

April 3, 2025
No. 16

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Website Address: <https://gc.nh.gov>

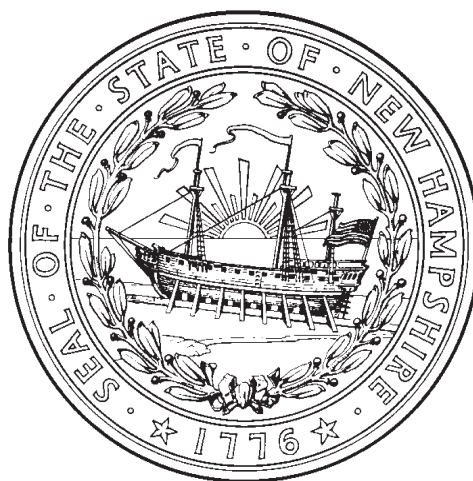
Senate Meeting Schedule Website Address:

<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

LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 17-FN, relative to insurance cost-sharing calculations.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Health and Human Services, SJ 6**

SB 20-FN, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers.**01/31/2025, Finance, SJ 4**

SB 21-FN, relative to establishing a New Hampshire state trooper recruitment loan debt relief program and making an appropriation therefor.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 35-FN, making an appropriation for rail trail project matching funds.**01/31/2025, Finance, SJ 4**

SB 38-FN, relative to state recognition of biological sex.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Judiciary, SJ 9**

SB 59-FN, establishing a recruitment incentive program within the community college system for public safety communicators and dispatchers and making an appropriation therefor.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 64-FN, relative to an appropriation to the department of justice for the purpose of funding the New Hampshire child advocacy centers.**01/31/2025, Finance, SJ 4**

SB 70-FN, creating a mobile driver's license and non-driver identification card.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 81-FN, increasing the annual real estate transfer tax revenue contribution and making an appropriation to the affordable housing fund.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 86-FN, relative to the housing finance authority's affordable housing guarantee program.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 113-FN-A, making appropriations to the department of health and human services for homeless services and homeless prevention.**01/31/2025, Finance, SJ 4**

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.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 115-FN, making an appropriation for regional drinking water infrastructure.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 116-FN, relative to the Pillsbury Lake Village District community water system, and making an appropriation therefor.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 117-FN-A, making an appropriation to the department of education to fund the online tutoring program.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 120-FN, relative to insurance coverage for biomarker testing.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Health and Human Services, SJ 6**

SB 122-FN, relative to financial eligibility for the Medicare savings program.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 125-FN, relative to clinical eligibility criteria for nursing facility and home and community based care.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 127-FN-A, relative to public guardianship and the office of the public guardian and making appropriations to the department of health and human services.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 128-FN, relative to children's mental health services for persons 18 years of age and younger.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 131-FN-A, relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 132-FN, relative to health insurance coverage for prosthetics.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 135-FN, relative to rate setting parity for Medicaid state plan case management services.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 137-FN, relative to hospital stays covered under the state Medicaid plan.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 158-FN, raising the funding cap for the New Hampshire community development finance authority.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 168-FN-LOCAL, 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.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion Committee Amendment # 2025-0390s, Ways and Means, SJ 6**

SB 181-FN, relative to workers' compensation for firefighters with cancer.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 199-FN, relative to establishing a new recruitment and retention program for new New Hampshire state troopers.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 227-FN, relative to site setbacks for landfills.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion Rerefer to Committee, Energy and Natural Resources, SJ 6**

SB 238-FN, 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.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 239-FN, appropriating funds to the fish and game department for continuing environmental review and to cover a deficit for previously instituted salary increases.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

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**

SB 242-FN, relative to the cost of living adjustments for certain group II retirees in the New Hampshire retirement system.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 6**

SB 244-FN-A, relative to expanding access to primary health care services, increasing the size of the health care workforce, and making appropriations therefor.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 246-FN, 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.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 255-FN, establishing and developing crisis stabilization services.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 264, relative to the therapeutic cannabis program.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Judiciary, SJ 9**

SB 274-FN, 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.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 276-FN, relative to raising the research and development tax credit.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 277-FN, relative to the application of utility property taxes and statewide education property taxes to electric generating facilities.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 279-FN, establishing the housing champion business loan program and making appropriations to the department of business and economic affairs and the business finance authority.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

SB 286-FN, creating the New Hampshire office of film and creative media.**03/20/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

SB 288, establishing an advisory council on the system of care for healthy aging in New Hampshire.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Health and Human Services, SJ 9**

SB 290-FN, relative to the definition of "torture" in animal abuse cases.**03/06/2025, Pending Motion Rerefer to Committee, Judiciary, SJ 6**

SB 296, increasing the percentage of nonpublic school scholarships awarded to students who qualify for the federal free and reduced-price meal program.**03/13/2025, Pending Motion Committee Amendment # 2025-0794s, Education Finance, SJ 7**

SB 303, directing the commissioner of the department of education to compile a report on the effects of the dissolution of the United States Department of Education on New Hampshire and its residents.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion Inexpedient to Legislate, Executive Departments and Administration, SJ 9**

SB 304, directing the commissioner of the department of business and economic affairs to assemble a report on the effects of tariffs on Canada and New Hampshire residents.**03/27/2025, Pending Motion Inexpedient to Legislate, Executive Departments and Administration, SJ 9**

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.



TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 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.

HB 649-FN, removing the requirement for physical safety inspections and on-board diagnostic tests for passenger vehicles and eliminating funding for the motor vehicle air pollution abatement fund.

10:45 a.m.

HB 406-FN, relative to the formation of fraudulent businesses.

10:55 a.m.

HB 499-FN, making technical corrections to certain insurance laws.

11:05 a.m.

HB 242, relative to brew pub licenses.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

EDUCATION, Room 101, LOB

Sen. Ward (C), Sen. Sullivan (VC), Sen. Abbas, Sen. Prentiss, Sen. Altschiller

9:15 a.m.

HB 319-FN, relative to the responsibility of local school districts to provide transportation for pupils in kindergarten.

(THE PREVIOUS HEARING FOR HB 319 WAS RECESSED ON APRIL 1ST)

9:30 a.m.

HB 653-FN, establishing a pilot program within the department of education to implement alternatives to restraint and seclusion of students.

(THE PREVIOUS HEARING FOR HB 653 WAS RECESSED ON APRIL 1ST)

9:45 a.m.

HB 763-FN, relative to school emergency plans for sports related injuries.

(THE PREVIOUS HEARING FOR HB 763 WAS RECESSED ON APRIL 1ST)

10:00 a.m.

HB 753-FN, relative to expedited due process hearings to enforce special education rights.

(THE PREVIOUS HEARING FOR HB 753 WAS RECESSED ON APRIL 1ST)

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.

HB 91, relative to the presence of a fire department at a fireworks display.

9:30 a.m.

HB 230-L, relative to the adoption of public health ordinances by municipalities.

9:45 a.m.

HB 265, requiring that a public body's meeting minutes include start and end times of the meeting and the printed name and signature of the recording secretary

10:00 a.m.

HB 421-FN, relative to notice of tax exempt-status filing procedures by town officials or offices.

10:15 a.m.

HB 426, relative to property tax exemptions for charitable organizations for the prior tax year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, Room 103, SH

Sen. Avarad (C), Sen. Pearl (VC), Sen. McConkey, Sen. Watters, Sen. Rosenwald

- 9:00 a.m. **HB 167-FN**, prohibiting the sale of ski, boat, and board waxes that contain intentionally added per and polyfluorinated alkyl substances.
- 9:15 a.m. **HB 416-FN**, prohibiting the intentional disposal of yard waste into the surface waters of the state.
- 9:30 a.m. **HB 690-FN**, directing the department of energy to investigate the state's withdrawal from ISO-New England and other strategy decisions that impact ratepayers in relation to New England's environmental policy.

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

- 1:15 p.m. **HB 517-FN**, repealing certain outreach and marketing requirements under the Granite State paid family leave plan.
- 1:25 p.m. **HB 165-FN**, relative to the maximum amount of disaster relief funding provided to municipalities after a natural disaster.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**JUDICIARY**, Room 100, SH

Sen. Gannon (C), Sen. Abbas (VC), Sen. McConkey, Sen. Altschiller, Sen. Reardon

- 1:00 p.m. **HB 482-FN**, relative to the penalty for driving over 100 miles per hour.
- 1:10 p.m. **HB 776-FN**, relative to the crime of aggravated driving while intoxicated.
- 1:20 p.m. **HB 195-FN**, relative to the expectation of privacy in the collection and use of personal information.
- 1:30 p.m. **HB 522-FN**, relative to the expectation of privacy in personal information maintained by the state.
- 1:40 p.m. **HB 146-FN**, relative to the use of body-worn cameras.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**TRANSPORTATION**, Room 101, LOB

Sen. Ricciardi (C), Sen. McConkey (VC), Sen. Ward, Sen. Fenton, Sen. Prentiss

- 1:00 p.m. **HB 321-FN**, requiring the division of motor vehicles to extend a fine payment period for certain motor vehicle violations from 30 days to 90 days if the driver requests the extension.
- 1:15 p.m. **HB 489**, allowing volunteer emergency workers to use a rear facing blue light on their private vehicles when involved in emergency service.
- 1:30 p.m. **HB 632**, permitting health care providers affiliated with the Veterans Administration to certify medical accommodations on behalf of veterans residing in New Hampshire.
- 1:45 p.m. **HB 461**, relative to department of safety and department of motor vehicle training and testing materials.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 452-FN**, relative to the issuance of drivers' licenses for aliens temporarily residing in New Hampshire.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW***WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025*****EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**, Room 103, SH

Sen. Pearl (C), Sen. McGough (VC), Sen. Gannon, Sen. Altschiller, Sen. Reardon

- 9:00 a.m. **HB 192-FN**, relative to recommendations of the joint committee on employee classification.

9:10 a.m.	HB 271-FN , relative to initial license requirements for licensed social work associates.
9:20 a.m.	HB 214-FN , relative to the regulation of recreational therapists and respiratory care practitioners.
9:30 a.m.	HB 227-FN , relative to licensure for psychotherapy activities or services.
9:40 a.m.	HB 507-FN , relative to the timeline for credentialing of mental health care providers.
9:50 a.m.	HB 509-FN , relative to the contents of the attorney general's annual report detailing state forfeiture information for the preceding fiscal year.
10:00 a.m.	HB 546-FN , relative to financial disclosures and the public reporting of those disclosures by the secretary of state.
10:10 a.m.	HB 82 , relative to the regulation of various occupations.
10:20 a.m.	HB 156 , relative to the duties of the advisory committee on state procurement.
10:30 a.m.	HB 210 , establishing a commission to study the state flag and its history.
10:40 a.m.	HB 118 , repealing certain committees and commissions.
10:50 a.m.	HB 267 , relative to animal chiropractors.
11:00 a.m.	HB 777 , codifying the law enforcement accreditation commission.
	The Committee will break at the conclusion of the hearing on HB 777.
1:00 p.m.	HB 142 , relative to Gold Star Mother's Day.
1:10 p.m.	HB 780 , relative to the director of the division of archives and records management of the department of state.
1:20 p.m.	HB 233 , requiring meetings of the New Hampshire vaccine association to be audio and video recorded and published on its website within 48 hours.
	EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Room 100, SH

Sen. Rochefort (C), Sen. Avard (VC), Sen. Birdsell, Sen. Prentiss, Sen. Long

9:45 a.m.	HB 70-FN , relative to the use of electronic medical records.
10:00 a.m.	HB 679 , relative to immunization requirements.
10:15 a.m.	HB 357 , relative to the department of health and human services' rulemaking authority regarding immunization requirements.
10:30 a.m.	HB 358 , relative to exemption from immunization requirements on the basis of religious belief.
	The Committee will break at the conclusion of the hearing on HB 358.
1:00 p.m.	HB 597 , establishing a designated behavioral health access point within the enhanced 911 system.
1:15 p.m.	HB 731-FN , relative to supportive housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.
1:30 p.m.	HB 455 , relative to reports by the department of health and human services regarding Medicaid enhancement for children and pregnant women.
1:45 p.m.	HB 94-FN , relative to coverage of circumcision under the state Medicaid plan.
	EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

COMMERCE, Room 100, SH

Sen. Innis (C), Sen. Ricciardi (VC), Sen. Murphy, Sen. McGough, Sen. Fenton, Sen. Reardon

9:30 a.m.	HB 309-FN , relative to making electronic rent payments optional.
9:45 a.m.	HB 633-FN , creating a legislative study committee to investigate the implementation of housing investment trusts in New Hampshire.
10:00 a.m.	HB 694-FN , requiring leases of land, buildings, or space by state agencies to be at fair market value.

- 10:15 a.m. **HB 631-FN**, permitting residential building in commercial zoning.
- 10:30 a.m. **HB 410-FN**, limiting local authority to adopt restrictions on the building and development of residential properties.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**

EDUCATION, Room 101, LOB

- Sen. Ward (C), Sen. Sullivan (VC), Sen. Abbas, Sen. Prentiss, Sen. Altschiller
- 9:15 a.m. **HB 90-FN**, relative to the definition of part-time teachers.
- 9:30 a.m. **HB 324-FN**, relative to prohibiting obscene or harmful sexual materials in schools.
- 9:45 a.m. **HB 741-FN**, allowing parents to send their children to any school district they choose.
- 10:00 a.m. **HB 749-FN**, requiring instruction on communism in public high schools.
- 10:15 a.m. **HB 754-FN**, establishing automatic discovery in due process hearings for actions seeking to enforce special education rights.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, Room 103, SH

- Sen. Avarad (C), Sen. Pearl (VC), Sen. McConkey, Sen. Watters, Sen. Rosenwald
- 9:00 a.m. **HB 250**, enabling local governing bodies to regulate the muzzling of dogs.
- 9:15 a.m. **HB 272**, exempting certain agricultural practices from municipal noise regulation.
- 9:30 a.m. **HB 355**, relative to the membership of the solid waste working group.
- 9:45 a.m. **HB 404**, relative to information on the hike safe card.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**

JUDICIARY, Room 100, SH

- Sen. Gannon (C), Sen. Abbas (VC), Sen. McConkey, Sen. Altschiller, Sen. Reardon
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 207-FN**, relative to repealing the prohibition on the possession or sale of black-jacks, slung shots, and metallic knuckles except by or to minors.
- 1:15 p.m. **HB 381-FN**, exempting firearms and firearm accessories manufactured for in-state use only from the National Firearm Act.
- 1:30 p.m. Hearing on proposed Amendment #, 2025-1481s , to **HB 381-FN**, exempting firearms and firearm accessories manufactured for in-state use only from the National Firearm Act.
- 1:45 p.m. **HB 551-FN**, repealing the license to sell pistols and revolvers.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 100, SH

- Sen. Lang (C), Sen. Murphy (VC), Sen. Sullivan, Sen. Rosenwald, Sen. Fenton
- 9:00 a.m. **HB 617**, relative to the homestead right.
- 9:15 a.m. **HB 647-FN**, relative to the fee for a newborn lifetime hunting and fishing license.
- 9:30 a.m. **HB 658-FN**, raising the cap on certain reimbursements from the oil discharge and disposal cleanup fund.
- 9:45 a.m. Hearing on proposed nongermane Amendment #, 2025-1468s creating local options for games of chance and relative to charitable gaming licenses, to **HB 737-LOCAL**, creating local options for games of chance.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW**

MEETINGS

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2025

JOINT LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 17-N:1)

10:00 a.m. Room 212, LOB Regular Meeting

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025

ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD (RSA 21-J:14-a)

9:30 a.m. Department of Revenue Administration Regular Meeting
 Training Room
 109 Pleasant Street
 Concord, NH

COMMISSION TO STUDY REVENUE ALTERNATIVES TO THE ROAD TOLL, ROAD TOLL REGISTRATION CHARGES, AND REVENUE ALTERNATIVES TO VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES, INCLUDING ELECTRIC VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES, TO FUND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STATE'S HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES AND THEIR RESULTING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENT (RSA 21-J:49)

11:00 a.m. Room 201, LOB Regular Meeting

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE (RSA 14-B:2)

1:00 p.m. Room 103, SH Regular Meeting

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 126-A:17)

1:00 p.m. 1 Delta Drive (Training Room) Regular Meeting
 Concord, NH

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025

ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD (RSA 21-J:14-a)

9:30 a.m. Department of Revenue Administration Assessing Reference Manual
 Training Room Subcommittee
 109 Pleasant Street
 Concord, NH

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 Regular Meeting
 Classroom 1
 98 Smokey Bear Blvd.
 Concord, NH

MOUNT WASHINGTON COMMISSION (RSA 227-B:3)

10:00 a.m. AMC Highland Center Regular Meeting
 Washburn Room
 U.S. Rte 302
 Bretton Woods, NH

COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS OF PERFLUORINATED CHEMICALS (RSA 126-A:79-a)

2:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

This meeting will take place by remote conference.

To listen in please follow the instructions below:

Please register for the Commission on the Environmental and Public Health Impacts of Perfluorinated Chemicals meeting on April 11, 2025 2:00 PM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/5671215450474413150>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

You also may join the meeting by phone:

Call in Number: 1 (562) 247-8422

Access Code: 115-413-777

Webinar ID: 947-509-755

The following email address will be monitored throughout the meeting by someone who can assist with and alert the committee to any technical issues: Amy.E.Rousseau@des.nh.gov. You may also call Amy Rousseau at 603-271-8801.

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (RSA 188-E:10-b)

9:00 a.m.	25 Hall Street Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
-----------	-------------------------------	-----------------

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/yNR3qmqzDZqs?feature=share>

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025

COUNTY-STATE FINANCE COMMISSION (RSA 28-B:1)

9:00 a.m.	Brown Building 129 Pleasant St Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
-----------	--	-----------------

CURRENT USE BOARD (RSA 79-A:3)

10:00 a.m.	Department of Revenue Administration Training Room 109 Pleasant Street Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
------------	---	-----------------

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (RSA 541-A:2)

9:00 a.m.	Room 306-308, LOB	Regular Meeting
-----------	-------------------	-----------------

OVERSIGHT COMMISSION ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES (RSA 21-V:10)

9:00 a.m.	Room 100, SH	Regular Meeting
-----------	--------------	-----------------

FISCAL COMMITTEE (RSA 14:30-a)

11:00 a.m.	Room 210-211, LOB	Regular Meeting
------------	-------------------	-----------------

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

STATE COMMISSION ON AGING (RSA 19-P:1)

10:00 a.m.	NH Hospital Association 125 Airport Road Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
	Zoom:	
	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFR3I5emt3NGVucDBYYW9SZThLUT09	

NEW HAMPSHIRE CANADIAN TRADE COUNCIL (RSA 12-O:22)

2:00 p.m.	BEA Kingsman Room 100 North Main Street Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
-----------	--	-----------------

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 281-A:62)

11:00 a.m.	NH Department of Labor 95 Pleasant St Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
------------	---	-----------------

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 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
-----------	--	-----------------

MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025

JOINT LEGISLATIVE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE (RSA 17-I:1)

10:00 a.m.	Room 100, SH	Regular Meeting
------------	--------------	-----------------

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 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
-----------	--	-----------------

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SIEC) (RSA 21-P:48, IV)

9:00 a.m.	Marine Patrol Bureau 31 Dock Road Gilford, NH	Regular Meeting
-----------	---	-----------------

MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025

NEW HAMPSHIRE DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 485-F:4)

10:00 a.m.	NHDES 29 Hazen Drive Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
------------	--	-----------------

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

NEW HAMPSHIRE-IRELAND TRADE COUNCIL (RSA 12-O:22-a)

1:30 p.m. Department of Business & Economic Affairs Regular Meeting
Suite 100
100 North Main Street
Concord, NH

COMMISSION TO STUDY ENVIRONMENTALLY-TRIGGERED CHRONIC ILLNESS (RSA 126-A:73-a)

3:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86117818803?pwd=cWRXdGwQnQvc2ZRbkNOBhGhGc3M0dz09>

Meeting ID: 861 1781 8803

Passcode: 669915

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE USE OF OHRVS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE (RSA 215-A:44-a)

10:00 a.m. NH Automobile Dealers' Association Regular Meeting
507 South St.
Bow, NH
Microsoft Teams Meeting ID: 248 126 539 996
Passcode: 3c2oK6kL

STATE COMMISSION ON AGING (RSA 19-P:1)

10:00 a.m.	NH Hospital Association 125 Airport Road Concord, NH Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFER3I5emt3NGVueDBYYW9SZThLUT09	Regular Meeting
------------	--	-----------------

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

STATE HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND STATE HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN ADVISORY COUNCIL
(RSA 126-A:88)

9:00 a.m. New Hampshire Hospital Association Regular Meeting
Foundation for Healthy Communities
Room 1
125 Airport Road
Concord, NH
<https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/91924404723?pwd=iGgIYA5u57zTlaudZ0RDbb1Z-koAQm6.1>
Meeting ID: 919 2440 4723
Password: 039529
Dial-in number: 1-646-558-8656

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
Granite Place South
Concord, NH

Regular Meeting

MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2025

STATE COMMISSION ON AGING (RSA 19-P:1)

10:00 a.m.

NH Hospital Association
125 Airport Road
Concord, NH

Regular Meeting

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFR3I5emt3NGVueDBYYW9SZThLUT09>

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE USE OF OHRVS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE (RSA 215-A:44-a)

10:00 a.m.

Fish & Game Department
629 Main St, Ste B
Lancaster, NH

Regular Meeting

Microsoft Teams Meeting ID: 268 956 476 29

Passcode: sb2oU3S3

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025

STATE COMMISSION ON AGING (RSA 19-P:1)

10:00 a.m.

NH Hospital Association
125 Airport Road
Concord, NH

Regular Meeting

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFR3I5emt3NGVueDBYYW9SZThLUT09>

* * * * *

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, 17, 21, 27, 31, 58, 60, 65, 71, 73, 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 83, 84, 86, 87, 92, 93, 99, 100, 106, 107, 108, 110, 111, 112, 115, 116, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 127, 128, 130, 133, 134, 137, 139, 140, 142, 144, 147, 148, 150, 152, 157, 160, 162, 164, 168, 170, 179, 180, 181, 185, 188, 191, 193, 201, 204, 205, 208, 213, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 233, 238, 239, 241, 243, 244, 245, 246, 249, 253, 258, 261, 263, 267, 274, 276, 277, 286, 297, 302

HOUSE BILLS: 10, 59, 62, 66, 77, 85, 86, 88, 111, 112, 140, 153, 179, 191, 192, 195, 196, 211, 214, 215, 218, 225, 226, 240, 268, 271, 284, 291, 309, 327, 328, 340, 369, 377, 378, 380, 389, 393, 405, 406, 416, 421, 468, 473, 494, 496, 498, 499, 502, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 511, 514, 517, 518, 521, 522, 524, 525, 526, 528, 534, 535, 536, 538, 542, 546, 547, 553, 566, 572, 574, 575, 581, 583, 586, 587, 607, 608, 609, 615, 616, 619, 621, 622, 624, 630, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 646, 648, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 657, 658, 659, 662, 665, 666, 669, 670, 671, 672, 674, 677, 680, 681, 683, 686, 687, 688, 690, 691, 694, 696, 702, 708, 710, 711, 712, 716, 719, 720, 721, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 738, 739, 741, 743, 750, 753, 755, 756, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 767, 769, 770, 771, 775, 778, 782

* * * * *

ENROLLED BILL AMENDMENTS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE FOR 2025 BILLS:

HOUSE BILLS: 399

* * * * *

SENATE BILLS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

SENATE BILLS:

HOUSE BILLS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

HOUSE BILLS: 110, 127, 399

* * * * *

NOTICES

NOTICE

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on March 10, 2025, voted to formally issue the following interpretive rulings, which are printed below in their entirety.

INTERPRETIVE RULING 2025-1

Application of Recent Changes to RSA 14-C as a Result of HB 1388 (2024) (March 10, 2025)

The Legislative Ethics Committee has received a request for an interpretive ruling from the Clerk of the New Hampshire House of Representatives. He asserts that members of the General Court have raised numerous questions regarding their responsibilities under the recusal provisions in the newly enacted HB 1388.

More specifically, he asks that the Committee address the following questions:

1. When and under what circumstances is a member required to recuse themselves from consideration of a piece of legislation? If a recusal is required, please describe the steps a member should take depending on the setting, i.e. floor session, committee meeting.
2. If recusal is not required, under what circumstances is it sufficient to file a conflict of interest?
3. If neither recusal nor a filing of a conflict of interest is necessary, when is verbal disclosure appropriate?

In response, the Committee issues the following interpretive rulings:

1. Prior to the enactment of HB 1388, there was no statutory authority or written provision in the Ethics Guidelines requiring recusal in legislative matters. For the most part, when a conflict of interest existed, upon filing a Declaration of Intent form, recusal was contemplated as an option, but it was exercised at the discretion of the legislator. This was consistent with one of the primary objectives of the Ethics Guidelines, which is public disclosure.

One exception was identified in prior rulings of the Committee. It found that recusal was required in circumstances where a legislator, or a member of the legislator's household, is being compensated by an organization, holds a position in which they are able to exercise substantial influence over the affairs of the organization, and the organization is attempting to influence the outcome of the legislative activity. This exception was incorporated in HB 1388 and was enacted as RSA 14-C:4-a, II. For guidance on its application, see *Informal Resolution 2013-5*, *Informal Resolution 2019-2*, *Advisory Opinion 2018-1*, and *Advisory Opinion 2023-3*, available on the Committee's website.

The major change brought about by HB 1388 is the required recusal found in RSA 14-C:4-a, I. This is a requirement for recusal when a legislator has a conflict of interest as defined in RSA 14-B:1, I, and the legislator or a member of the legislator's household could "be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment as an outcome of the legislative activity." The terms "direct and substantial" have yet to be defined in the context of this legislation and the Ethics Guidelines as a whole. The Committee has previously indicated its intent to create an understanding of how the definitions would be applied as factual cases are brought before the Committee. That is why it previously issued an Advisory Opinion in which it advised legislators that, until the statute is better understood, they would not be subject to the imposition of sanctions provided the legislator was acting in good faith.

However, the Committee understands that there has been confusion regarding the implementation of the recusal requirement, resulting in many questions and inconsistent behavior. Therefore, some general guidance might be beneficial pending a more in-depth application of the law. This is particularly true, as guidance previously issued by the Committee may be obsolete or, worse yet, conflict with the new recusal law.

For example, previously, the Committee advised that it was sufficient to disclose a conflict when a legislator held title to property subject to current use taxation. Under the new law, if a bill would change the formula for taxation, increasing or decreasing the amount of taxes to be paid, it may be expected to have a “direct and substantial” financial impact on the legislator, making recusal mandatory. At the same time, not all current use bills would necessarily require recusal. For example, a change in property classifications, type of vegetation, or method for filing current use liens would probably not have a direct or substantial financial impact. Recusal might not be required in those circumstances, although the legislator would still have a duty to disclose.

Many legislators are members of the New Hampshire Retirement System. It is the Committee’s understanding that in the past, legislators have been inconsistent in the matter of disclosure. Many have filed Declaration of Intent forms, with some electing to participate and some opting for recusal. In some cases, legislators have filed no Declaration of Intent form but may have simply made disclosure on the Financial Disclosure Form filed at the beginning of the session. Under the new law, if a bill is introduced that changes the retirement benefit or member contribution rate, it is expected to have a direct and substantial financial impact on the legislator or a member of the legislator’s household, and recusal would be required. Again, just because someone belongs to the Retirement System, does not require recusal in all cases, only if there is expected to be a direct and substantial benefit. If a bill was dealing with the structure of the Retirement System, its investment strategy, its operating procedures or its staffing, it would be unlikely that recusal would be required, although disclosure would still be appropriate.

Recusal is required when a legislator recognizes that a legislative activity could reasonably be expected to have a direct and substantial financial impact upon them or a member of their household. That could be at a committee meeting or at any time in the legislative process. At that point, the legislator should refrain from any further legislative involvement on the legislative activity and file a Declaration of Intent form with the Clerk of their respective body, noting their recusal. They should refrain from participation in any further legislative involvement with that legislative activity. Because of the way bills are heard, the Committee recognizes that legislators may not recognize conflicts before they appear at the floor session. A Declaration of Intent form with recusal should be filed immediately upon discovery of the conflict.

It should be noted that recusal is not required from participation in any official legislative activity relating to the state budget or general revenue bills.

2. When recusal is not required, conflicts which are not “direct and substantial” may still exist. In such circumstances, the emphasis remains on public disclosure. There are three forms that are used for disclosing conflicts. These are the Financial Disclosure Form, the General Disclosure of Non-Financial Personal Interests Form and the Declaration of Intent Form. There is also the requirement to make a verbal disclosure.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM

Every legislator has a duty to complete a Financial Disclosure Form at the beginning of their term. At that point they are to disclose any business, profession, occupation, group or matter in which they or a household member may have a financial interest. If a legislator discloses having a financial interest on the form, the legislator is required to make a verbal disclosure of that financial interest in certain situations. The legislator could also be required to file a Declaration of Intent Form as provided below.

GENERAL DISCLOSURE OF NON-FINANCIAL PERSONAL INTERESTS FORM

When a legislator or a legislator’s household member has a non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter that is the subject of official activity, which is distinct from and greater than the interests of the public at large, the legislator has a duty to complete a Declaration of Intent form if the legislator has not made that disclosure on the General Disclosure of Non-Financial Personal Interests Form. This may occur in circumstances when a legislator is an uncompensated member of a board, officer or agent of a non-profit organization. If a legislator discloses having a non-financial personal interest on the form, the legislator is required to make a verbal disclosure of that non-financial personal interest in certain situations.

DECLARATION OF INTENT

When a legislator has a financial interest that could reasonably be expected to produce greater benefit or detriment to the legislator or the legislator's household member than would accrue to any other member of a business, profession, occupation, or other group the legislator listed in the financial disclosure form, the legislator has a duty to complete a Declaration of Intent form. On the form, the legislator must declare his or her decision to either participate in or not participate in the particular official activity described on the form. If a legislator elects to declare an intention to participate in the activity, the legislator is required to detail the nature of the conflict of interest on the form.

The requirement for filing a Declaration of Intent is triggered immediately when a legislator becomes aware that a conflict of interest exists or may exist with respect to any official activity the legislator is about to undertake. An "official activity" is defined as any activity which relates to official responsibilities, including the introduction of legislation, testifying before any legislative committee or state agency, voting in committee or in house or senate session or otherwise participating in, influencing, or attempting to influence any decision of the legislature, county delegation or any state agency.

For purposes of introducing a bill, the declaration must be made prior to signing off as a sponsor or co-sponsor of a particular piece of legislation. The Declaration of Intent form must be filed with the clerk of the member's respective body prior to the time of the official action.

If there is any question in the legislator's mind as to whether a Declaration of Intent would be required, the better practice would be to file one.

3. Verbal disclosure is required when a legislator becomes aware of having a financial interest or a non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter. It is to be made prior to engaging in verbal advocacy at any meeting of the general court or county delegation. "Verbal advocacy" means an attempt by a legislator to influence his or her colleagues on a matter that is the subject of official activity in a meeting of the general court or county delegation through public verbal communication. Verbal advocacy does not include casting a vote in executive session of a committee or in a full session of the House or Senate. The verbal disclosure shall consist of a short statement that identifies the financial interest or non-financial personal interest.

Verbal disclosures must be made in the following circumstances and manner:

- (a) When **testifying** before a legislative committee regarding a bill or other matter in which the legislator has a special interest, the legislator shall make the disclosure prior to testifying.
- (b) When **appointed to a subcommittee** working on a bill in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made upon appointment to the subcommittee and at the initial subcommittee work session.
- (c) When **serving as a member of a committee** considering a bill in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made prior to engaging in verbal advocacy.
- (d) When **addressing the full House or Senate** on a bill in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made prior to engaging in verbal advocacy. **If the legislator does not speak on the bill, the legislator is not required to make a verbal disclosure.**
- (e) When **appointed as a member of a Committee of Conference** on a bill in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made at the initial meeting of the Committee of Conference.
- (f) When **serving as a member of a county delegation** considering a matter in which the legislator has a special interest, the disclosure shall be made to all participants prior to engaging in verbal advocacy.

The Committee recognizes that the application of any law or guideline to individual circumstances may pose questions not easily addressed in an interpretive ruling, which is general in nature. 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

[Vote: 7-0]

Legislative Ethics Committee
INTERPRETIVE RULING 2025-2
Voting on the Consent Calendar
(March 10, 2025)

Senate Legal Counsel Richard J. Lehmann asked for guidance regarding the effect of the new recusal law (2025 HB 1388) when a conflict exists with a bill included on the Consent Calendar. Specifically, he asked if a member determines that they are required to recuse themselves from voting on a bill listed on the Consent Calendar, but wants to vote on all the other bills, does the bill have to be removed from the Consent Calendar and voted on separately.

While the current statutes provide an exception for the budget and general revenue bills, no exception is made for consent calendars. While it may not have been clear in the past, absent an exception, a strict application of the new recusal law would preclude a member from voting on the Consent Calendar if it contains a bill for which the member is required to recuse. The Committee recognizes that currently the Senate and the House have different requirements in their procedural rules for removing a bill from the Consent Calendar. In the Senate, a single member may request the removal, whereas in the House 10 members are required to make the request. In either case, if the bill is removed from the Consent Calendar, the member may file a Declaration of Intent, recuse from voting on the bill, and then vote on the balance of the calendar. But if the bill is not removed from the Consent Calendar, the member is required to file a Declaration of Intent and recuse from voting on the entire Consent Calendar.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman

[Vote: 7-0]

* * * * *

NOTICE
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on March 24, 2025, voted to formally issue the following interpretive ruling and advisory opinions, which are printed below in their entirety.

Advisory Opinion 2025-1
Response to a Request for an Advisory Opinion
from Senate Legal Counsel Richard J. Lehmann
on Behalf of Senator Donovan Fenton
(March 24, 2025)

Senate Legal Counsel Richard J. Lehmann has requested an advisory opinion on behalf of Senator Donovan Fenton, addressing whether he is required to recuse himself from participating in HB 649-FN, a bill removing the requirement for physical safety inspections and on-board diagnostic tests for passenger vehicles and eliminating funding for the motor vehicle air pollution abatement fund

Attorney Lehmann provided the Committee with the following facts. Sen. Fenton's family owns car dealerships in the Keene area that conduct annual physical safety inspections and on-board diagnostic tests that are required under current law. Sen. Fenton owns an equity stake of these businesses, and he is an active participant in them. Sen. Fenton does not believe that revenue derived from inspections at his families' dealerships represent a greater or lesser percentage of revenue than other similar businesses.

The relevant statutes can be found in RSA Chapter 14-C. RSA 14-C:4-a provides as follows:

I. A legislator shall recuse themselves from participation in any official legislative activity pertaining to legislation when:

(a) The legislator has a conflict of interest with the subject of the legislation as defined in RSA 14-B:1, I; and

(b) The legislator or a member of the legislator's household could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment as a result of the outcome of the legislative activity.

A conflict of interest, as defined in RSA 14-B:1, I, means the condition in which a legislator has a special interest in any matter which could directly or indirectly affect or influence the performance of the legislator's official activities. A special interest is defined as any financial or non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter that is the subject of official activity, distinct from and greater than the interests of the public at large.

Having considered the facts as presented, it is the opinion of the Committee that Senator Fenton has a conflict of interest which requires his recusal from participating in legislative activities involving HB 649-FN. Although his interest in the subject may be no greater than other businesses which perform inspections and diagnostic tests, he does have a personal interest which is greater than the public at large. Given his participation in the family business, he could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment as a result of the outcome of HB 649-FN.

Because the Committee has found that recusal is required pursuant to RSA 14-C:4-a, I, it has not found it necessary to consider whether recusal would be required under the provisions of RSA 14-C:4-a, II.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman

[Vote: 6-1]

* * * * *

Advisory Opinion 2025-2
Response to a Request for an Advisory Opinion
from Senate Legal Counsel Richard J. Lehmann
on Behalf of Senator Victoria Sullivan
(March 24, 2025)

Senate Legal Counsel Richard J. Lehmann has requested an advisory opinion on behalf of Senator Victoria Sullivan, addressing whether she is required to recuse herself from participation in any official activities involving RSA Chapter 194-F, the statutes entitled "Education Freedom Accounts."

Attorney Lehmann provided the Committee with the following facts. Senator Sullivan has two children who are a present and a former participant in the Education Freedom Account program. Her youngest child will be graduating in May, and no member of her family will be participating in the program after May 30, 2025. She holds no position of authority in the administration or management of the program itself.

Applying the facts as presented, the relevant statutes are:

I. A legislator shall recuse themselves from participation in any official legislative activity pertaining to legislation when:

- (a) The legislator has a conflict of interest with the subject of the legislation as defined in RSA 14-B:1, I; and
- (b) The legislator or a member of the legislator's household could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment as a result of the outcome of the legislative activity.

As defined in RSA 14-B:1, I, "Conflict of interest" means the condition in which a legislator has a special interest in any matter which could directly or indirectly affect or influence the performance of the legislator's official activities.

A special interest, in turn, is now defined as: V. "Special interest" means any financial or non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter that is the subject of official activity, distinct from and greater than the interests of the public at large.

- (a) A financial interest exists where a legislator or household member could stand to gain or lose anything of material value as a result of the official activity.

In applying the statutory authority, it is highly improbable that recusal would be required. If there was current legislation to increase or reduce the financial benefit applicable to existing students, or if there was future legislation that provided a retroactive benefit to former students, Senator Sullivan could incur a direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment, and recusal would be required. But it is more likely that any legislation relating to RSA Chapter 194-F will apply only to students after May 30, 2025, in which case, Senator Sullivan will incur no direct or substantial financial benefit or detriment and recusal will not be required.

Although recusal is unlikely, given her participation in the program, Senator Sullivan may still have a special interest in Education Freedom Accounts, and she may wish to disclose a conflict before participating in legislative activities.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman

[Vote: 7-0]

* * * * *

INTERPRETIVE RULING 2025-3 (March 24, 2025)

Representative Gregory G. Hill has asked the Legislative Ethics Committee to provide an interpretive ruling, addressing whether members of the General Court, who are themselves or have a household member who is a retired member of the New Hampshire Retirement System (“NHRS”), are required to recuse themselves from participation in official legislative activity pertaining to 2025 House Bill 536-FN, an act relative to a cost of living adjustment in the state retirement system.

The following facts were provided by Representative Hill. HB 536-FN would provide a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) as a supplemental allowance to the retired members of the NHRS, or any of its predecessor systems, or a member’s beneficiary, who have been retired for at least 60 months as of July 1, 2025. The supplemental allowance would be 1-1/2% of the first \$50,000.00 of the retired member’s or beneficiaries’ annual retirement allowance.

Applying the facts as presented, the relevant statutes are:

- I. A legislator shall recuse themselves from participation in any official legislative activity pertaining to legislation when:
 - (a) The legislator has a conflict of interest with the subject of the legislation as defined in RSA 14-B:1, I; and
 - (b) The legislator or a member of the legislator’s household could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment as a result of the outcome of the legislative activity.

RSA 14-B:1, I, defines “Conflict of interest” to mean “the condition in which a legislator has a special interest in any matter which could directly or indirectly affect or influence the performance of the legislator’s official activities.”

A special interest, in turn, is now defined as any financial or non-financial personal interest in the outcome of a matter that is the subject of official activity, distinct from and greater than the interests of the public at large. A financial interest exists where a legislator or household member could stand to gain or lose anything of material value as a result of the official activity.

In applying the facts as provided, the Committee interprets the statutory authority to provide that a legislator who is a retired member, or who has a household member, who is a retired member of the New Hampshire Retirement System, has a financial interest which should have been disclosed on the Financial Disclosure Form filed at the beginning of the legislative session.

If the retired legislator or family member would qualify for the proposed COLA, then the legislator could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit. Recusal would be required by RSA 14-C:4-a, I, and the legislator is required to refrain from participating in any legislative activities involving HB 536-FN.

If, however, the retired legislator or family member does not qualify for the COLA because of the length of their retirement, they would not be required to recuse as they would not be receiving a “direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment.” Although not required to recuse in those circumstances, verbal disclosure might still be required if the member intends to participate in verbal advocacy involving HB 536-FN.

The committee also notes that legislation is subject to amendment as it progresses through the legislative bodies. The above analysis is based upon the current proposal as presented to the Committee.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman

[Vote: 6-1]

* * * * *

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

Legislators & staff are cordially invited to the annual Walmart lunch and health screening in the State House cafeteria on Thursday, April 10th starting at 11:30 a.m.

Senator Timothy Lang

* * * * *

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

All legislators and staff are cordially invited to join the New Hampshire Automobile Dealers Association (NHADA) for our annual Legislative Crossover Reception on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. (or following the end of the session day) at the Hotel Concord, 11 South Main Street, New Hampshire Room, (third floor), Concord. NHADA has historically hosted this event which offers legislators a wonderful opportunity to unwind and enjoy the company of fellow legislators and staff in a fun, social gathering.

Senator Regina Birdsell

* * * * *

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

The Housing Caucus cordially invites all House and Senate members and staff to their first annual Crossover Cocktails event on Thursday, April 10 from 5:30 - 7pm at Tandy's.

Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka, Senate Minority Leader

* * * * *

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025

The Senate is cordially invited to join behavioral health crisis stakeholders to “Coffee for the Crisis Line” on Tuesday, April 22 from 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM in the State House Cafeteria. Please drop by for fresh coffee and donuts and learn about the crisis system and sustainable funding for the 988 call centers.

Senator Kevin Avard

* * * * *

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025

The NH Oral Health Coalition invites you to our 2025 Legislative Luncheon “#Oral Health Matters: It’s All Connected” hosted on May 29 from 11:30 to 1:30 in the NH State House cafeteria. This year’s event includes oral health and dental providers and programs from your local communities that serve those needing affordable and accessible care. Additionally, we will celebrate the NH Smiles – Medicaid Adult Dental Benefit on its 3rd birthday. Please RSVP to Gail Brown gbrown@NHOralHealth.org or 603-415-5550. See you there. All Senators and their staff members are welcome.

Senator Cindy Rosenwald

* * * * *

SENATE SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 15, 2025	Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all House bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.
Monday, May 26, 2025	Memorial Day (State Holiday)
Thursday, June 05, 2025	Deadline to ACT on all House bills.
Thursday, June 12, 2025	Deadline to FORM Committees of Conference.
Thursday, June 19, 2025	Deadline to SIGN Committee of Conference Reports.
Thursday, June 26, 2025	Deadline to ACT on Committee of Conference Reports.
Friday, July 04, 2025	Independence Day (State Holiday)
Monday, September 01, 2025	Labor Day (State Holiday)
Tuesday, November 11, 2025	Veterans’ Day (State Holiday)
Thursday, November 27, 2025	Thanksgiving Day (State Holiday)
Friday, November 28, 2025	Day after Thanksgiving (State Holiday)
Thursday, December 25, 2025	Christmas Day (State Holiday)