate Bill 140-FN was a request of the New Hampshire Department of Justice to codify the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee in statute. The committee shall be composed of a diverse range of professionals to analyze response gaps, consider risk factors, and improve best practices in accordance with a multidisciplinary, analytical approach.

SB 142-FN, establishing the department of children's services and juvenile justice.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 3-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 142 sought to establish the Department of Children's Services and Juvenile Justice, providing the department the duties and powers of the Division for Children, Youth and Families. The Senate Judiciary Committee elected to re-refer the bill to committee at the behest of the prime sponsor to provide adequate time for technical changes and considerations.

SB 145-FN, establishing a mobile evidence collection unit pilot program and providing an appropriation therefor.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Altschiller for the committee.

As amended, Senate Bill 145-FN establishes an evidence shipping pilot program, ensuring that evidence relative to a sexual assault case is delivered to the State Forensic Lab expediently. Evidence relative to a case in New Hampshire shall be delivered within seven business days and may be transited via common carrier if a law enforcement agency is unable to do so in person.

SB 146-FN, relative to medical examiner's certificates and medical certification of the death record.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-1.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Bill 146-FN is a request of the State Department of Justice to revise the requisites for medical certification of the death record for those being cremated. Medical Examiners and their Associates must inquire on the manner or cause of an individual's death prior to the issue of certification but shall not be required to view or observe unless the initial inquiry justifies further examination.

SB 149-FN, relative to the crime of aggravated driving while intoxicated.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Bill 149 is a request of the State Department of Safety to enhance aggravating factors relative to the offense of driving while intoxicated. RSA 265:26, I establishes appropriate direction of travel. Accordingly, a violation of the section while intoxicated shall result in an aggravated offense.

SB 258-FN, relative to the crime of fraudulent retail transactions.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

As amended, Senate Bill 258 enhances the ability of prosecutors to charge individuals engaging in fraudulent retail transactions with prepaid gift cards. The adopted amendment accommodates the variable value of prepaid cards, allowing for property to be valued at the highest reasonable amount, namely the full monetary face value or potential loaded value.

SB 261-FN, requiring that custodial interrogations be recorded, establishing a fund to make grants to state law enforcement agencies to purchase equipment to enable such recordings, and making an appropriation therefor.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 4-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

Senate Bill 261-FN requires the recording of custodial interrogations by law enforcement entities. \$50,000 is appropriated for furnishing law enforcement with the means to electronically record interrogations at places of detention via audio, or audio and video. The Committee elected to re-refer the bill, seeking clarity and accommodation for inquiries which are not interrogations nor at detention centers.

SB 262-FN, relative to the penalty for trafficking in persons under 18 years of age.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

Senate Bill 262-FN enhances the penalties for those convicted of trafficking a person(s) under the age of 18. RSA 633:7, II and III are amended to increase the minimum penalty for such offenses from 7 years to 18 years, while setting the maximum penalty as a life sentence.

SB 266-FN, relative to safety and accountability of drivers under 18 years of age.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Altschiller for the committee.

Senate Bill 266 modifies the appropriate standards, circumstances, and tenure of Youth Operator License suspensions. The legislation also provides additional requirements for reinstatement of such licenses, namely completion of an approved in-person driver attitude program, followed by a hearing at the discretion of the program director.

SB 289-FN, relative to use and preservation of body-worn camera recordings in certain matters.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 289-FN sought to clarify the rules and protections governing the distribution and destruction of body worn camera (BWC) footage. The Senate Judiciary Committee ultimately elected to re-refer to the bill to committee to ensure that continued efforts incorporating civil proceedings are adequately considered.

SB 290-FN, relative to the definition of "torture" in animal abuse cases.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 290-FN defined torture as it related to cases of animal abuse within the animal cruelty statute. The element of negligence within the provided definition, and the implications it carried for husbandry, agriculture, and other practices presented concerns for the committee. Accordingly, the Senate Judiciary Committee elected to re-refer the bill to committee to comprehensively review the animal cruelty statute and the incorporation of torture.

TRANSPORTATION

SB 150-FN, defining electric vehicle charging station and charging a fee for annual testing by the division of weights and measures.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Fenton for the committee.

This bill would define electric vehicle charging stations and charge a fee for annual testing by the Division of Weights and Measures. Therefore, the committee moves that this bill ought to pass.

SB 151-FN, relative to accessible parking permit verification and fraud prevention.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Fenton for the committee.

This bill would require that walking disability placards contain certain driver's license information, creates a penalty for a driver who parks in a restricted parking space without displaying their placard, and increases fines for parking in restricted spaces without a placard. There is a small amendment to delete section 4 and renumber the original section 5 to read as 4. Therefore, the committee moves that this ought to pass with the amendment.

SB 152-FN, authorizing the sale of toll credits to fund a newly established noise barrier construction fund for the design and construction of noise barrier projects.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

This bill would have authorized the sale of toll credits to fund a newly established noise barrier construction fund for the design and construction of noise barrier projects if there were sufficient turnpike toll credits for the state match for certain federal apportionment totals. The committee expressed concern regarding the fiscal note and has recommended that this bill be re-referred.

SB 154-FN, relative to authorized organizations issuing multi-use decal plates.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator McConkey for the committee.

This bill would allow for authorized organizations to issue multi-use decal plates. It would amend RSA 261-B:9 to include the New Hampshire Snowmobile Association in offering snowmobile decals. This would help to boost contributions for the trail system maintenance because snowmobile registration fees only cover 50% of the association's needs. Therefore, we recommend this bill ought to pass.

SB 155-FN, relative to highway toll credits.

Re-refer to Committee, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill would have allowed for the use of highway toll credits as a match for federal highway funds for certain projects. Any municipal, county, or non-profit managed project eligible for assistance under Title 23 would be permitted to use toll credits as a match for assistance. While the committee supported the concept of this bill, the use of toll credits as a matching fund system was determined to not be the right time based on the toll credit revenue trending. Therefore, the committee recommended this bill to be rereferred.

SB 272-FN, relative to electric-vehicle charging station funding.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

This bill would amend the revolving fund statute to support the installation and maintenance of electric vehicle charging stations. Additionally, it establishes a \$62 fine for individuals who park in reserved electric vehicle spots. This bill would help create electric vehicle infrastructure, promote vehicles in New Hampshire, and ensure parking for electric vehicle drivers. Therefore, the committee moves this bill ought to pass.

SB 274-FN, establishing a 4-year pilot program with potential for statewide expansion to improve rail trails in New Hampshire through federal, state, and private funding and making a bonded appropriation therefor.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Fenton for the committee.

As amended, this bill will transfer ownership of four rail corridors, and all duties and responsibilities therefor, to the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. It will also establish a pilot program to improve rail trails in the four corridors, establish a Rail Trail Program fund and Rail Trail Emergency fund, and make an appropriation to the Bureau of Trails for the established funds.

WAYS AND MEANS

SB 276-FN, relative to raising the research and development tax credit.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

Senate Bill 276-FN increases the Research and Development (R&D) tax credit, which has a proven track record of helping to create jobs and technology advancements in New Hampshire and is frequently over-subscribed. Specifically, the bill increases the aggregate of tax credits issued by the commissioner to all taxpayers claiming the tax credit from \$7,000,000 to \$10,000,000 per fiscal year. Additionally, this bill raises the proportional share of the credit that an individual entity can claim from \$50,000 to \$100,000. These components have not been updated since 2018 and 2008 respectively. The committee amendment addresses the concern of the Department of Revenue Administration by changing the effective date to July 1, 2026.

SB 277-FN, relative to the application of utility property taxes and statewide education property taxes to electric generating facilities.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Lang for the committee.

This bill removes the requirement that electric generators be subject to the utility property tax (UPT). Generators are no longer state regulated utilities. They are now considered manufacturers and as such should be paying the statewide education property tax (SWEPT), not the UPT. The committee amendment acknowledges that certain electric generators have agreements with municipalities called payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) and honors those agreements until their expiration. After such time, the SWEPT obligation may be included in any new PILOT agreement or paid in addition to it. The committee amendment also addresses the concern of the Department of Revenue Administration by adding an applicability date.

REGULAR CALENDAR REPORTS

TRANSPORTATION

SB 273-FN, relative to motorist duties when approaching highway emergencies involving a stopped or standing vehicle.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Fenton for the committee.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

SB 72-FN, establishing a parents' bill of rights in education.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 2-1.

Senator Sullivan for the committee.

COMMERCE

SB 84-FN, relative to zoning procedures concerning residential housing.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-1.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

EDUCATION

SB 34, relative to parental consent for student participation in Medicaid to schools program.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

SB 100-FN, relative to violations of the prohibition on teaching discrimination.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.

Senator Ward for the committee.

SB 102-FN, making informational materials regarding type 1 diabetes available on the department of education website.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-1.

Senator Ward for the committee.

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

SB 219-FN, requiring the secretary of state to enter into a membership agreement with the Electronic Registration Information Center.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 3-2.

Senator Lang for the committee.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 188-FN, allowing independent permitting and inspections, and allowing local governments to authorize licensed engineers and architects to perform building code inspections.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 193-FN, requiring the head of each state agency to submit a strategic plan for program activities.

Ought to Pass, Vote 2-1.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

FINANCE

SB 59-FN, establishing a recruitment incentive program within the community college system for public safety communicators and dispatchers and making an appropriation therefor.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 70-FN, creating a mobile driver's license and non-driver identification card.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-1.

Senator Lang for the committee.

SB 71-FN, relative to cooperation with federal immigration authorities.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-2.

Senator Gray for the committee.

SB 106-FN, relative to the participation of customer generators in net energy metering.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-0.

Senator Lang for the committee.

SB 114-FN-A, making appropriations to the department of health and human services to support community and transitional housing through community mental health centers.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-0.

Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

SB 115-FN, making an appropriation for regional drinking water infrastructure.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

SB 116-FN, relative to the Pillsbury Lake Village District community water system, and making an appropriation therefor.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

SB 117-FN-A, making an appropriation to the department of education to fund the online tutoring program.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-1.

Senator Lang for the committee.

SB 158-FN, raising the funding cap for the New Hampshire community development finance authority.

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-0.

Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 238-FN, extending funding for the adverse childhood experiences prevention and treatment pilot program.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-0.

Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

SB 239-FN, requiring the general fund to cover the costs of the fish and game department retirement contributions and technology services.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 242-FN, relative to the cost of living adjustments for certain group II retirees in the New Hampshire retirement system.

Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SB 134-FN, relative to work requirements under the state Medicaid program.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

SB 253-FN, relative to participation in the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 3-2.

Senator Avarad for the committee.

JUDICIARY

SB 54-FN, relative to refusal of consent to testing to determine alcohol concentration and penalties for aggravated driving while intoxicated.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-1.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 141-FN, extending the time to petition for a new trial in certain cases.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-1.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 267-FN, relative to the penalty for engaging in prostitution as a patron.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

TRANSPORTATION

SB 271, relative to qualifications for issuing veteran license plates to include General Discharge Under Honorable Conditions.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

WAYS AND MEANS

SB 168-FN-L, regulating online gambling and directing net proceeds to the education trust fund, the general fund, and to reimburse municipalities for elderly, disabled, blind, and deaf tax exemptions.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.

Senator Lang for the committee.

AMENDMENTS

Senate Health and Human Services

February 20, 2025

2025-0531s

05/08

Amendment to SB 17-FN

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

1 New Section; Accident and Health Insurance; Applying Patient Assistance for Prescription Drugs to Cost Sharing. Amend RSA 415:18 by inserting after section 415:18-ee the following new section:

415:18-ff Applying Patient Assistance for Prescription Drugs to Cost Sharing.

I. In this section:

(a) "Cost-sharing" means any coinsurance, copayment, deductible or out-of-pocket maximum.

(b) "Interchangeable biological product" means a biological product that the federal Food and Drug Administration:

(1) Has licensed and determined meets the standards for interchangeability pursuant to 42 U.S.C. section 262(k)(4); or

(2) Has determined is therapeutically equivalent as set forth in the latest edition of or supplement to the federal Food and Drug Administration's Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations.

II. Each insurer that issues or renews any policy of individual or group accident or health insurance which provides coverage for prescription drugs, or which contracts with an entity providing such prescription

drug coverage, including but not limited to pharmacy benefit manager companies, shall apply any amounts paid at the time of a claim on behalf of an enrollee by a third party, including but not limited to an independent charity, to the enrollee's cost sharing requirements, except in the case of a covered prescription drug for which there is a generic alternative or interchangeable biological product.

III. If the assistance payment is not processed in coordination with the enrollee's health insurance coverage at the point of sale, then an insurer or its contracted entity providing prescription drug coverage may require a pharmacy processing an assistance payment from an independent charity patient assistance program on behalf of an enrollee to disclose to the enrollee's insurer:

- (a) The name of the enrollee on whose behalf a payment was made;
- (b) The name of the covered prescription drug for which the payment was made;
- (c) The amount of the payment that was provided; and

(d) Any other terms and conditions that are attached to the assistance program under which payment was made.

IV. For a health care contract that meets the definition of a "high deductible plan" set forth in 26 U.S.C. section 223(c)(2) or a catastrophic health plan, as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009, a carrier shall be exempt from the provisions of this section until the enrollee has satisfied the minimum deductible under Section 223 of the Federal Internal Revenue Code.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

2025-0531s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires an insurer to apply an amount paid by a third party, including an independent charity, to the enrollee's cost sharing requirements, except in the case of a covered prescription drug for which there is a generic alternative or interchangeable biological product.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration

February 12, 2025

2025-0395s

02/06

Amendment to SB 21-FN

Amend RSA 106-B:1-a, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Applicants shall be eligible for the program if they were hired as police employees on or after July 1, 2025, and owe at least \$10,000 in student loans. Applicants deemed eligible by the department of safety shall, no later than 30 days after their first year anniversary of employment, receive a disbursement towards their student loan debt principal in the amount of \$10,000 for the first 5 years they remain police employees, up to a maximum total disbursement of \$40,000. Applicants shall remain eligible for the program as long as they hold student loan debt during their first 5 years as police employees. Applicants with less than \$10,000 in student loan debt after their first anniversary of employment shall receive prorated disbursements based on their remaining student loan principal debt. Such disbursements shall not be used to pay student loan interest.

Senate Commerce

February 11, 2025

2025-0365s

06/09

Amendment to SB 27-FN

Amend RSA 482-A:26, III(b) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(b) Without otherwise limiting the provisions of this section, where the effect of repair, ~~or~~ reconstruction, **or improvement** of a structure subject to the provisions of this section represents greater protection of public water or the environment, and where such repair or reconstruction does not change a recreational, water-based activity to a land-based, residential or commercial activity, the commissioner may waive the existing standards **in order to allow a structure to be expanded**, provided that ~~[there shall be no expansion of the existing~~

footprint, outside dimensions, and square footage of floor space; and there shall be a net reduction in the total square footage of kitchen, bathroom, shower, and toilet facilities] ***this expansion shall not cause new penetrations of the water by any added columns, nor expansion of the existing footprint, nor addition to the existing square footage of living space.***

Senate Health and Human Services
February 20, 2025
2025-0530s
05/11

Amendment to SB 36

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

1 Collection and Reporting of Abortion Statistics. RSA 329:49 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

329:49 Collection and Reporting of Abortion Statistics.

I. Any health care provider who performs an abortion as defined in RSA 132:32, I, shall report the following information in writing to the medical facility in which the abortion is performed:

- (a) Date when the abortion was performed;
- (b) County where the abortion was performed;
- (c) Age group of the pregnant patient when the abortion was performed;
- (d) Residence of patient as “in-state” or “out-of-state” when the abortion was performed;
- (e) Method used to perform the abortion; and
- (f) Estimated gestational age when the abortion was performed.

II. The aggregated report containing the information and data required by this section shall be transmitted by the medical facility to the department of health and human services. These reports shall not identify the patient or health care provider by name or include other personally identifiable information.

III. The commissioner of the department of health and human services shall prepare from these data such aggregated statistical trends and tables with respect to maternal health, abortion methods, and estimated gestational age, and shall make an annual aggregated report thereof to the general court.

IV. The commissioner of health and human services shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to:

- (a) The form in which data shall be filed under paragraph I.
- (b) The cadence of reporting from medical facilities.
- (c) Confidentiality of data collected and disclosed under this section subject to the provisions of this section.
- (d) Procedures and written requirements for obtaining, using, and protecting data provided by the department of health and human services under this section.

V. Any medical facility that willfully fails to comply with the provisions of this section shall be subject to an administrative fine of \$100 for each business day of noncompliance.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

2025-0530s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the collection and reporting of certain abortion statistics by health care providers, medical facilities, and the department of health and human services. The reporting requirement replaces a provision in the fetal life protection act stating that nothing in the subdivision shall be construed as creating or recognizing a right to abortion.

Senate Education
 February 19, 2025
 2025-0498s
 02/09

Amendment to SB 57

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 Duties. The committee shall analyze the administrative, financial, and logistical changes and outcomes from the transition from a municipal school district system to a county school district system. The committee shall consider reducing the number of SAUs in the state down to 12, one for each county and one each for Manchester and Nashua. The committee shall especially consider economies of scale for consolidation and impact of potential county taxes. The committee may consult with county commissioners from each county, the New Hampshire Municipal Association and the New Hampshire School Boards Association.

Senate Judiciary
 February 12, 2025
 2025-0377s
 09/05

Amendment to SB 58-FN

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

AN ACT relative to venue in criminal prosecutions of distribution of a controlled drug with death resulting.

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

1 New Paragraph; Distribution of a Controlled Drug with Death Resulting; Venue. Amend RSA 318-B:26 by inserting after paragraph IX-a the following new paragraph:

IX-b. A prosecution for an offense under paragraph IX of this section may be commenced in the jurisdiction where either the death occurred or the manufacturing, selling, or dispensing took place.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

2025-0377s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill broadens criminal venue to allow for prosecution of the crime of distribution of a controlled drug with death resulting in the jurisdiction where either the death occurred or where the manufacturing, selling, or dispensing took place.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
 February 21, 2025
 2025-0551s
 06/05

Amendment to SB 65-FN

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

2 Terrain Alteration; Rulemaking. RSA 485-A:17, II-a is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

II-a. By January 1, 2026, the department shall adopt rules to establish a permit by notification for alteration of terrain that is limited to the installation of solar panels and related structures if the generating capacity of the installed panels is less than or equal to 5 MW. Until completion of such rulemaking, the department shall consider waivers from the rules adopted pursuant to RSA 485-A:17, I. Approval of such waivers shall not unreasonably be withheld.

3 Applicability of Administrative Rules. Any rules previously adopted by the department of environmental services under RSA 541-A, relative to permitting of solar arrays, that are inconsistent with section 1 of this act shall be deemed void and unenforceable on or after the effective date of this act.

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

Senate Finance
 February 19, 2025
 2025-0494s
 09/02

Amendment to SB 71-FN

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

2 County Department of Corrections; Immigration Detainees. New Paragraph; County Department of Corrections; Immigration Detainees. Amend RSA 30-B:1 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. A county may hold Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainees, after the resolution of state charges, for a maximum of 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, in order to permit assumption of custody by federal authorities. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the county from executing an agreement in accordance with RSA 30-B:16. Any agency refusing to honor an immigration detainer for an inmate shall report each such refusal to the attorney general in a time, form, and manner to be prescribed by the attorney general or the attorney general's designee.

2025-0494s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that unless expressly prohibited by state or federal law, local governmental entities may not prohibit or impede any state or federal law enforcement agency from complying with federal immigration laws, and provides for remedies for violations. This bill further authorizes county corrections facilities to hold individuals subject to an Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention for up to 48 hours following the resolution of their state charges, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, in order to permit assumption of custody by federal authorities, and requires any agency refusing to honor an immigration detainer for an inmate to report each such refusal to the attorney general.

Senate Children and Family Law
 February 20, 2025
 2025-0540s
 11/06

Amendment to SB 72-FN

Amend RSA 189-B:2, III as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

III. "Compelling state interest" sufficient to justify any action or inaction that infringes upon any of the rights identified in RSA 189-B:3 shall exist only when the school or school personnel have an actual and objectively reasonable belief, supported by clear and convincing evidence, that the infringement upon parental rights is necessary to prevent the child from being abused as defined in RSA 169-C:3.

Amend RSA 189-B:2, IV as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

IV. "School" shall include, without limitation, any school board, school district, school administrative unit, or public charter school.

Amend RSA 189-B:2, VI(a) as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

VI.(a) "Infringement" for the purposes of this chapter shall include:

- (1) The violation or infringement of any of the rights described in this chapter;
- (2) Knowingly withholding of truthful information required to be disclosed to a child's parent pursuant to this chapter;
- (3) Knowingly providing misleading or intentionally inaccurate information required to be disclosed to or forbidden to be withheld from a child's parent pursuant to this chapter; or
- (4) The denial of the existence of information required to be disclosed to a child's parent pursuant to this chapter when the information is known to the school or school personnel inquired of by a parent.

Amend RSA 189-B:3, I(s) as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(s) The right to be informed of, and provide consent to, any medical procedure or treatment to be performed on a child, except pursuant to RSA 132:34, RSA 141-C:18, or for the provision of emergency medical treatment, including mental health treatment.

(t) The right to receive truthful and accurate information about the child in response to a written request that is not otherwise protected from disclosure by this chapter.

Amend RSA 189-B:3 as inserted by section 2 of the bill by deleting RSA 189-B:3, I-a.

Amend RSA 189-B:4, II as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Any parent claiming violation of any provision of this chapter may bring an action for declaratory or injunctive relief, or both, and monetary damages against the school. If a parent prevails in any such court action, the court shall award to the parent his or her reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs, including any such attorneys' fees and court costs incurred in an appeal to the supreme court.

Amend RSA 189-B:5 as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

189-B:5 Procedure Upon Determination of The Existence of a Compelling State Interest Warranting Infringement Upon Parental Rights. Upon determining that a compelling state interest requires a school or school personnel to infringe upon any of the parental rights described in this chapter, such school personnel shall immediately notify his or her principal or designee of his or her intent to infringe upon parental rights in a written report that identifies each of the articulable facts that the person believes justifies the infringement of parental rights. Such report shall identify the individual parental rights that the school or school personnel proposes to infringe upon and the basis for such infringement. The report shall also state the anticipated duration for the continued impingement of parental rights and all steps the school or school personnel proposes to take to address the compelling state interest. The infringement of parental rights shall continue for no longer than is necessary to address the compelling state interest.

Senate Commerce
February 11, 2025
2025-0366s
06/02

Amendment to SB 84-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Senate Commerce
February 12, 2025
2025-0385s
08/09

Amendment to SB 89

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Employee Restrictions; Non-Citizens. Amend RSA 179:20, I to read as follows:

I. No person, except a citizen of the United States or ~~[legal resident alien]~~ ***non-citizen who is legally authorized to work***, shall be employed to sell or deliver any liquor or beverage.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
February 12, 2025
2025-0400s
05/11

Amendment to SB 92-FN

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

1 Vital Records Administration; Completion of Birth Worksheet. Amend RSA 5-C:19, II(a)(3)(A) to read as follows:

(A) Current name and ~~[maiden]~~ name ***prior to first marriage or civil union***.

2 Vital Records Administration; Completion of Birth Worksheet. Amend RSA 5-C:19, II(a)(6)(L) to read as follows:

(L) The Apgar score, which is an evaluation of a newborn infant's physical status, at one minute, ~~[and] at 5 minutes,~~ **and at 10 minutes.**

3 New Paragraph; Vital Records Administration; Completion of Birth Worksheet. Amend RSA 5-C:19 by inserting after paragraph XI the following new paragraph:

XII.(a) When the division of vital records administration releases information on a birth to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), it shall not include:

- (1) The names of the mother, father, or baby;
- (2) The birth month and day of the mother or father;
- (3) Their medical record numbers; or
- (4) Their residential address, mailing address if different from the residential address, or zip code.

(b) Notwithstanding subparagraph (a)(2), the division may release the mother and father's birth year and the baby's birth date to the CDC.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect June 30, 2026.

2025-0400s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill updates certain language regarding information collected by hospitals on the birth worksheet; revises the intervals for reporting Apgar scores; and states that the division of vital records shall not include certain personally identifiable information in the birth information released to the CDC.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration

February 12, 2025

2025-0403s

11/09

Amendment to SB 93-FN

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

AN ACT relative to licensed nurse assistant (LNA) licensure application materials.

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

1 Submission of Documentation. Amend RSA 326-B:19, I to read as follows:

I. Submit documentation of successful completion and certification from a board approved nursing assistant education program ***or submit documentation of successful completion of fundamentals of nursing curriculum or its equivalent from a board-approved nursing education program.***

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

2025-0403s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill adds an additional option for material that can be submitted for LNA licensure.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration

February 19, 2025

2025-0504s

09/08

Amendment to SB 95

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

AN ACT relative to youth recreation camp cabins and the state building and fire codes.

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

1 New Section; Youth Recreation Camp Cabins. Amend RSA 155-A by inserting after section 13 the following new section:

155-A:14 Youth Recreation Camp Cabins.

I. Residential cabins in youth recreation camps as defined in RSA 170-E:55 shall meet the applicable existing chapter in the state building code, provided however, that no new or renovated structures used as youth recreation camp cabins shall require automatic sprinkler systems. For purposes of this section only, all new residential facilities for youth summer recreation camps shall be limited to 2 stories above grade.

II. Residential cabins shall not be required to have electrical, mechanical, or plumbing. However, if a residential cabin does have such system the applicable state building code shall be followed.

2 New Paragraph; State Fire Code. Amend RSA 153:5 by inserting after paragraph VI the following new paragraph:

VII. Residential cabins in youth recreation camps as defined in RSA 170-E:55 shall meet the applicable existing chapter in the state fire code, provided however, that no new or renovated structures used as youth recreation camp cabins shall require automatic sprinkler systems. For purposes of this section only, all new residential facilities for youth summer recreation camps shall be limited to 2 stories above grade.

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

2025-0504s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill exempts new residential cabins in youth recreation camps from being required to have automatic sprinkler systems, and provides that the cabins also do not need to have electrical, mechanical, or plumbing systems, but if they do, such electrical, mechanical, or plumbing systems must comply with the state building code.

Senate Education
February 19, 2025
2025-0491s
02/09

Amendment to SB 100-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 193:40, I to read as follows:

I. No pupil in any public school in this state shall be *intentionally or knowingly* taught, instructed, inculcated or compelled to express belief in, or support for, any one or more of the following:

2025-0491s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill adds mental state, or mens rea, as an element to the prohibition on teaching discrimination.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
February 21, 2025
2025-0557s
08/02

Amendment to SB 107-FN

Amend RSA 212-B:6, I as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. The state treasurer shall establish a separate nonlapsing account within the fish and game fund to be known as the nongame species account to which moneys obtained by the fish and game department shall be applied, including any federal moneys which become available from the federal government, any state funds appropriated, and all donations received. ***The state treasurer shall invest funds received specifically for deposit in the nongame species account as provided by law, and any interest received on such investments shall be credited to the nongame species account.*** The moneys in this account shall be used for the development and implementation of a comprehensive nongame species management program.

2025-0557s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows the state treasurer to invest funds from the nongame species special fund.

This bill is a request of the fish and game department.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources

February 21, 2025

2025-0550s

07/06

Amendment to SB 108-FN

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

1 Ratepayer Protection. Amend RSA 374-F:4-b, I to read as follows:

I. Within 60 days of the effective date of this section, the ~~[commission]~~ **department of energy** shall initiate a proceeding to develop rules to allow residential and small commercial customers to choose how they receive communication from competitive electric suppliers and to implement the provisions of this section. Where the ~~[commission]~~ **department** has adopted rules in conformity with this section, complaints to and proceedings before the ~~[commission]~~ **department** shall not be subject to RSA 541-A:29 or RSA 541-A:29-a.

2 Net Energy Metering. Amend RSA 362-A:9, I and I-a to read as follows:

I. Standard tariffs providing for net energy metering shall be made available to eligible customer-generators by each electric distribution utility in conformance with net metering rules adopted **by the department** and orders issued by the commission. ~~[Each net energy metering tariff shall be identical, with respect to rates, rate structure, and charges, to the tariff under which a customer-generator would otherwise take default generation supply service from the distribution utility. Such tariffs shall be available on a first-come, first-served basis within each electric utility service area under the jurisdiction of the commission until such time as the total rated generating capacity owned or operated by eligible customer-generators totals a number equal to 100 megawatts, with 50 megawatts of the 100 megawatts allocated to the 4 electric distribution utilities that were subject to the commission's jurisdiction in 2010 multiplied by each such utility's percentage share of the total 2010 annual coincident peak energy demand distributed by those 4 utilities, and 50 megawatts of the 100 megawatts allocated to the state's 3 investor-owned electric distribution utilities, multiplied by each such utility's percentage share of the total 2010 annual coincident peak energy demand distributed by those 3 utilities, all to be determined by the commission and to be utilized by eligible customer-generators located within each such utilities' service territory. Eighty percent of each utility's share of the 50 megawatts shall be apportioned to facilities with a total generating capacity of not more than 100 kilowatts and 20 percent to facilities with a total generating capacity in excess of 100 kilowatts, but no greater than one megawatt. The 50 megawatts of capacity shall be made available to eligible customer-generators until such time as commission approved alternative net metering tariffs approved by the commission become available. No more than 4 megawatts of such total rated generating capacity shall be from a combined heat and power system as defined in RSA 362-A:1-a, I-d.]~~ **Each net energy metering tariff shall be identical, with respect to rates, rate structure, and charges, to the tariff under which a customer-generator would otherwise take default generation supply service from the distribution utility. Standard tariffs shall be made available to eligible customer-generators until such time as commission approved alternative net metering tariffs approved by the commission become available.**

I-a. ~~[No person, owner, developer, installer of an eligible customer-generator facility, business organization, or any subsidiary thereof, shall reserve capacity space in the net metering interconnection queue of more than 20 percent of the total net metering utility-specific allocation pursuant to this section, and the creation of multiple business organizations, including a person, as defined in RSA 366:1, I, by the same shall not defeat this requirement. On a weekly basis each utility shall make public on its website its total net metering allocation, its reserved net metering capacity, and its installed and operating net metering capacity. For project applications of greater than 100 kilowatts, each utility net metering interconnection queue application shall include a certification of compliance with the 20 percent requirement, all persons involved in such an application shall sign the certification of compliance, and no application shall be processed where one or more persons involved in the application did not sign the certification of compliance.]~~ **Alternative tariffs**

providing for net energy metering shall be made available to eligible customer-generators by each investor-owned electric distribution utility in conformance with order 26,029 issued by the commission on June 23, 2017, and rules adopted by the department. The alternative tariffs shall be made available to such customer-generators until such time as the commission approves alternative net metering tariffs in accordance with RSA 362-A:9, XVI (a).

3 Certification of Assessment. Amend RSA 363-A:3 to read as follows:

363-A:3 Certification of Assessment. It shall be the duty of the department of energy to calculate the amount to be assessed against each such public utility and each other entity subject to assessment in accordance with RSA 363-A:1 and RSA 363-A:2. At the beginning of each fiscal year, the department of energy shall estimate the total expenses for the fiscal year, and then, based on such estimate, shall calculate the amount to be assessed quarterly on September 15, November 15, February 15, and April 15 of that fiscal year. For entities with assessments less than \$10,000, the department may bill those entities the entire amount on September 15 of that fiscal year. The department of energy shall then make a list showing the amount assessed September 15, November 15, February 15, and April 15 of that fiscal year to each of the several public utilities and other entities assessed under the provisions hereof, and, together with a statement of the full name and mailing address of each such public utility and other assessed entity, shall certify the same. ***Each public utility and entity subject to assessment under RSA 363-A:1 and A:2 and registered with the department on July 1 of the new fiscal year shall be liable for their entire amount assessed for that fiscal year.*** After the close of each fiscal year, the department of energy shall ascertain the actual total expenses in accordance with RSA 363-A:1 and RSA 363-A:2, and then shall adjust the assessment for the first or only payment of the new fiscal year for each such public utility or other assessed entity for any underpayment or overpayment by each such public utility or other assessed entity for the prior fiscal year.

4 Complaints. Amend RSA 365:1 to read as follows:

365:1 [~~Complaint Against Public Utilities~~] ***Complaints.*** Any person may make ***a formal*** complaint to the department of energy by petition setting forth in writing any thing or act claimed to have been done or to have been omitted by any [~~public utility~~] ***entity subject to the department's or commission's jurisdictions and*** in violation of any provision of [~~law~~], ***statute or rule,*** or of the terms and conditions of ***registration, tariff, community aggregation plan,*** franchises or charter, or of any order of the ***department or*** commission, ***provided such person has first made the same or a substantially similar complaint to the department's consumer services division and exhausted all available remedies available through that division. RSA 541-A:29 and RSA 541-A:29-a shall not apply to informal or formal complaints filed with the department.***

5 Exceptions. Amend RSA 365:1-a to read as follows:

365:1-a Exceptions. Except for complaints about RSA 371:17 through RSA 371:24, RSA 374:2-a, RSA 374:22-p, I(b), RSA 374:28-a, RSA 374:34-a, RSA 374:48 through RSA 374:56, RSA 374:59, and RSA 378:44 through RSA 378:48, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any end user of an excepted local exchange carrier, nor to any service provided to such end user. Such end users may make complaints [~~to the commission~~] regarding basic service, as defined by RSA 374:22-p, I(b) by excepted local exchange carriers. ***Except for complaints about RSAs 371:17 through 371:24, 374:34-a, 374:48 though 374:56, and 374:59, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any end user of a voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) provider, IP-enabled service provider, or cellular mobile radio communication services carrier.***

6 Investigation and Voluntary Resolution. RSA 365:2 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

365:2 Investigation and Voluntary Resolution. The department of energy may investigate and resolve any complaint made to the department using non-adjudicative procedures. The department may adopt rules for this purpose or may set out procedural requirements by order for the investigation and resolution of complaints.

7 Reparation. Amend RSA 365:3 to read as follows:

365:3 Reparation. If the [~~public utility~~] ***jurisdictional entity*** complained of shall make reparation for any injury alleged and shall cease to commit or to permit the violation [~~of law, franchise, or order~~] charged in the complaint, and shall notify the department of energy of that fact [~~before the time allowed for answer~~], the department shall not be required to take any further action upon the [~~charges~~] ***matters complained of.***

8 Department and Commission Adjudications. RSA 365:4 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

365:4 Department and Commission Adjudications. If the charges are not resolved voluntarily as provided in RSA 365:2 or satisfied as provided in RSA 365:3, then, for complaints over which only the department has jurisdiction, the department of energy may either issue an order dismissing the complaint or commence an adjudicative proceeding. For complaints over which the commission has jurisdiction, if requested by the person filing the complaint, the department shall transfer the complaint petition to the commission, along with a report of its investigation and attempts to resolve the complaint, whereupon the commission shall issue an order of notice opening an adjudicative proceeding.

9 Aggregation Program. Amend RSA 53-E:7, X to read as follows:

X. The commission shall adopt rules, under RSA 541-A, to implement this chapter and, to the extent authorities granted to municipalities and counties by this chapter materially affect the interests of electric distribution utilities and their customers, to reasonably balance such interests with those of municipalities and counties for the public good, which may also be done through adjudicative proceedings to the extent specified or not addressed in rules. Such rules shall include but not be limited to rules governing the relationship between municipal and county aggregators and distribution utilities, metering, billing, access to customer data for planning and operation of aggregations, notice of the commencement or termination of aggregation services and products, and the reestablishment of a municipal or county aggregation that has substantially ceased to provide services. Where the commission has adopted rules or issued orders in conformity with this chapter, complaints pertaining to actions undertaken or omitted by any municipal or county aggregator or electric distribution utility arising under this chapter, applicable rules, or orders of the commission, shall be made to the department. ~~[Thereupon, the department shall cause a copy of said complaint to be forwarded to the municipal or county aggregator or electric distribution utility complained of, which may be accompanied by an order, requiring that the matters complained of be satisfied, or that the charges be answered in writing within a time to be specified by the department. If the charges are not satisfied and it shall appear to the department that there are reasonable grounds therefor, it shall investigate the same in such manner and by such means as it shall deem proper. After investigation, the department may bring proceedings on its own motion before the commission, with respect to any complaint or violation arising under this chapter, applicable rules, or orders of the commission. If the party bringing the complaint is unsatisfied with the disposition of the complaint by the department, then they may petition the commission to resolve the matter through an adjudicative proceeding.]~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, municipal and county aggregators shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the department for purposes of this paragraph. For non-residential ratepayers, the department shall docket and make public any received complaint. Complaints to the department and proceedings before the commission shall not be subject to RSA 541-A:29 or RSA 541-A:29-a.

10 Repeal. RSA 362-A:9, XVIII, relative to net metering caps, is repealed.

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

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
February 19, 2025
2025-0516s
11/05

Amendment to SB 110-FN

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

1 Terrain Alteration. Amend RSA 485-A:17, II(a) to read as follows:

II.(a) The department shall charge a fee for ~~[each review of plans]~~ **applications**, including project inspections, required under this section. ~~[The plan review fee shall be based on the total area to be disturbed.]~~ **For projects that qualify for a permit by notification allowed by paragraph II-a, the application fee for a permit by notification shall be \$3,125.** Except for ~~[property subject to RSA 483-B:9]~~ **projects that qualify for a permit by notification allowed by paragraph II-a**, the fee for ~~[review of plans]~~ **applications** encompassing an area of at least ~~[100,000]~~ **150,000** square feet but less than 200,000 square feet shall be ~~[\$3,125]~~ **\$6,250.** ~~[For the property subject to RSA 483-B:9, the fee for review of plans encompassing an area of at least 50,000 square feet but less than 200,000 square feet shall be \$3,125.]~~ An additional fee of ~~[\$1,250]~~ **\$2,500** shall

be assessed for each additional area of up to 100,000 square feet to be disturbed. ***For any property subject to RSA 483-B:9, the fee for review of plans encompassing an area of at least 50,000 square feet but less than 150,000 square feet shall be \$5,000. For all other projects, the fee shall be \$500 plus \$0.005 per square foot of disturbance.*** No application shall be accepted by the department until the fee required by this paragraph is paid. All fees required under this paragraph shall be paid when plans are submitted for review and shall be deposited in the water resources fund established in RSA 482-A:3, III.

(b) The department shall charge a non-refundable fee of \$500 [~~plus a \$.10 fee per square foot of disturbance associated with the amendment request~~] for each request to amend a permit that requires plans to be reviewed.

2 Permit by Notification. RSA 485-A:17, II-a is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

II-a. By January 1, 2026, the department shall adopt rules to establish a permit by notification for projects with plans encompassing an area less than 150,000 square feet that are not subject to RSA 483-B:9.

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

2025-0516s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes fees for applications for terrain alteration and requires the department of environmental services to adopt rules to establish a permit by notification for certain projects with plans encompassing an area less than 150,000 square feet.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
February 20, 2025
2025-0542s
06/11

Amendment to SB 112-FN

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

2 Proposals for Multi-Year Agreements; Addition of Department of Energy. Amend the introductory language of RSA 374-F:11, I to read as follows:

I. Investor-owned electric distribution utilities ***and the department of energy*** may elect to develop and [~~no later than June 30, 2025,~~] issue a request for proposals for multi-year agreements for energy, in conjunction with or independent of any attendant environmental attributes from electric energy sources.

3 Purchased Power Agreements. Amend RSA 374-F:11, I(g) to read as follows:

(g) All megawatt hours procured through agreements made pursuant to this section shall come from ***existing***, new, or incremental electric energy sources.

4 New Subparagraph; Purchased Power Agreements. Amend RSA 374-F:11, I(h) by inserting after subparagraph (2) the following new subparagraph:

(3) “Existing electric energy sources” means all sources that currently provide energy to the ISO-NE regional markets, including nuclear power generation facilities located in the ISO-NE control area that commenced commercial operation before January 1, 2011.

5 Purchased Power Agreements. Amend the introductory language of RSA 374-F:11, II through II(a) to read as follows:

II. Any investor-owned electric distribution utility electing to enter into an agreement pursuant to this section shall petition the public utilities commission for authorization to enter the agreement [~~no later than June 30, 2026~~].

(a) Upon the petition of one or more electric distribution utilities, and after notice and hearing, the public utilities commission may authorize such utility or utilities to enter into multi-year agreements with ***existing***, new, or incremental electric energy sources up to a total of 2 million megawatt hours statewide, on an annual basis, if it finds such agreements to be just and reasonable and in the public interest.

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

Senate Finance
 February 12, 2025
 2025-0376s
 05/11

Amendment to SB 114-FN-A

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

1 Appropriation; Department of Health and Human Services; Community Mental Health Center Housing Grants. The sum of \$1,500,000, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, is appropriated to the department of health and human services to support existing mental health housing stocks and develop expansion of existing facilities. Said sum shall be nonlapsing. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. The department of health and human services shall issue a request for grant applications for the purpose of awarding housing grants to community mental health centers to retain and create new housing in the community. Grants may be disbursed for up to \$50,000 per bed. The department shall initiate the request for grant applications and grant disbursement by December 1, 2025.

2 Appropriation; Department of Health and Human Services; Community Mental Health Center Supported Housing Programs. The sum of \$1,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and the sum of \$1,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, are appropriated to the department of health and human services for community mental health center supported housing programs operated by community mental health centers designated under administrative rule He-M 425.03. Said sum shall be nonlapsing and used for the purpose of covering non-billable services for supported community housing. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

3 Department of Health and Human Services; Rates for Community Mental Health Supportive Housing Programs for High Acuity Patients. The department of health and human services is directed to adjust the Medicaid reimbursement rates for community mental health center housing programs for high acuity individuals needing 24/7 support who otherwise might not be able to be discharged from New Hampshire Hospital. The current rate of approximately \$278 a day shall be increased to \$350 a day and shall be eligible for a 50 percent federal match.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Senate Finance
 February 12, 2025
 2025-0384s
 08/02

Amendment to SB 115-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Department of Environmental Services; Appropriation. The sum of \$28,870,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 is hereby appropriated to the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding regional drinking water infrastructure as part of Phase 2 of the Southern New Hampshire Regional Water Project to increase water supply by over 2 million gallons per day to multiple towns impacted by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination and growing water demands. The infrastructure shall include all ancillary projects needed, including but not limited to booster pumping stations, pressure reducing stations, water storage tanks, water mains, and all associated design, land acquisition, and construction permits. This sum shall be nonlapsing. No current public utility ratepayer shall be adversely affected by any direct or indirect costs to bring drinking water to communities receiving new services through any projects funded by this appropriation. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Senate Finance
 February 11, 2025
 2025-0369s
 02/09

Amendment to SB 117-FN-A

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

1 Appropriation; Department of Education. The sum of \$1,000,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 2027 is hereby appropriated to the department of education to continue the state's online tutoring program. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. These funds shall be non-lapsing.

2 The department shall report annually, beginning June 30, 2026, on the use and effectiveness of the program to the governor, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the chair of the house education policy and administration committee, the chair of the house education finance committee, the chair of the senate education committee, and the chair of the senate education finance committee.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

2025-0369s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill makes an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to the department of education to fund the online tutoring program and requires the department to report on the program annually.

Senate Health and Human Services

February 20, 2025

2025-0529s

05/02

Amendment to SB 118-FN

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

AN ACT relative to the personal needs allowance of residents of nursing homes; making an appropriation to the department of health and human services for Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility staff; and establishing the Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility capital investment fund.

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

2 Department of Health and Human Services; Hampstead Hospital and Residential Treatment Facility Staff Transitioning; Certain Leave Accrual and Supplemental Payments; Supplemental Appropriation. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the sum of \$160,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services for the purposes of making certain leave accrual payments to temporary classified positions and any applicable bonus or retention payments prorated to the time worked in state service as part of staff transition at Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility. This appropriation shall be nonlapsing and limited to the purposes of this section. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

3 New Paragraph; Department of Health and Human Services; Hampstead Hospital and Residential Treatment Facility; Establishing Fund. Amend RSA 126-A:5, by inserting after paragraph XXXVI the following new paragraph:

XXXVII. There is hereby established the Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility capital investment fund. The department shall deposit revenue received through leasing Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility or any other administrative activities into the fund. For the biennium ending June 30, 2027, the department shall deposit all revenue into the fund up to a maximum amount of \$3,000,000. Any funds in excess of such amount may be accepted with fiscal committee approval in accordance with RSA 14:30-a or if already included in the biennial state operating budget. The fund shall be nonlapsing and continually appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of supporting contractually required capital investments at Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility and may not be transferred or used for any other purpose.

4 New Subparagraph; Application of Receipts; Hampstead Hospital and Residential Treatment Facility Capital Investment Fund. Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (399) the following new subparagraph:

(400) Moneys deposited in the Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility capital investment fund as established in RSA 126-A:5, XXXVII.

5 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

2025-0529s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Adjusts the personal needs allowance for nursing home residents to reflect social security increases on an annual basis rather than the current 5-year adjustment.

II. Makes an appropriation to the department of health and human services to fund certain leave accrual and retention payments for temporary classified staff positions at the Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility.

III. Establishes the Hampstead hospital and residential treatment facility capital investment fund.

Senate Health and Human Services

February 21, 2025

2025-0554s

05/11

Amendment to SB 120-FN

Amend RSA 420-J:20, III-IV as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

III. "Clinical utility" means a biomarker test result that provides information used in the formulation of a treatment or monitoring strategy that informs a covered person's outcomes and impacts the treating provider's clinical decisions. The most appropriate test may include both information that is actionable and some information that cannot be immediately used in the formulation of a clinical decision.

IV. "Consensus statements" mean statements developed by an independent, multidisciplinary panel of experts utilizing a transparent methodology and reporting structure and with a conflict of interest policy. These statements are aimed at specific clinical circumstances and base the statements on the best available evidence for the purpose of optimizing the outcomes of clinical care.

V. "Nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines" mean evidence-based clinical practice guidelines developed by independent organizations or medical professional societies utilizing a transparent methodology and reporting structure and with a conflict of interest policy. Clinical practice guidelines establish standards of care informed by a systematic review of evidence and an assessment of the benefits and risks of alternative care options and include recommendations intended to optimize patient care.

Amend RSA 420-J:21, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Biomarker testing shall be covered for the purposes of diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management, or ongoing monitoring of an enrollee's disease or condition when the test provides clinical utility and is demonstrated by the following medical and scientific evidence, including but not limited to any of the following:

(a) Labeled indications for an FDA-approved or -cleared test;

(b) Indicated tests for an FDA-approved drug;

(c) Warnings and precautions on FDA-approved drug labels;

(d) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Coverage Determinations or Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Local Coverage Determinations; or

(e) Nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines and consensus statements.

Amend RSA 420-J:21, IV as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

IV. If utilization review, including but not limited to prior authorization, is required, the health carrier, utilization review entity, or any third party acting on behalf of an organization or entity subject to this subdivision shall approve or deny a prior authorization request and notify the enrollee, the enrollee's health care provider, and any entity requesting authorization of the service within 14 days for non-urgent requests or within 72 hours for urgent requests.

Amend RSA 167:4-g, II as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Biomarker testing shall be covered for the purposes of diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management, or ongoing monitoring of an enrollee's disease or condition when the department of health and human services determines that the test provides clinical utility, as defined in RSA 420-J:20, III and is demonstrated by the following medical and scientific evidence, including but not limited to any of the following:

- (a) Labeled indications for an FDA-approved or -cleared test;
- (b) Indicated tests for an FDA-approved drug;
- (c) Warnings and precautions on FDA-approved drug labels;

(d) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Coverage Determinations or Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Local Coverage Determinations; or

- (e) Nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines and consensus statements.

Amend RSA 167:4-g, V as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

V. If utilization review, including but not limited to prior authorization, is required, the state Medicaid plan, utilization review entity, or any third party acting on behalf of an organization or entity subject to this section shall approve or deny a prior authorization request and notify the enrollee, the enrollee's health care provider, and any entity requesting authorization of the service within 14 days for non-urgent requests or within 72 hours for urgent requests.

Senate Health and Human Services
February 6, 2025
2025-0303s
05/11

Amendment to SB 121-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Discontinuance of Lines of Business; Notice Required. Amend RSA 402:84 to read as follows:

402:84 Discontinuance of Lines of Business; Notice Required.

I. Any licensed insurance company authorized to transact fire or casualty business in this state shall provide 120 days' notice to *the insurance department and* its appointed agents of record in New Hampshire of the insurance company's decision to cease writing an entire line of business. Any nonrenewal notices to affected policyholders shall be issued in accordance with applicable law, provided that the effective date of any such nonrenewals shall be at least 120 days after notice to the agents of record under this section.

II. *Unless otherwise required, any licensed insurance company authorized to transact business in this state shall provide 120 days' written notice to the insurance department of the insurance company's decision to cease writing an entire line of business.*

III. *Any licensed insurance company offering Medicare Advantage Plans under Medicare Part C in this state shall provide 120 days' written notice to the insurance department of the insurance company's decision to modify or terminate its contract with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by mutual consent pursuant to 42 CFR 422.508, cease offering Medicare Advantage Plans in a particular county, or if it significantly modifies the offerings of its Medicare Advantage Plans. The insurance company shall notify the insurance department in writing, using the format prescribed by the commissioner.*

2025-0303s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires an insurance company to provide notice to the insurance department of its decision to discontinue a line of business currently offered in the state. The bill also directs an insurance company offering Medicare Advantage Plans to provide notice to the insurance department of its decision to terminate its contract with CMS, to cease offering Medicare Advantage Plans in a particular county, or to significantly modify the plans offered.

The bill is a request of the insurance department.

Senate Health and Human Services
 February 12, 2025
 2025-0402s
 05/02

Amendment to SB 130-FN

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

AN ACT establishing a commission to study delivery models for emergency medical services in the state of New Hampshire.

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

1 New Subdivision; Commission to Study Delivery Models for Emergency Medical Services. Amend RSA 153-A by inserting after section 37 the following new subdivision:

Commission to Study Delivery Models for Emergency Medical Services

153-A:38 Commission to Study Delivery Models for Emergency Medical Services.

I. There is established a commission to study delivery models for emergency medical services in the state of New Hampshire.

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

(a) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. At least one member of each party shall be appointed, and at least one member representing Coos County shall be appointed.

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

(c) A representative from the department of safety, appointed by the commissioner.

(d) A representative from the New Hampshire Fire Chiefs Association, appointed by the association.

(e) A representative from the New Hampshire Ambulance Association, appointed by the association.

(f) A representative from the Professional Firefighters of New Hampshire, appointed by the association.

(g) A representative from the New Hampshire Hospital Association, appointed by the association.

(h) A representative from the New Hampshire Municipal Association, appointed by the association.

(i) A representative from the New Hampshire Association of Counties, appointed by the association.

(j) A representative from AHIP, appointed by the association.

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 the history and operation of emergency medical services delivery in New Hampshire and the current models adopted by municipalities in New Hampshire for emergency responses.

(b) Review the systems response to both emergency calls for assistance, unscheduled emergency transfers and non-emergency transfers.

(c) Identify the barriers to providing emergency medical services in New Hampshire, including access to EMS services in rural communities, interfacility transfers, and the provision of advanced life support.

(d) Examine what part or parts of the state could benefit from regional emergency medical services models of care.

(e) Identify recommendations to support and build sustainable emergency medical systems 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 house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, the state library, and the New Hampshire Historical Society on or before November 1, 2025.

2 Repeal. RSA 153-A:38 and the subdivision heading preceeding RSA 153-A:38, relative to the commission to study delivery models for emergency medical services, is repealed.

3 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2025.

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

2025-0402s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to study delivery models for emergency medical services in the state of New Hampshire.

Senate Health and Human Services

February 20, 2025

2025-0533s

05/11

Amendment to SB 132-FN

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

1 Accident and Health Insurance; Coverage for Prosthetic Devices. Amend RSA 415:18-ff to read as follows:

415:18-ff Coverage for Prosthetic Devices [~~for Children~~].

I. Each insurer that issues or renews a policy of group or blanket accident or health insurance providing benefits for medical or hospital expenses shall provide coverage for prosthetic devices, including activity-specific prosthetic devices, for children under 19 years of age, who are residents of this state and covered by such insurance. The insurer may limit coverage for activity-specific prosthetic devices to one activity-specific prosthetic device per plan year. Medically necessary prosthetic devices shall not be subject to any annual limits. Coverage under this section shall be subject to such other terms and conditions of the policy that may apply.

II. *Each insurer that issues or renews a policy of group or blanket accident or health insurance providing benefits for medical or hospital expenses shall provide coverage for prosthetic devices, including activity-specific prosthetic devices, for individuals over 19 years of age, who are residents of this state and covered by such insurance. The insurer may limit coverage for activity-specific prosthetic devices to one activity-specific prosthetic device every 5 years. Medically necessary prosthetic devices shall not be subject to any annual limits. Coverage under this section shall be subject to such other terms and conditions of the policy that may apply.*

[H:] **III.** Covered benefits shall include:

(a) All materials and components necessary to use the device;

(b) Instruction to the enrollee on using the device; and

(c) The repair or replacement of a prosthetic device that is determined medically necessary or is necessary for maximizing the enrollee's ability to engage in the specific activity.

[H:] **IV.** In this section:

(a) "Prosthetic" means an artificial substitute for a body part for functional or therapeutic purposes.

(b) "Activity-specific prosthetic device" means a prosthetic device designed to allow an individual to participate in a specific activity that could damage the residual limb or everyday prosthesis, or when the everyday prosthesis would not function effectively to perform that specified activity.

[H:] **V.** This section shall not apply to plans available through the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP).

2 Coverage for Certain Prosthetic Devices. Amend RSA 415:18-n, I to read as follows:

I. Each insurer that issues or renews any policy of group accident or health insurance providing benefits for medical or hospital expenses, except for supplemental policies covering a specified disease or other limited benefit, shall provide to each group, or to the portion of each group comprised of certificate holders of such insurance who are residents of this state and whose principal place of employment is in this state, coverage for benefits for prosthetic devices under the same terms and conditions that apply to other durable medical equipment covered under the policy, except as otherwise provided in this section *and except as otherwise provided in RSA 415:18-ff.*

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

Senate Health and Human Services
February 12, 2025
2025-0401s
05/11

Amendment to SB 134-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Hampshire Granite Advantage Health Care Program 1115 Demonstration; Renewed Application to CMS.

I. On or before January 1, 2026, the department of health and human services shall resubmit to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) a Section 1115 demonstration waiver to the state Medicaid plan relative to enforcing community engagement and work requirements as a condition of Granite Advantage eligibility. Prior to submitting the Section 1115 waiver to CMS, the department shall submit the proposed waiver to the fiscal committee of the general court for approval.

II. Beginning November 1, 2025 and annually thereafter, the department shall provide a report regarding the status of the waiver application and implementation of the community engagement requirements in RSA 126-AA:2, III, to the senate president, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, and the governor.

Senate Health and Human Services
February 6, 2025
2025-0305s
05/09

Amendment to SB 137-FN

Amend RSA 126-A:18-c, I(a)(1) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(1) An appropriate placement outside the hospital is not available; and

2025-0305s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill directs the department of health and human services to establish an administrative day rate and swing bed rate under the state Medicaid plan for certain hospital stays for parents of newborns.

Senate Judiciary
February 12, 2025
2025-0397s
11/09

Amendment to SB 145-FN

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

AN ACT establishing an evidence shipping pilot program and providing an appropriation therefor.

Amend the bill by replacing sections 2 and 3 with the following:

2 New Subdivision; Evidence Shipping Pilot Program. Amend RSA 21-P by inserting after section 70 the following new subdivision:

Evidence Shipping Pilot Program

21-P:71 Evidence Shipping Pilot Program.

I. The department of safety may develop an evidence shipping pilot program to alleviate long waiting periods for evidence to be safely delivered to the state forensic laboratory, where it can be properly stored pending analysis. A special emphasis shall be placed on supporting law enforcement in rural communities where resources are limited.

II. In this pilot program, all evidence collected by medical personnel in a sexual assault case occurring in the state of New Hampshire shall be transferred to the state forensic laboratory within 7 business days of collection. If a law enforcement agency cannot deliver the evidence in person to the state forensic laboratory, which shall be the preferred method of delivery, the agency may use a common carrier that provides readily accessible package tracking to send the evidence to the state forensic laboratory for delivery within 7 business days of collection. Law enforcement must have a good faith basis to believe that the common carrier will accomplish delivery in 7 days prior to choosing the common carrier. When utilizing delivery by a common carrier, law enforcement shall deliver the packaged evidence in-hand to an agent of the carrier, and not by drop box or other drop off, and keep track of the package's routing and delivery by tracking number assigned by the carrier. Costs for use of the common carrier may be eligible for reimbursement through the pilot program if law enforcement can demonstrate that all good faith efforts were made in an effort to deliver the packaged evidence within the 7 day delivery requirement of this section.

III. The department of safety shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A for the design, administration, and reporting requirements of the program.

3 Appropriation. The department of safety shall determine the amount needed to fund the pilot program, and that amount is hereby appropriated to the department of safety for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for the purpose of funding the pilot program established in section 2. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for any general fund sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

2025-0397s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill enables the department of safety to develop an evidence shipping pilot program and provides an appropriation therefor.

Senate Transportation
February 19, 2025
2025-0497s
11/09

Amendment to SB 151-FN

Amend the bill by deleting section 4 and renumbering the original section 5 to read as 4.

Senate Children and Family Law
February 20, 2025
2025-0539s
11/05

Amendment to SB 161

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

AN ACT making technical corrections to statutes governing out-of-state placements for children.

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

1 Child Protection Act; Presumption in Favor of In-State Placements; License; Controlling State. Amend RSA 169-C:19-b to read as follows:

169-C:19-b Presumption in Favor of In-State Placements. There shall be a presumption that an in-state placement is the least restrictive and most appropriate placement. The court may order an out-of-state placement only upon an express written finding that no options for in-state placement exist and the out-of-state placement offers specialized programming or services that are unable to be provided within New Hampshire, and the placement is ~~[contracted with the state]~~ **licensed in accordance with the laws of the state in which they operate and certified by the department.** Preference shall be given to out-of-state placements that are in proximity to the child's family and/or kin, who are able to participate in family and/or reunification

services. Any out-of-state placements shall be limited in time and require both increased judicial oversight and the written approval of the director of the division for children, youth and families, ***or designee, for placements outside of New England.***

2 Order of Preference; Controlling Law. Amend RSA 169-F:5 to read as follows:

169-F:5 Presumption in Favor of In-State Placements. There shall be a presumption that an in-state placement is the least restrictive and most appropriate placement. The court may order an out-of-state placement only upon an express written finding that no in-state options exist and that the out-of-state placement offers specialized programming or services that are unable to be provided within New Hampshire, and the placement is ~~[contracted with the state]~~ ***licensed in accordance with the laws of the state in which they operate, and certified by the department.*** Preference shall be given to out-of-state placements that are in proximity to the child's family and/or kin, who are able to participate in family and/or reunification services. Any out-of-state placements shall be limited in time and require both increased judicial oversight and the written approval of the director of the division for children, youth and families, ***or designee, for placements outside of New England.***

3 Oversight; Department Responsibilities. Amend RSA 169-F:7, II to read as follows:

II. The department shall develop, in consultation with the office of child advocate, a standard operating procedure and form for monthly visits with children conducted by the department, pursuant to ~~[RSA 169-F:5, I]~~ ***paragraph I of this section***, to be completed during each monthly in-person visit.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

2025-0539s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires out-of-state placements for children to be licensed in the accordance with the laws of the state in which they operate and be certified by the department of health and human services. This bill replaces references to placements for children "contracted" with the department of health and human services with placements "certified" by the department.

Senate Ways and Means
February 12, 2025
2025-0390s
02/05

Amendment to SB 168-FN-LOCAL

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

AN ACT regulating online gambling and directing net proceeds to the education trust fund, the general fund, charitable organizations, and to reimburse municipalities for elderly, disabled, blind, and deaf tax exemptions.

Amend RSA 287-J:7 as inserted by section 3 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

287-J:7 Revenue Share.

I. Each licensee under this chapter shall collect a sum equal to 45 percent of gross online gaming revenue for distribution under paragraph II.

II.(a) Each licensee shall distribute 35 percent of the amount collected under paragraph I to charitable organizations with whom the licensee contracts on each licensed game date.

(b) Each licensee shall pay 65 percent of the amount collected under paragraph I to the commission for distribution as follows:

(1) Twenty-five percent to the special fund established under RSA 284:21-j for use as provided in that section.

(2) Twenty-five percent to the elderly, disabled, blind, and deaf exemption reimbursement fund established pursuant to RSA 72:42-a.

(3) Fifty percent to the general fund.

2025-0390s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill regulates online gambling and directs proceeds to charitable organizations, the education trust fund, the general fund, and a newly established elderly, disabled, blind, and deaf tax exemption fund for reimbursement to municipalities.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
February 19, 2025
2025-0507s
02/05

Amendment to SB 180-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 New Chapter; Coos County Established as Distressed Place-Based Economy. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 162-T the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 162-U

COOS COUNTY ESTABLISHED AS DISTRESSED PLACE-BASED ECONOMY

162-U:1 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. “Place-based economy” means a tailored economic development response that uses a region’s unique characteristics to create and sustain growth. The goal is to improve the quality of life and economic vitality by building on its limited strengths and assets.

II. “Distressed” means an area that has a high rate of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration and is the most severely and persistently economically distressed and underdeveloped.

162-U:2 Regulatory Principle for Department Commissioners. Commissioners of state departments shall include county government input for any Coos County decisions impacting its place-based economy. Collaborative regulatory approaches with existing regional economic objectives shall minimize unintended economic impacts. To protect the health, safety, and economic welfare of Coos’ interdependent place-based economy, agencies shall seek to achieve statutory goals as effectively and efficiently as possible without imposing unnecessary burdens on local governments. Failure to recognize differences in the scale and resources of these entities adversely affects competition in the marketplace, discourages innovation, and restricts productivity improvements to the economic landscape.

162-U:3 Application. To uphold the principles outlined in this chapter, the following actions apply solely to agency decisions that would result in an economic downturn and impact private sector entities desiring to engage in job creation and economic development activities as well as a decrease in local and state revenues. These actions do not apply to residential or unrelated regulatory permitting matters. Agency commissioners shall ensure that any management plans or decisions in Coos County promptly and thoroughly consider and avoid potential impacts on the regional economy and related local and state economic development plans. If a decision is found to negatively affect the region and is deemed unavoidable, commissioners must provide Coos County with a clear justification for the decision and develop mitigation measures for undermining revitalization investments to improve the economic performance.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
February 19, 2025
2025-0506s
05/11

Amendment to SB 181-FN

Amend RSA 281-A:17, II(d) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

[(e)] **(d)** For the purposes of this section, a person lives a “tobacco free lifestyle” if he or she has not, within the past 6 months, used any tobacco **or vaping** product, including cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, or pipe tobacco 4 or more times in a week, except in the case of religious or ceremonial use of tobacco, such as by Alaska natives or Native Americans.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
 February 19, 2025
 2025-0512s
 09/08

Amendment to SB 185-FN

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

1 Office of Professional Licensure and Certification; Complaints and Investigations. Amend RSA 310:9, II through III to read as follows:

II. Upon receipt of an allegation of professional misconduct, ***within 30 days***, the office shall determine whether the allegation states a claim of professional misconduct on its face.

(a) If the office determines that the allegation does not state a claim, it shall make a recommendation to the board ***at its next regularly scheduled meeting*** for dismissal. The board shall review the office's recommendation and dismiss the allegation if it agrees with the office's recommendation. Each board shall dismiss a complaint if the board concludes that the allegations do not state a claim of professional misconduct.

(b) If the office determines that the allegation does state a claim on its face, the office shall proceed under paragraph III.

III. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the office shall investigate allegations of misconduct by licensees (a) upon its own initiative or (b) upon confirmation that a written complaint alleging misconduct of a licensed or unlicensed individual or entity of a profession regulated under the office should be investigated. ***The office shall have 90 days to complete the investigation and report to the board at its next regularly scheduled meeting. If the investigation is incomplete, the board at its own discretion may either instruct the office to continue with its investigation or make a final determination on the claim within 60 days of receipt.***

2 Effective Date.

I. RSA 310:9, III as inserted by section 1 of this act shall take effect March 1, 2026.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
 February 5, 2025
 2025-0294s
 05/11

Amendment to SB 188-FN

Amend RSA 155-A:14, I as inserted by section 4 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. "Development document" means a document, such as a building plan, site plan, or an application for a building permit, relating to building code compliance, which is required by state or local law or regulation or by a regulatory authority to initiate, engage in, or complete an improvement, but which does not include applications or documents for zoning or planning approvals.

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs
 February 12, 2025
 2025-0393s
 07/08

Amendment to SB 212

Amend RSA 659:88, I(a) as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I.(a) A person whose name was not printed on the official state primary election ballot of a political party shall not be entitled to the nomination of that party for any office unless the person received at least 35 write-in votes or write-in votes equaling 10 percent or more of the total [votes] ***ballots*** cast for that party on the state primary election ballot, whichever is smaller.

Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 660:2, I as inserted by section 5 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. If the difference between the vote cast for the applying candidate and a candidate declared elected shall be less than one percent of the total [votes] **ballots** cast in the towns which comprise the office to be recounted, the following fees shall apply:

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs
February 20, 2025
2025-0521s
07/05

Amendment to SB 217

Amend RSA 31:103-c, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Cities and towns shall post on the front page of their official websites, and official social media pages utilized by the city or town, a summary of all proposed taxpayer-funded building projects, including new buildings, schools, parks, and libraries. The summary shall include statements of the average tax impact on a resident that will result from each proposed project. Tax impact statements shall be worded as follows:

“If the following ____ project passes, this will result in an average estimated tax impact of \$X.XX per one thousand dollars of equalized valuation.”

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs
February 20, 2025
2025-0545s
07/05

Amendment to SB 225-FN-LOCAL

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

1 New Section; Five-Year Valuation Notice. Amend RSA 75 by inserting after section 8-b the following new section:

75:8-c Five-Year Valuation Notice. Any municipality that conducts a reappraisal of property pursuant to RSA 75:8-a shall provide notification of changes to the assessed valuation at least 45 days prior to the issuance of the final tax bill. Such notice shall be by individual notice to the property owner, by public notice in a local newspaper of general circulation, by public notice on the municipalities’ main website and any social media accounts utilized by the municipality, by public notice posted in the 2 places where the municipality regularly posts notices of its governing body meetings, and by any other means deemed appropriate by the governing body.

2 Appraisal of Taxable Property; Annual Appraisal; Municipalities Over 10,000; 90-Day Notice of Revaluation. Amend RSA 75:8-b to read as follows:

75:8-b Annual Appraisal; Municipalities Over 10,000. Except when assessing real estate under RSA 75:8-a, any municipality with a population over 10,000 as determined pursuant to RSA 78-A:25 intending to appraise real estate annually at market value, as defined in RSA 75:1, shall authorize such annual appraisal by a majority vote of the governing body. The governing body shall hold 2 public hearings regarding the annual appraisal process at least 15 days, but not more than 60 days, prior to the governing body’s authorization vote. Any municipality with a population over 10,000 as determined pursuant to RSA 78-A:25 annually appraising real estate at market value shall provide notification of changes to the assessed valuation **at least 45 days** prior to the issuance of the final tax bill[~~either~~]. **Such notice shall be** by individual notice to the property owner, by public notice in a **local** newspaper of general circulation, **by public notice on the municipalities’ main website or any social media accounts utilized by the municipality, and public notice posted in the 2 places where the municipality regularly posts notices of its governing body meetings, [or]** **and** by any other means deemed appropriate by the governing body.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
 February 21, 2025
 2025-0552s
 06/11

Amendment to SB 230-FN

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

AN ACT relative to electric utility restructuring and investment in distributed energy resources.

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

1 New Paragraph; Electric Utility Restructuring; Definitions. Amend RSA 374-F:2 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

II-a “Small modular reactors” or “SMRs” means advanced nuclear reactors that have a power capacity of up to 300 MW per unit.

2 Electric Utility Investment in Distributed Energy Resources; Definitions. Amend RSA 374-G:2, I(b) to read as follows:

(b) “Distributed energy resources” means energy storage, electric generation equipment including clean and renewable generation, ***including SMRs as defined in RSA 374-F:2, II-a***, energy efficiency, demand response, load reduction or control programs, or technologies or devices located on or interconnected to the local electric distribution system for purposes including but not limited to reducing line losses, supporting voltage regulation, or peak load shaving, as part of a strategy for minimizing transmission and distribution costs as provided in RSA 374-F:3, III.

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

2025-0552s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Adds a definition of “small modular reactors” to the electric utility restructuring chapter.

II. Modifies the definition of “distributed energy resources” to include the new definition of “small modular reactors.”

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
 February 20, 2025
 2025-0544s
 06/11

Amendment to SB 233-FN

Amend RSA 374-I:2, IV-VI as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

IV. The task force shall undertake the following duties:

(a) Investigate the current and growing electricity reliability challenges in the New Hampshire and New England markets.

(b) Identify the role of energy storage in addressing short-term and long-term reliability issues.

(c) Develop market-based solutions to incentivize the development and interconnection of large-scale energy storage systems designed to enhance reliability.

(d) Evaluate the use of an indexing storage credit model to incentivize storage market development.

V. The members of the task force shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the task force shall be called by the senate member. The first meeting of the task force shall be held within 30 days of the effective date of this section. Five members of the task force shall constitute a quorum.

VI. The task force shall issue an interim 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 December 1, 2025 and a final report on or before June 1, 2026.

Amend the bill by deleting section 3 and renumbering the original sections 4-7 to read as 3-6, respectively.

6 Effective Date.

I. Paragraph I of section 5 shall take effect July 1, 2026.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

2025-0544s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the energy reliability and large-scale storage task force to develop market-based solutions and programs for electric system reliability using energy storage. The bill also repeals RSA 374-H:3 related to the department of energy investigation of energy storage.

Senate Finance
February 19, 2025
2025-0484s
05/09

Amendment to SB 238-FN

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

AN ACT establishing the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) prevention and treatment program and making an appropriation to the department of health and human services for this purpose.

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

1 Home and Community Based Behavioral Health Services for Children; Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Prevention and Treatment Program. Amend RSA 167:3-1, IV to read as follows:

IV.(a) ~~[On or before January 1, 2023, the department shall develop a timeline, conduct a cost analysis plan, and provide a detailed report of the timeline and cost analysis plan to the senate health and human services committee and the house children and family law and health, human services and elderly affairs committees, to]~~ ***The department of health and human services shall establish the ACEs prevention and treatment program, to support children, birth to age 6, with exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and severe emotional disturbances whose needs cannot be met through childcare, educational, and developmental services alone. The program shall be designed to provide prevention, assessment, diagnoses, and treatment services for such children and their families, by:***

(1) ~~[Increase]~~ ***Increasing*** Medicaid reimbursement for early childhood mental health care, including but not limited to child parent psychotherapy, to enhance services for Medicaid patients;

(2) ~~[Elevate]~~ ***Elevating*** the early childhood and family mental health credential statewide by requiring the credential for specific provider levels and/or associating the credential with an increased salary level or higher reimbursement rates; and

(3) ~~[Offer]~~ ***Offering continued funding, including*** scholarships or reimbursements, to cover costs associated with ~~[the training to incentivize providers to take part in the training]~~ ***ongoing training and professional development in early childhood mental health care, including but not limited to child parent psychotherapy, to ensure the highest levels of training and services to children and families.***

(b) Within one year of the effective date of this paragraph, the department shall develop and begin implementation of a 5-year plan to build the state's workforce capacity to provide child-parent psychotherapy (CPP), an intervention model for children from birth to age 6, who have experienced at least one traumatic event and/or are experiencing mental health, attachment, and/or behavioral problems, including posttraumatic stress disorder.

2 Appropriation; Department of Health and Human Services; Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Prevention and Treatment Program.

I. The sum of \$150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services to fund the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) prevention and treatment

program, and continue to expand and fund continued professional development for child-parent psychotherapy (CPP) services, as described in RSA 167:3-1, IV. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

II. The sum of \$150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services to fund the ACEs prevention and treatment program, and continue to expand and fund continued professional development for CPP services, as described in RSA 167:3-1, IV.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

2025-0484s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) prevention and treatment program as an ongoing program rather than as a pilot within the department of health and human services. The bill also makes an appropriation to the department of health and human services for this purpose.

Senate Finance
February 12, 2025
2025-0386s
11/05

Amendment to SB 239-FN

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

AN ACT appropriating funds to the fish and game department for continuing environmental review and to cover a deficit for previously instituted salary increases.

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

1 Appropriation; General Fund. The sum of \$400,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$400,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 is hereby appropriated to the fish and game department for the purpose of environmental review for threatened and endangered species. This appropriation shall not lapse. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

2 Appropriation; Fish and Game Fund. The sum of \$2,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 is hereby appropriated to the fish and game fund to cover a deficit for previously instituted salary increases. This appropriation shall not lapse. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

2025-0386s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill makes an appropriation to the fish and game department for continuing environmental review for threatened and endangered species and makes an appropriation to the fish and game fund.

Senate Health and Human Services
February 20, 2025
2025-0534s
05/02

Amendment to SB 246-FN

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

AN ACT providing maternal depression screening for new mothers; increasing access to health care services for new mothers; enabling new parents to attend infant pediatric medical appointments; and developing a plan for perinatal peer support certification.

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

1 Short Title. This act shall be known as the "The New Hampshire Momnibus 2.0".

2 Statement of Findings. The general court hereby finds that:

I. New Hampshire is facing serious gaps in maternal health and wellness and continues to face threats to the fragile maternal health ecosystem.

II. The New Hampshire maternal mortality committee determined that 76.1 percent of New Hampshire pregnancy-related deaths were preventable.

III. Nationwide, data show that 53 percent of pregnancy-related deaths occurred between one day to one year after pregnancy.

IV. New Hampshire has a high prevalence of depression, anxiety, and behavioral health conditions, including substance overdose, a leading cause of maternal mortality.

V. The majority of maternal deaths as the result of an overdose have connections to prior mental health conditions.

VI. Seventy-eight percent of New Hampshire moms worked during pregnancy, and 62 percent of New Hampshire moms plan to return or return to the workforce after giving birth.

3 New Section; Maternal Mental Health Screening. Amend RSA 126-A by inserting after section 101 the following new section:

126-A:101-a Maternal Mental Health Screening.

I. The department of health and human services shall cover maternal depression screenings at well-child visits under the state Medicaid program. The department shall recommend that health care providers screen mothers for maternal depression at all well-child visits.

II. The department is authorized to use the following Medicaid coverage categories to reimburse depression screening:

- (a) Early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment services.
- (b) As an assessment under the mother's Medicaid identification number.
- (c) As a risk assessment under the infant's Medicaid identification number.

III. As used in this section, "maternal depression screening" means screening tools for maternal mental health that are consistent with current standard of care and under the supervision of a certified health care provider.

4 New Section; Maternal Depression Screening Coverage. Amend RSA 417-D by inserting after section 2-c the following new section:

417-D:2-d Maternal Depression Screening Coverage.

I. Each health carrier that issues or renews any group policy, plan, or contract of accident or health insurance providing benefits for medical or hospital expenses, shall provide to certificate holders of such insurance coverage for maternal depression screening.

II. Covered benefits shall include:

- (a) Periodic prenatal and postpartum depression screening of the pregnant and postpartum patient under the patient's plan.
- (b) Periodic maternal depression screening for the mother of a child at the child's one month, 2 month, 4 month, and 6 month well-child visits under the child's plan.
- (c) Instruction to the mother on the results of screening and referral to mental health and/or community based resources.

III. In this section:

- (a) "Maternal depression screening" means any and all screening tools for maternal mental health that is consistent with current standard of care and under the supervision of a certified health care provider.
- (b) "Pregnant or postpartum patient" is defined as is a individual who:
 - (1) Is pregnant or within 12 months of giving birth; or

(2) Has lost a pregnancy or relinquished an infant for adoption within the previous 12 months.

IV. This section shall not apply to plans available through the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP).

5 Appropriation; Department of Health and Human Services; Perinatal Psychiatric Provider Consult Line. The sum of \$275,000 for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and \$275,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services to support the establishment of a perinatal psychiatric provider consult line. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

6 Appropriation; Rural Maternal Health EMS Services. The sum of \$75,000 for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and the sum of \$75,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, is hereby allocated to the department of safety to support rural maternal health EMS services. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

7 Appropriation: Department of Health and Human Services; Reduction of Barriers for Independent Birth Centers; Agency Study and Report. The sum of \$30,000 for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services to utilize existing contracts to additionally examine barriers to the sustainability of independent birth centers in New Hampshire and identify ways to reduce burdens and encourage their sustainability. The department shall report its findings and recommendations, including any necessary legislation and rulemaking changes, to the senate president, the speaker of the house of representatives, the governor, the house clerk, and the senate clerk on or before June 30, 2026.

8 New Sections; Women's Health Care. Amend RSA 417-D by inserting after section 2-d the following new sections:

417-D:2-e Coverage of Perinatal Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment.

I. Any group health plan or health insurance issuer offering group health insurance coverage, that provides benefits with respect to mental health and substance use disorders treatment furnished to a perinatal individual enrolled under such plan or coverage, may choose to waive copayment for such services.

II. For a health care contract that meets the definition of a "high deductible plan" set forth in 26 U.S.C. section 223(c)(2), this requirement shall apply only after the enrollee has satisfied the minimum deductible under section 223 for the year, except with respect to items or services that are preventive care pursuant to section 223(c)(2)(C) of the federal Internal Revenue Code, in which case paragraph I shall apply regardless of whether the minimum deductible under section 223 has been satisfied.

III. In this section:

(a) "Perinatal individual" shall refer to an individual who:

- (1) Is pregnant or is within 12 months of giving birth;
- (2) Is a biological parent or an adoptive or foster parent who is within 12 months from assuming custodial care of a child; or
- (3) Has lost a pregnancy or relinquished an infant for adoption within the previous 12 months.

(b) "Substance use treatment" and "substance use disorder services" mean health care services that are provided to a covered person as treatment for an addictive substance-related condition, not including treatment for any condition related to tobacco use.

417-D:2-f Coverage of Perinatal Home Visiting Services.

I. Each health carrier that issues or renews any group policy, plan, or contract of accident or health insurance providing benefits for medical or hospital expenses, shall provide certificate holders of such insurance coverage for home visiting services for pregnant and postpartum women who do not otherwise qualify.

II. Covered benefits shall include:

- (a) Home visiting services for pregnant and postpartum women up to 12 months post birth of a child provided by a qualified health professional with maternal and pediatric health training.
- (b) Instruction, resource referral, and materials necessary to home visiting care.

III. In this section, “home visiting services” includes evidence-based, voluntary home or community-based services for mothers and caregivers with newborns aimed at improving maternal and child health, including but limited to:

- (a) Screenings for unmet health needs;
- (b) Maternal and infant nutritional needs;
- (c) Emotional health supports, including postpartum depression supports; and
- (d) Resource and referral.

9 New Section; Expand Employee Protection to Attend Pregnancy Appointments to Postpartum and Fertility Appointments. Amend RSA 275 by inserting after section 37-e the following new section:

275:37-f Leave of Absence to Attend Medical Appointments for Childbirth, Postpartum Care, and Infant Pediatric Medical Appointments.

No employer with 20 employees or more, shall deny an employee leave from work up to a total of 25 hours to attend the employee’s own medical appointments for childbirth, postpartum care, or the employee’s child’s pediatric medical appointments within the first year of the child’s birth or adoption. In the case where both parents of a child are employees of the same employer, the parents collectively may take unpaid leave according to this section, for a total of 25 hours in their child’s first year. An employer is not required to pay an employee for any time taken as leave pursuant to this section. However, an employee shall be permitted to substitute any accrued vacation time or other appropriate paid leave for any leave taken pursuant to this section. When the employee returns from their own or their child’s health appointments, that employee’s original job shall be made available to the employee by the employer. An employee who wishes to request leave under this section shall provide reasonable notice to the employer prior to the leave and make a reasonable effort to schedule the leave so as not to unduly disrupt the operations of the employer. An employer may ask for documentation from the employee to ensure the time is being used for its intended purpose.

10 Department of Health and Human Services; Perinatal Peer Support. The department of health and human services shall study how to operationalize a perinatal peer support certification program and determine best practices for perinatal peer support. The department shall provide a report of their findings to the senate president, speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, house clerk, and governor no later than November 1, 2026.

11 Effective Date.

I. Sections 4, 8, and 9 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

2025-0534s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides maternal depression screening for new mothers; makes an appropriation to the department of health and human services for a perinatal psychiatric provider consult line and to the department of safety for rural maternal health EMS services; directs the department of health and human services to study barriers to independent birth centers; requires insurance coverage for perinatal home visiting services; expands employee protection to attend medical appointments for postpartum care and an infants medical appointments; and directs the department of health and human services to develop a plan for a perinatal peer support certification program.

Senate Health and Human Services
February 21, 2025
2025-0547s
07/05

Amendment to SB 255-FN

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

1 New Subparagraph; State Treasurer and State Accounts; Application of Receipts. Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (399) the following new subparagraph:

(400) Moneys deposited in the 988 trust fund as established in RSA 135-C:70.

2 New Paragraph; Public Health; New Hampshire Mental Health Services System; Definitions. Amend RSA 135-C:2 by inserting after paragraph X the following new paragraph:

X-a. “National Suicide Prevention Lifeline” or “988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline” means the national network of local crisis hotline centers that provide free and confidential support to people in suicidal crisis or other behavioral health crisis 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, via a toll-free telephone hotline number that receives calls made through the 988 system.

3 New Paragraphs; Public Health; New Hampshire Mental Health Services System; Definitions. Amend RSA 135-C:2 by inserting after paragraph XVI the following new paragraphs:

XVII. “988” means the 3-digit telephone number designated by the Federal Communications Commission for the purpose of connecting individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis with counselors trained in suicide prevention and behavioral health crisis and with the capacity to connect callers to behavioral health crisis services through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network.

XVIII. “988 Administrator” means the Administrator of the national 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline system maintained by the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use.

XIX. “988 center” means a center operating on a county or regional basis in New Hampshire and participating in the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network to respond to statewide or regional 988 calls, chats, and texts.

4 New Sections; Public Health; New Hampshire Mental Health Services System. Amend RSA 135-C by inserting after section 69 the following new sections:

135-C:70 988 Trust Fund; Fund Established.

I. There is hereby established in the state treasury the 988 trust fund that shall be kept distinct and separate from all other funds. The 988 trust fund consists of:

(a) Revenues from the 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharge established under RSA 135-C:74;

(b) Appropriations made by the general court;

(c) Federal funds allocated to the state to implement the 988 suicide prevention and behavioral health crisis system;

(d) Gifts, grants, and donations to the fund from public and private sources; and

(e) Moneys deposited into the fund from other sources.

II. The state treasurer shall be the trustee of the trust fund, and shall invest the trust fund in accordance with RSA 6:8. Any earnings on trust fund moneys shall be added to the trust fund. All moneys in the trust fund shall be nonlapsing and shall be continually appropriated to the state treasury. The state treasurer shall disburse funds from the trust fund solely for the purposes and in the manner set forth in RSA 135-C:71.

III. Moneys in the 988 trust fund may only be used for expenses that are not:

(a) Reimbursed through Medicaid, Medicare, federal or state-regulated health insurance plans, disability insurers, and programs or funding not otherwise covered by another entity, including municipal or county programs; and

(b) Covered because the service recipient’s name and health coverage information cannot be obtained or billed.

III-a. Moneys in the 988 trust fund originating from the 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharge shall only be used to fund the equipment, communications services, and direct costs for crisis hotline center personnel for 988 call-taking and appropriate call routing for 988 centers.

IV. The department of health and human services shall provide an annual report of deposits into and expenditures from the 988 trust fund to the health and human services oversight committee, the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and to the Federal Communications Commission. The report shall include all revenue generated by the 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharge established under RSA 135-C:74.

V. A local or municipal government may not impose a tax, fee or surcharge on telecommunications services for 988 services.

135-C:71 988 Trust Fund; Management and Distribution of Funds.

I. The commissioner of the department of health and human services, in consultation with the behavioral health crisis services advisory commission established in RSA 135-C:72, shall administer the 988 trust fund established in RSA 135-C:70. The commissioner shall draw from the 988 trust fund for qualifying purposes under paragraph II.

II. The purpose of the 988 trust fund shall be to establish, operate, maintain, promote awareness of, and improve 988 and the behavioral health crisis services system. The 988 trust fund shall be expended to offset costs that are or can be reasonably attributed to:

(a) Implementing, maintaining, and improving the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline including staffing and technological infrastructure enhancements necessary to achieve operational and clinical standards and best practices set forth by the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline;

(b) Provision of acute behavioral health, mobile crisis response teams, and receiving and stabilization services by directly responding to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline;

(c) Personnel for the 988 centers and acute mental health, mobile crisis response teams, and stabilization services, which should include individuals that reflect the demographics of the community served and have specialized training to serve at risk communities, including culturally and linguistically competent services for LGBTQIA+ individuals, children, youth, and young people, and racially, ethnically, and linguistically diverse communities;

(d) Provision of data, reporting, participation in evaluations and related quality improvement activities as required by the 988 administrator, department of health and human services, and the general court; and

(e) Administration, oversight, and evaluation of the fund.

135-C:72 Behavioral Health Crisis Services Advisory Commission Established.

I. There is hereby established a behavioral health crisis services advisory commission.

II. Notwithstanding RSA 14:49, the commission shall consist of the following members:

(a) The state treasurer, or designee.

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

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

(d) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee.

(e) The director of the department of safety, division of emergency services and communications ("E911"), or designee.

(f) The commissioner of the insurance department, or designee.

(g) One representative from the National Alliance on Mental Illness of New Hampshire, appointed by that organization.

(h) One representative of the New Hampshire Community Behavioral Health Association, appointed by the association.

(i) One representative of the New Hampshire Hospital Association, appointed by the association.

(j) One representative of New Futures, appointed by the organization.

(k) One representative from each of New Hampshire's 2 centers participating in the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network.

(l) One representative of America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), appointed by the association.

(m) One representative of community health centers appointed by the Bi-State Primary Care Association.

(n) One representative from the New Hampshire Psychological Association, appointed by that organization.

III. Members appointed under subparagraphs (b) through (c) shall serve a term coterminous with their term in office, or for 2 years, whichever is shorter. Members appointed under subparagraphs (g) through (n) shall serve 2 years, or until a successor is appointed and qualified in the case of a vacancy, and shall be eligible for reappointment at the end of their term. The term of office for all other members shall be coterminous with the term of office for the position that qualifies that member to serve on the advisory council. A vacancy shall be filled in the same manner, but only for the unexpired term. The advisory commission shall elect a chairperson every year with no person serving as chairperson for more than 2 consecutive one-year terms.

IV. Each member of the advisory commission shall have one vote, with all actions being taken by an affirmative vote of the majority of present members. Eight members shall constitute a quorum.

V. Legislative members shall receive the receive mileage at the legislative rate while attending to the duties of the commission.

VI. Meetings of the advisory commission shall be conducted in accordance with RSA 91-A and take place no less than 4 times per year.

VII. The department of health and human services shall provide administrative support to the advisory commission.

135-C:73 Behavioral Health Crisis Services Advisory Commission; Duties. The behavioral health crisis services advisory commission established in RSA 135-C:72 shall be responsible for:

I. Consulting with and advising the commissioner of the department of health and human services on the administration and management of the 988 trust fund under RSA 135-C:70, and advise and make recommendations on expenditures from that fund under RSA 135-C:71.

II. Advising and making recommendations to the governor, general court, department of health and human services, and other necessary stakeholders on strategies to support and fund the behavioral health crisis system.

III. Overseeing and making recommendations about the provision of 988 and behavioral health crisis services throughout the state.

135-C:74 988 Coordinated Crisis Services Telecommunications Surcharge Established.

I. In compliance with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020, and by recommendation of the commission on behavioral health crisis services, the equipment, communications services, and direct costs for crisis hotline center personnel for 988 call-taking and appropriate call routing for 988 centers shall be funded, in part, through a surcharge to be levied upon each residence and business telephone exchange line, including PBX trunks and Centrex lines, each individual commercial mobile radio service number and each VoIP service number with a place of primary use within New Hampshire, and each semi-public and public coin and public access line.

(a) For purposes of this subparagraph, “place of primary use” shall have the same meaning as the definition contained in 4 U.S.C. section 124(8). No such surcharge shall be imposed upon more than 25 business telephone exchange lines, including PBX trunks and Centrex lines, or more than 25 commercial mobile radio service exchange lines or VoIP service lines or channels per customer billing account. No other services shall be funded using revenue from the 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharge.

II. In the case of local exchange telephone companies, the surcharge shall be contained within tariffs or rate schedules filed with the public utilities commission and shall be billed on a monthly basis by each local exchange telephone company.

III. In the case of an entity which provides commercial mobile radio service the surcharge shall be billed to each customer on a monthly basis and shall not be subject to any state or local tax; the surcharge shall be collected by the commercial mobile radio service provider, and may be identified on the customer’s bill. For prepaid commercial mobile radio service, the provisions of paragraph VI of this section shall apply.

IV. In the case of a VoIP provider, the surcharge shall be billed to each customer on a monthly basis and shall not be subject to any state or local tax; the surcharge shall be collected by the VoIP provider, and may be identified on the customer’s bill.

V. Each local exchange telephone company, VoIP service provider, or entity which provides commercial mobile radio service, including prepaid commercial mobile radio service except as otherwise provided in subparagraph VI (i), shall remit the surcharge amounts on a monthly basis to the department of health and human services, which shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the 988 trust fund. The state treasurer shall disburse funds from the 988 trust fund solely for the purposes and in the manner set forth in RSA 135-C:71. 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharge revenue shall be used to supplement any federal, state or local funding for suicide prevention or behavioral health crisis services. Surcharge amounts shall be reviewed after the budget has been approved or modified, and if appropriate, new tariffs or rate schedules shall be filed with the public utilities commission reflecting the surcharge amount.

VI. Prepaid commercial mobile radio service.

(a) In this paragraph:

(1) “Consumer” means a natural person or any other person who purchases prepaid commercial mobile radio service in a retail transaction.

(2) “Commissioner” means the commissioner of the department of health and human services.

(3) “Division” means the division of behavioral health of the department of health and human services.

(4) “Entity” means a natural person or any other person, including any firm, corporation, partnership, or business organization.

(5) “Provider” means an entity that provides prepaid commercial mobile radio service pursuant to a license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

(6) “Retail transaction” means the purchase of prepaid commercial mobile radio service from a seller for any purpose other than resale.

(7) “Seller” means an entity, including a provider, who sells prepaid commercial mobile radio service to a consumer.

(b) There is hereby imposed a prepaid commercial mobile radio service 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharge that shall be levied on each retail transaction sourced to New Hampshire. The amount of the surcharge levied for each retail transaction shall be the same as the surcharge imposed under RSA 135-C:74, I.

(c) For purposes of subparagraph (b), a retail transaction is sourced to New Hampshire:

(1) If the transaction occurs in person at a seller’s location in New Hampshire; or

(2) If subparagraph (1) does not apply, the prepaid commercial mobile radio service is evidenced by a physical item, such as a card, and the purchaser provides a New Hampshire delivery address for such item; or

(3) If subparagraphs (1) and (2) do not apply, the consumer gives a New Hampshire address during the consummation of the sale, including the address associated with the consumer’s payment instrument if no other address is available, and the address is not given in bad faith; or

(4) If subparagraphs (1)-(3) do not apply, the consumer’s mobile telephone number is associated with a postal zip code, telephone area code, or location within New Hampshire.

(d) The prepaid commercial mobile radio service 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharge shall be collected by the seller from the consumer with respect to each retail transaction sourced to New Hampshire. The amount of the surcharge shall be either separately stated on an invoice, receipt, or other similar document that is provided by the seller to the consumer, or otherwise disclosed to the consumer.

(e) The seller shall be liable to remit all charges required by this paragraph that are collected from consumers, including all such charges that the seller is deemed to collect where the amount of the surcharge has not been separately stated on an invoice, receipt, or other similar document provided by the seller to the consumer.

(f) The prepaid commercial mobile radio service 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharge shall not be subject to any other state or local tax.

(g) If a minimal amount of prepaid commercial mobile radio service is sold with a prepaid mobile device for a single, non-itemized price, then the seller may elect not to apply the surcharge to such transaction. For purposes of this subparagraph, an amount of service denominated as 10 minutes or less, or \$5 or less, is minimal.

(h) A seller may deduct and retain 3 percent of the prepaid commercial mobile radio service 988 coordinated crisis services telecommunications surcharges that are collected by the seller from consumers.

(i) A seller having less than 150 retail transactions in a calendar quarter and who has not collected the surcharge on such transactions shall not be required to remit the surcharge on those transactions, provided that the seller:

(1) Submits a certification to the department of health and human services, not later than the 15th day following such quarter, that the seller had less than 150 retail transactions in such quarter and did not collect the surcharge; and

(2) Submits with such certification copies of invoices, receipts, or other similar documentation establishing the number of retail transactions in such quarter.

(j) Whenever lawful, providers and sellers of prepaid commercial mobile radio service shall put forth reasonable good faith efforts to cooperate with and provide timely and reasonable assistance to the division, its 988 centers, in connection with locating the source of any emergency 988 call. In such instances, providers and sellers of prepaid commercial mobile radio service shall not be liable for damages to any person resulting from or incurred in connection with the provision of such lawful assistance.

(k) Beginning on January 1, 2026, prepaid commercial mobile radio service providers shall report annually to the division the total number of active prepaid commercial mobile radio service customers in New Hampshire. For purposes of such report, "active prepaid commercial mobile radio service customers" shall include all prepaid commercial mobile radio service customers with a New Hampshire telephone number on the date of the report, or if account balance information is not available, otherwise determined not to be active by comparable data. All information submitted to the division by a provider shall be considered proprietary and confidential and shall not be considered a public record under RSA 91-A.

VII.(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except as otherwise provided in RSA 82-A, the records and files of the department, related to this section, are confidential and privileged. Neither the department of health and human services, nor any employee of the department, nor any other person charged with the custody of such records or files, nor any vendor or any of its employees to whom such information becomes available in the performance of any contractual services for the department shall disclose any information obtained from the department's records, files, or returns or from any examination, investigation, or hearing, nor may any such employee or person be required to produce any such information for the inspection of any person or for the use in any action or proceeding except as provided in this paragraph.

(b) The following exceptions shall apply to this paragraph:

(1) Delivery to the surcharge collector or its representative of a copy of any return or other papers filed by the surcharge collector.

(2) Disclosure of department records, files, returns, or information in a New Hampshire state judicial or administrative proceeding pertaining to administration of the surcharge where the information is directly related to an issue in the proceeding regarding the surcharge under this section, or the surcharge collector whom the information concerns is a party to such proceeding, or the information concerns a transactional relationship between a person who is a party to the proceeding and the taxpayer.

(3) Disclosure to the department of revenue administration of records, files, and information required by the department of revenue administration to administer the communications services tax pursuant to RSA 82-A and to assist the bureau in its administration of RSA 135-C:71.

(4) Disclosure of department records, files, and information to the legislative budget assistant, when requested by the legislative budget assistant pursuant to RSA 14:31, IV.

VIII. Any information or records compiled under this chapter shall not be considered a public record for the purposes of RSA 91-A regardless of the use of such information.

IX. The commissioner is authorized to charge a penalty not to exceed \$1,000, plus interest of 18 percent per year, on surcharge receipts that are more than 90 days in arrears, which penalty and interest shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the 988 trust fund.

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

2025-0547s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

- I. Creates a trust fund to promote awareness of behavioral health crisis service systems.
- II. Creates a commission to oversee the behavioral health crisis service system trust fund.
- III. Establishes a crisis services telecommunications surcharge.

Senate Judiciary
February 19, 2025
2025-0493s
09/11

Amendment to SB 258-FN

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

AN ACT establishing crimes related to the fraudulent use of gift cards.

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

1 Theft; Definitions. Amend RSA 637:2 to read as follows:

637:2 Definitions.

The following definitions are applicable to this chapter:

I. "Property" means anything of value, including real estate, tangible and intangible personal property, captured or domestic animals and birds, written instruments or other writings representing or embodying rights concerning real or personal property, labor, services, or otherwise containing any thing of value to the owner, commodities of a public utility nature such as telecommunications, gas, electricity, steam, or water, and trade secrets, meaning the whole or any portion of any scientific or technical information, design, process, procedure, formula or invention which the owner thereof intends to be available only to persons selected by him.

II. "Obtain" means, in relation to property, to bring about a transfer of possession or of some other legally recognized interest in property, whether to the obtainer or another; in relation to labor or services, to secure performance thereof; and in relation to a trade secret, to make any facsimile, replica, photograph or other reproduction.

III. "Purpose to deprive" means to have the conscious object:

(a) To withhold property permanently or for so extended a period or to use under such circumstances that a substantial portion of its economic value, or of the use and benefit thereof, would be lost;

(b) To restore the property only upon payment of a reward or other compensation;

(c) To dispose of the property under circumstances that make it unlikely that the owner will recover it; or

(d) To appropriate the goods or merchandise of a merchant without paying the merchant's stated or advertised price.

IV. "Property of another" includes property in which any person other than the actor has an interest which the actor is not privileged to infringe, regardless of the fact that the actor also has an interest in the property and regardless of the fact that the other person might be precluded from civil recovery because the property was used in an unlawful transaction or was subject to forfeiture as contraband. Property in possession of the actor shall not be deemed property of another who has only a security interest therein, even if legal title is in the creditor pursuant to a conditional sales contract or other security agreement.

V. “Value” means the highest amount determined by any reasonable standard of property or services.

(a) Amounts involved in thefts committed pursuant to one scheme or course of conduct, whether from the same person or several persons, may be aggregated in determining the grade of the offense.

(b) The value of property or services obtained by the actor shall determine the grade of the offense, and such value shall not be offset against or reduced by the value of any property or services given by the actor in exchange.

(c) Each personal check or credit card shall have a value of \$250.

(d) Each gift card shall have a value of:

(1) The highest monetary value listed on the face of the gift card or its packaging.

(2) If the highest monetary value of the gift card is not listed on the face of the gift card or its packaging, the gift card shall have a value of \$250.

VI. “Merchant” means the owner or operator of any place of business where merchandise is displayed, held, or stored, for sale to the public, or any agent or employee of such owner or operator.

VII. “Gift Card” means a digital closed-loop gift card or open-loop gift card that is either activated or inactivated.

VIII. “Open-loop gift card” means a card, code, or device that is issued to a consumer on a pre-paid basis primarily for personal, family, or household purposes in a specified amount, regardless of whether that amount may be increased or reloaded in exchange for payment; and is redeemable upon presentation at multiple unaffiliated merchants for goods or services within a payment card network.

IX. “Closed-loop gift card” means a card, code, or device that is issued to a consumer on a pre-paid basis primarily for personal, family, or household purposes in a specified amount, regardless of whether that amount may be increased or reloaded in exchange for payment; and is redeemable upon presentation by a consumer at a single merchant or group of affiliated merchants.

2 New Section; Crimes Involving Gift Cards. Amend RSA 637 by inserting after section 10-c the following new section:

637:10-d Crimes Involving Gift Cards.

I. The following definitions are applicable to this section:

(a) “Cardholder” with respect to a specific gift card, means the person who has purchased, or to whom is gifted, that card.

(b) “Card issuer” means any party that issues a gift card or the agent of that party with respect to that card.

(c) “Gift card redemption information” means information unique to each gift card which allows the cardholder to access, transfer, or spend the funds on that gift card.

(d) “Gift card seller” means a merchant that is engaged in the business of selling open-loop or closed-loop gift cards to consumers.

II. A person shall be guilty of theft if such person does any of the following:

(a) Acquires or retains possession of a gift card or gift card redemption information with intent to defraud and without consent of the cardholder, card issuers, or gift card reseller;

(b) Uses, for the purpose of obtaining money, goods, services, or anything else of value, a gift card or gift card redemption information that has been obtained by deception or forgery; or

(c) With intent to defraud, alters or tampers with a gift card or its packaging.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

2025-0493s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes criminal offenses regarding the fraudulent use of gift cards.

Senate Transportation

February 19, 2025

2025-0490s

11/11

Amendment to SB 274-FN

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

AN ACT establishing a 4-year pilot program to improve rail trails in New Hampshire, including the establishment of 2 funds, the rail trails program fund and the emergency trail repair fund, and making appropriations therefor.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 2 with the following:

3 New Sections; Rail Trail Pilot Program. Amend RSA 216-F by inserting after section 7 the following new sections:

216-F:8 Rail Trail Pilot Program.

I. The department of natural and cultural resources, division of parks and recreation, and the bureau of trails shall together develop a pilot program, in consultation with the New Hampshire Rail Trails Coalition, to be managed by the bureau of trails, to rehabilitate, maintain, and improve 83 miles of 4 rail corridors and appurtenant rail trails by rehabilitating abandoned rail corridors and maintaining already established rail trails.

II. The duration of the program shall be 4 years from the effective date of this section.

III. The commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources, director of the division of parks and recreation, and the chief supervisor of the bureau of trails shall adopt rules pursuant to RSA 541-A regarding the administration of the rail trail pilot program established in this section.

216-F:9 Rail Trails Program Fund. There is hereby established in the state treasury a continually appropriated and nonlapsing fund to be known as the rail trails program fund which shall be administered by the bureau of trails, to be expended by them for the rehabilitation, maintenance, and improvement of 83 miles of rail corridors and appurtenant rail trails across four routes identified in section 1 of this act by rehabilitating abandoned rail corridors and maintaining already established rail trails. Additionally, the bureau shall credit to this fund any private contributions designated for the purpose of the maintenance of rail trails.

216-F:10 Emergency Trail Repair Fund. There is hereby established in the state treasury a continually appropriated and nonlapsing fund to be known as the emergency trail repair fund which shall be administered by the bureau of trails. The bureau of trails shall expend moneys in the emergency trail repair fund exclusively for direct trail work under the New Hampshire bureau of trails. These funds shall not be used for staffing or to fund the emergency trail repair fund. The New Hampshire department of transportation may access the emergency trail repair fund by submitting a formal request through the bureau of trails.

4 Appropriation.

I. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund to the bureau of trails the sum of \$250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for the designated purposes of the rail trails program fund, as stated in RSA 216-F:9. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

II. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund to the bureau of trails the sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for the designated purposes of the emergency trail repair fund, as stated in RSA 216-F:10. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

5 New Subparagraphs; Application of Receipts; Rail Trails Program Fund and Emergency Trail Repair Fund. Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (399) the following new subparagraphs:

(400) Moneys deposited in the rail trails program fund as established in RSA 216-F:9.

(401) Moneys deposited in the emergency trail repair fund as established in RSA 216-F:10.

6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

2025-0490s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Transfers ownership of 4 rail corridors, and all duties and responsibilities therefor, to the department of natural and cultural resources.

II. Establishes a pilot program to improve the rail trails in 4 rail corridors.

III. Establishes the rail trail program fund and the rail trail emergency fund.

IV. Makes appropriations to the bureau of trails for the established funds.

Senate Ways and Means

February 12, 2025

2025-0399s

05/11

Amendment to SB 276-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Senate Ways and Means

February 12, 2025

2025-0398s

05/02

Amendment to SB 277-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Taxation; Payment in Lieu of Taxes for Renewable Generation Facilities; Transition to Payment of State Education Property Tax. Amend RSA 72:74 by inserting after paragraph VII the following new paragraph:

VIII. In the case of an electric generating facility that is exempt from the utility property tax pursuant to RSA 83-F:1, V(g) and making payments in lieu of taxes to a municipality pursuant to RSA 72:74, if the payment in lieu of tax agreement was in effect as of July 1, 2027, then the facility shall not be liable for payment of the state education tax under RSA 76:3 until that payment in lieu of taxes agreement expires or until July 1, 2032, whichever occurs first. Once payment of the state education tax under RSA 76:3 is required, it may be included in a payment in lieu of taxes agreement pursuant to a new agreement reached under RSA 72:74, or be paid in addition to a payment in lieu of taxes agreement if the underlying agreement has not expired or been reopened and renegotiated. If, under RSA 76:3, the state education tax is paid separately from the payment in lieu of taxes, then the amount of the state education tax owed by the facility shall be determined by using the imputed value of the facility that is calculated and used by the department of revenue administration for purposes of equalization under RSA 21-J:3, XIII.

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

4 Utility Property Tax; Exemption from Education Tax; Reference Added. Amend RSA 83-F:9 to read as follows:

83-F:9 Exemption From Education Tax. Persons and property subject to taxation under this chapter shall not be subject to tax under RSA 76:3; provided, however, that nothing in this chapter shall be construed to exempt such persons or property from local school, municipal, district, or county taxation under RSA 76, ***except as provided in RSA 72:74, VIII.***

5 Applicability. This act shall apply to tax periods beginning on or after April 1, 2028.

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

Senate Commerce
February 12, 2025
2025-0388s
05/11

Amendment to SB 280-FN

Amend RSA 359-S:1, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. A food delivery platform shall not take and arrange for the delivery of an order from a food service establishment or retail food store without first obtaining an agreement with the food service establishment or retail food store expressly authorizing the food delivery platform to take orders and deliver meals prepared by the food service establishment or retail food store.

HEARINGS

All Standing Committee hearings will be live streamed on the NH Senate's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/NewHampshireSenatelivestream>

Links are also available on the Senate Meeting Schedule.



MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025

EDUCATION, Room 101, LOB

Sen. Ward (C), Sen. Sullivan (VC), Sen. Abbas, Sen. Prentiss, Sen. Altschiller

10:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PENDING LEGISLATION

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025

COMMERCE, Room 100, SH

Sen. Innis (C), Sen. Ricciardi (VC), Sen. Murphy, Sen. McGough, Sen. Fenton, Sen. Reardon

9:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PENDING LEGISLATION

10:00 a.m.

SB 90, allowing high-density residential development on land zoned for commercial use.

10:15 a.m.

SB 174, prohibiting planning boards from considering the number of bedrooms a given unit or development has during the hearing and approval process.

10:30 a.m.

SB 175, relative to the use of covenants by municipalities.

10:45 a.m.

SB 281, prohibiting municipalities from denying building or occupancy permits for property adjacent to class VI roads under certain circumstances.

11:00 a.m.

SB 283, relative to the calculation of floor-area-ratios under local building ordinances.

11:15 a.m.

SB 85, relative to chartered bank lending limits.

11:30 a.m.

SB 163, prohibiting local moratoria and limitations on building permits.

11:45 a.m.

HB 399, establishing a commission to study the New Hampshire zoning enabling act.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

EDUCATION, Room 101, LOB

Sen. Ward (C), Sen. Sullivan (VC), Sen. Abbas, Sen. Prentiss, Sen. Altschiller

- 9:00 a.m. **SB 96**, relative to mandatory disclosure by school district employees to parents.
 9:15 a.m. **SB 210**, establishing a study committee to study the issue of school bullying.
 9:30 a.m. **SB 211**, relative to biological sex in student athletics.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS**, Room 103, LOB

Sen. Gray (C), Sen. Lang (VC), Sen. Rochefort, Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Sen. Long

- 9:15 a.m. **SB 214**, enabling no-excuse absentee registration and voting.
 9:30 a.m. **SB 215**, requiring an unorganized town or unincorporated place to elect town officers for the purpose of conducting elections.
 9:45 a.m. **SB 216**, relative to the authority of moderators on election day.
 10:00 a.m. **SB 218**, relative to absentee ballot outer envelopes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**, Room 103, SH

Sen. Avar (C), Sen. Pearl (VC), Sen. McConkey, Sen. Watters, Sen. Rosenwald

- 9:00 a.m. **SB 231**, relative to road frontage requirements and setbacks for wetlands.
 9:20 a.m. **SB 232**, clarifying certain net metering terms and conditions.
 9:40 a.m. **SB 235**, enabling funds from the Pitman-Robertson Act to be spent by the fish and game department on threatened and endangered species in New Hampshire.
 10:00 a.m. **SB 236**, relative to transferring control of the Electric Assistance Program to the department of energy.
 10:20 a.m. **SB 237**, relative to the office of the consumer advocate and the site evaluation committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**FINANCE**, Room 103, SH

Sen. Gray (C), Sen. Innis (VC), Sen. Carson, Sen. Birdsell, Sen. Pearl, Sen. Lang, Sen. Rosenwald, Sen. Watters

Joint Public Hearing with Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee

- 1:00 p.m. **SB 297-FN**, relative to pooled risk management programs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**JUDICIARY**, Room 100, SH

Sen. Gannon (C), Sen. Abbas (VC), Sen. Carson, Sen. Altschiller, Sen. Reardon

- 1:00 p.m. **SB 270**, relative to allowing owners to gather items necessary for work from impounded vehicles.
 1:10 p.m. **SB 259**, creating an exception to physical attendance and quorum requirements under the right-to-know law for individuals with disabilities.
 1:20 p.m. Hearing on proposed non-germane amendment #, 2025-0137s relative to the impaired driver care management program and recovery residences, to SB 143, relative to the impaired driver care management program.
 1:30 p.m. **SB 300-FN**, criminalizing the creation of child intimate visual representations.
 1:40 p.m. **SB 263**, criminalizing and creating a private right of action for the facilitation, encouragement, offer, solicitation, or recommendation of certain acts or actions through a responsive generative communication to a child.
 1:50 p.m. **CACR 8**, relating to sheriffs. Providing that no person shall hold the office of county sheriff after he or she has attained the age of seventy-five years.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

TRANSPORTATION, Room 101, LOB

Sen. Ricciardi (C), Sen. McConkey (VC), Sen. Ward, Sen. Fenton, Sen. Prentiss

1:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PENDING LEGISLATION**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025****EDUCATION FINANCE**, Room 100, SH

Sen. Murphy (C), Sen. Innis (VC), Sen. Carson, Sen. Ward, Sen. Rosenwald, Sen. Altschiller

12:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PENDING LEGISLATION**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**, Room 103, SH

Sen. Pearl (C), Sen. McGough (VC), Sen. Gannon, Sen. Altschiller, Sen. Reardon

9:00 a.m.

SB 298-FN, relative to sober living house certification and operational standards.

9:15 a.m.

SB 302-FN, requiring background checks for solid waste facility owners.

9:30 a.m.

SB 195, relative to reporting requirements for the New Hampshire advisory council on career and technical education.

9:45 a.m.

SB 198, declaring the third week in September to be New Hampshire service dog week.

10:00 a.m.

SB 184, recognizing the second Thursday in October as children's environmental health day.

10:15 a.m.

SB 186, relative to a portrait in the likeness of Senator Jeb Bradley at the state house.**EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW****HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**, Room 101, LOB

Sen. Rochefort (C), Sen. Avard (VC), Sen. Birdsell, Sen. Prentiss, Sen. Long

9:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PENDING LEGISLATION

9:30 a.m.

SB 251, establishing a commission to study the delivery of public health services through regional public health networks and the continued development of coordinated responses to public health incidents and emergencies in New Hampshire.

9:45 a.m.

SB 248, establishing a committee to study palliative and hospice care in New Hampshire.**EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW****WAYS AND MEANS**, Room 100, SH

Sen. Lang (C), Sen. Murphy (VC), Sen. Sullivan, Sen. Rosenwald, Sen. Fenton

9:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PENDING LEGISLATION**FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025****COMMERCE**, Room 103, LOB

Sen. Murphy (C), Sen. Innis (VC), Sen. Reardon

1:30 p.m.

Subcommittee on Housing Work Session

MEETINGS**MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025****NEW HAMPSHIRE DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 485-F:4)**

9:00 a.m.

NHDES
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NHSubcommittee Work Session
Meeting

NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL ON SUICIDE PREVENTION (RSA 126-R:2)

10:00 a.m.	National Guard Edward Cross Training Center 722 Riverwood Drive Pembroke, NH	Emergency Session
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NEW HAMPSHIRE DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 485-F:4)

10:00 a.m.	NHDES 29 Hazen Drive Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE (RSA 187-A:28-a)

1:00 p.m.	Room 100, SH	Organizational Meeting
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NEW HAMPSHIRE DRUG OVERDOSE FATALITY REVIEW COMMISSION (RSA 126-DD:1)

2:00 p.m.	Executive Council Chamber Room 207, SH	Regular Meeting
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TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025**STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)**

5:00 p.m.	Edward Cross Training Center Facility 722 Riverwood Drive Pembroke, NH	Regular Meeting
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FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025**JOINT LEGISLATIVE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE (RSA 17-I:1)**

11:30 a.m.	Room 100, SH	Organizational Meeting
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MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (RSA 188-E:10-b)**

9:00 a.m.	25 Hall Street Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE (RSA 14-B:2)

10:00 a.m.	Room 103, SH	Regular Meeting
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NH COLLEGE TUITION SAVINGS PLAN ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 195-H:2)

10:00 a.m.	5 Chenell Drive Suite 301 Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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NH BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD INJURY ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 137-K:2)

2:00 p.m.	Department of Education Vocational Rehabilitation New Hampshire Room 330 21 South Fruit Street Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88274077301?pwd=fceOts2WBj51lhqPHitcJs7QfTmkQH.1&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 882 7407 7301

Passcode: 705915

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE INCIDENCE OF POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER IN FIRST RESPONDERS (RSA 281-A:17-e)

10:00 a.m.	NH Fire Academy Classroom 1 98 Smokey Bear Blvd Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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MOUNT WASHINGTON COMMISSION (RSA 227-B:3)

10:00 a.m.	Mount Washington Observatory Offices 2779 White Mountain Hwy North Conway, NH	Regular Meeting
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MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025

STATE COMMISSION ON AGING (RSA 19-P:1)

10:00 a.m.	NH Hospital Association 125 Airport Road Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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In addition to the physical location, access is also available need be remotely via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFR3I5emt3NGVudDBYYW9SZThLUt09>

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (RSA 541-A:2)

9:00 a.m.	Room 306-308, LOB	Regular Meeting
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COMMISSION TO STUDY THE USE OF OHRVS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE (RSA 215-A:44-a)

10:00 a.m.	Department of Natural & Cultural Resources 172 Pembroke Road Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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Teams Meeting ID: 282 387 535 833
Passcode: qAxqEj

FISCAL COMMITTEE (RSA 14:30-a)

11:00 a.m.	Room 210-211, LOB	Regular Meeting
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NEW HAMPSHIRE-IRELAND TRADE COUNCIL (RSA 12-O:22-a)

1:30 p.m.	Department of Business & Economic Affairs Suite 100 100 North Main Street Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD (RSA 126-BB:2)

9:30 a.m.	DHHS Brown Building Auditorium 129 Pleasant Street Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)

5:00 p.m. Edward Cross Training Center Facility Regular Meeting
 722 Riverwood Drive
 Pembroke, NH

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

CAPITAL PROJECT OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (RSA 17-J:2)

9:00 a.m. Room 201, LOB Regular Meeting
 The You Tube link to view the meeting livestream is:
 <https://youtube.com/live/eK4irWRtIRY?feature=share>

LONG RANGE CAPITAL PLANNING AND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE (RSA 17-M:1)

9:30 a.m. Room 201, LOB Regular Meeting
 The You Tube link to view the meeting livestream is:
 <https://youtube.com/live/yNR3qmzDZqs?feature=share>

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

STATE COMMISSION ON AGING (RSA 19-P:1)

10:00 a.m. NH Hospital Association Regular Meeting
 125 Airport Road
 Concord, NH
 In addition to the physical location, access is also available need be remotely via
 Zoom:
 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFR3I5emt3NGVueDBYYW9SZThLUT09>

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)

5:00 p.m. Edward Cross Training Center Facility Regular Meeting
 722 Riverwood Drive
 Pembroke, NH

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE USE OF OHRVS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE (RSA 215-A:44-a)

10:00 a.m. Department of Natural & Cultural Resources Regular Meeting
 172 Pembroke Road
 Concord, NH
 Meeting ID: 266 271 833 395
 Passcode: rA3Ae7wM

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025

STATE COMMISSION ON AGING (RSA 19-P:1)

10:00 a.m. NH Hospital Association Regular Meeting
 125 Airport Road
 Concord, NH
 In addition to the physical location, access is also available need be remotely via
 Zoom:
 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFR3I5emt3NGVueDBYYW9SZThLUT09>

MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025

NH LAND AND COMMUNITY HERITAGE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS (RSA 227-M:4)

2:00 p.m. Department of Agriculture, Markets, & Food Regular Meeting
 Granite Place South
 Concord, NH

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FISCAL NOTE ADDITIONS AND UPDATES HAVE BEEN AMENDED TO THE BILLS ON THE WEB SITE AND ARE AVAILABLE IN THE SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE FOR THE FOLLOWING 2025 BILLS:

SENATE BILLS: 13, 14, 15, 31, 58, 60, 71, 73, 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 83, 86, 87, 92, 99, 100, 106, 108, 111, 112, 116, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 127, 128, 130, 133, 134, 137, 139, 140, 144, 147, 148, 152, 157, 160, 168, 179, 180, 181, 188, 191, 193, 201, 204, 205, 208, 213, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 233, 238, 239, 243, 244, 245, 253, 261, 274, 277, 286

HOUSE BILLS: 77, 85, 111, 112, 140, 179, 211, 240, 284, 291, 309, 327, 328, 340, 369, 393, 468, 494, 511, 517, 650, 716, 720, 727, 76, 778

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NOTICES

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on February 10, 2025, voted to formally issue the following advisory opinion, which is printed below in its entirety.

Advisory Opinion 2024-3 House Bill 1388 (November 18, 2024)

On January 1, 2025, the provisions of House Bill 1388 become effective, requiring members of the General Court to recuse themselves from participating in legislative activities in certain circumstances. While the Ethics Committee has found in the past that recusal is warranted when some conflicts of interest exist, this is the first time that a formal requirement has been imposed by statute.

When the Ethics Guidelines were initially adopted in 1991, there was substantial uncertainty as to how they would be applied. At that time, the Ethics Committee issued an Advisory Opinion recognizing that legislators may require a period of time to review and become familiar with the Guidelines. The Committee acknowledged that there would be violations, but the focus was on correction, not on punitive measures. Over time, the Committee has come to expect strict compliance with the Guidelines because they have become defined by application of factual circumstances brought before the Committee in the form of complaints or requests for advisory opinions.

The new provisions of HB 1388 are subject to interpretation and may cause some uncertainty among members of the General Court. Like the initial Guidelines, it is expected that specific cases will be brought before the Committee which will give more definition to the new statutory provisions. Until that happens, legislators should do their best to comply with HB 1388 according to their understanding and interpretation of the statutory language. In any event, at a minimum, they are required to comply with existing disclosure requirements.

It is the intention of the Committee that there be education of and compliance with the Guidelines, including the provisions of HB 1388. As long as a legislator acts in good faith in attempting to comply with the provisions of HB 1388, violations may be recognized but the Committee intends to focus on correction and not on punitive measures. This will remain the intention until the recusal provisions are better defined and understood.

Legislators are encouraged to bring questions about their specific circumstances to the Ethics Committee by requesting an advisory opinion or interpretive ruling.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman

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THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025

Legislative Breakfast – The annual Water’s Worth It! legislative breakfast is set for Thursday, March 6, 2025 at the Hotel Concord (11 S Main Street). Check in for the event begins at 7:00 AM with a buffet breakfast. Water quality professionals will present information on drinking water and wastewater treatment challenges in New Hampshire. This year Alyssa C. Rosenzweig, Deputy Director, The Overwatch Foundation will be speaking about the importance of cybersecurity to the water community, and why Water’s Worth It. In addition, Water Division staff for NH-DES will also address the audience. All legislators and staff are invited to enjoy a hearty breakfast and learn more about New Hampshire’s water infrastructure. This event is free.

Please RSVP to info.nhwpca@gmail.com by February 25th to reserve your seat at this important breakfast. The breakfast is sponsored by the NH Water Pollution Control Association in conjunction with New Hampshire Water Works Association, Granite State Rural Water Association, and a wide-ranging coalition of other NH non-profit water organizations. There is no cost for enjoying breakfast with your legislative peers and attending this event.

Senator Denise Ricciardi

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THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network – NH will be hosting a Legislative Luncheon on Thursday, March 6th from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm in the State House Cafeteria. American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network volunteers and staff will be on hand to discuss pending legislative priorities as well as what services the American Cancer Society provides to NH residents.

Senator David Rochefort

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

Senator Ricciardi and the New Hampshire Child Care Coalition invites all legislators to “Donut Day” on Wednesday, March 12th, from 8 AM to 10 AM in the State House Cafeteria. Please drop by for fresh coffee and artisan donuts from Bird Food Baking Co (Bedford), plus a “sprinkling” of solutions for New Hampshire families. We will share valuable perspectives and experiences from families across the state during this casual, drop-in event. It’s going to be a SWEET start to your day!

Senator Denise Ricciardi

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THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025

AARP New Hampshire cordially invites all Senate and House members and staff to a Legislative Luncheon on Thursday, March 13th, 2025 from 11:30am-1:30pm at the State House Cafeteria. Lunch will feature a variety of sandwiches, salad, chips, cookies, and beverages along with vegetarian options to choose from.

Lawmakers will have an opportunity to meet AARP NH volunteers who are advocates for supporting family caregivers, protecting consumers against fraud, expanding access to affordable housing, and more. AARP NH is excited to talk with lawmakers about these issues and understand how we can work together moving forward. Please RSVP or note any dietary restrictions to Mike Padmore at mpadmore@aarp.org.

Senator Sharon M. Carson, Senate President
Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka, Senate Minority Leader

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THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025

Legislators are invited to join the University System of New Hampshire for a Legislative Lunch on Thursday, March 27 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, Concord, NH. We invite you to meet our college and university presidents and learn more about our efforts to attract, equip, and retain a highly skilled NH workforce. Lunch will be provided.

Senator Daniel Innis
Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka, Senate Minority Leader

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025

Please join the Community College System of New Hampshire for a meet and greet in the State House cafeteria Wednesday, April 2 from 11-1. Legislators and staff are invited to join college and system leaders and discuss issues of importance to your region and the state. Refreshments, prepared by culinary students from Lakes Region Community College and White Mountains Community College, will be proudly served by students and faculty. The committee that leaves us the most business cards will win a delicious cake made by the colleges' culinary students.

Senator Ruth Ward
Senator David Watters

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SENATE SCHEDULE

Monday, February 24, 2025 –
Friday, February 28, 2025
Thursday, March 06, 2025

Thursday, March 27, 2025
Thursday, May 15, 2025

Monday, May 26, 2025
Thursday, June 05, 2025
Thursday, June 12, 2025
Thursday, June 19, 2025
Thursday, June 26, 2025
Friday, July 04, 2025
Monday, September 01, 2025
Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Thursday, November 27, 2025
Friday, November 28, 2025
Thursday, December 25, 2025

SENATE BREAK.

Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all Senate bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.

CROSSOVER – Deadline to ACT on all Senate bills.

Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all House bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.

Memorial Day (State Holiday)

Deadline to ACT on all House bills.

Deadline to FORM Committees of Conference.

Deadline to SIGN Committee of Conference Reports.

Deadline to ACT on Committee of Conference Reports.

Independence Day (State Holiday)

Labor Day (State Holiday)

Veterans' Day (State Holiday)

Thanksgiving Day (State Holiday)

Day after Thanksgiving (State Holiday)

Christmas Day (State Holiday)