

December 18, 2025
No. 47

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

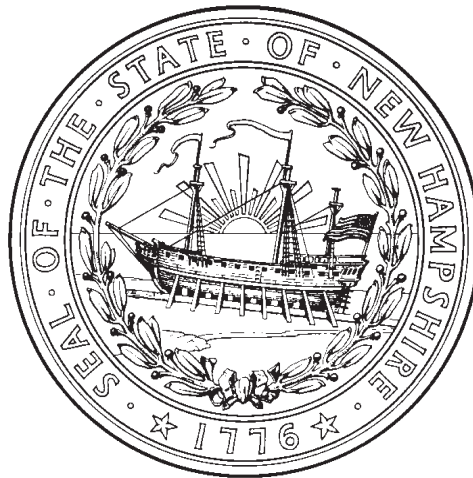
Senate Meeting Schedule Website Address:

<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

**THE SENATE WILL CONVENE ON WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 7, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M.**

Pursuant to Part 2, Article 3 of the New Hampshire Constitution, the Senate “shall assemble annually on the first Wednesday following the first Tuesday in January.”

**The Senate Session on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, in the Senate Chamber
will be live streamed at the following link:**

<https://youtube.com/live/TCp4IwR9OIc?feature=share>

**Please note, this link will not be live until the Senate Session on
Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.**

* * * * *

CONSENT CALENDAR REPORTS

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

HB 486-FN, relative to grandparents’ visitation rights.

Interim Study, Vote 3-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

HB486 expands the criteria for a court’s consideration of grandparent visitation to include periods of six months in which that grandparent was a primary caretaker and instances in which both parents are not residing in the same home, and exclude changes in the frequency of contact due to action by the parents. Due to these considerations potentially infringing on the newly expanded parental bill of rights, this bill was referred to interim study.

COMMERCE

SB 66-FN, relative to third-party veterans’ claims assistance and protection.

Interim Study, Vote 5-1.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

This bill would have prohibited the receipt of compensation for referring individuals to veterans’ benefits advisors, mandated written agreements for paid advisory services, required specific disclosures, and set penalties for violations. This bill sought to enact consumer protections for veterans, while also ensuring they had additional avenues of assistance available to them. To address concerns raised by various stakeholders, the Committee felt this bill needed additional work before it could move forward.

SB 82-FN, relative to the housing opportunity project extension and homes for homeland heroes grant program.

Interim Study, 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. Given the passage of other housing initiatives this session, and the fiscal impact of \$20 million, the Committee felt this bill was not necessary at this time.

SB 90, allowing high-density residential development on land zoned for commercial use.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 6-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

This bill would have authorized high-density residential development on commercially zoned land. Similar legislation, specifically HB 631-FN, has already been signed into law; therefore, the Committee felt this bill was no longer necessary.

SB 175, relative to the use of covenants by municipalities.

Interim Study, Vote 6-0.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

This bill would have granted municipalities the authority to enforce deed covenants while prohibiting municipalities and state government from requiring or encouraging covenants as a condition of zoning or land use approval, with exceptions made for workforce housing developments. Covenants are legal agreements that are written into a deed to maintain certain aesthetic and quality of life standards. Covenants are alternatives to zoning regulations, and may be more ethical and less arbitrary as they are agreed to by the buyer when purchasing the property. Typically, they are passed on with the deed unless there is an expiration date. With the passage of other housing legislation and the position of the NH Municipal Association that they do not want the authority to enforce covenants, the Committee felt this bill was not necessary at this time.

HB 410-FN, limiting local authority to adopt restrictions on the building and development of residential properties.

Interim Study, Vote 6-0.

Senator Fenton for the committee.

This bill would have prohibited the local adoption of extraordinary restrictions on residential property unless the restriction was narrowly tailored to serve a compelling government interest in public health or safety. With the passage of other housing legislation, the Committee felt this bill was not necessary at this time.

EDUCATION

SB 101-FN, authorizing parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

SB101-FN allows New Hampshire students to attend any public school in the state. It requires the average cost per pupil at the resident district school to be allocated to whichever school a student transfers to, requiring the parents/guardian of that student to pay the difference if the average cost per pupil is higher at the school the student is transferring to.

HB 68, making best interest placements within the same school district mandatory in the absence of a valid reason to deny the placement.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

HB 68 would require superintendents to approve student reassignment requests within the same school district unless a valid reason is provided. The bill also mandates that written explanations be given for denials and that failure to follow these procedures results in automatic approval of the request.

HB 208-FN, relative to certification requirements for school nurses.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

HB 208-FN allows superintendents and school boards to nominate and appoint school nurses, provided they are licensed and registered with the Board of Nursing. The bill removes prior certification requirements.

HB 222, repealing the requirement for a memorandum of understanding between a chartered public school and school district regarding how students with disabilities will receive special education services.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Altschiller for the committee.

HB 222 repeals the requirement for a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between chartered public schools and local school districts regarding how students with disabilities receive special education services. The bill is intended to reduce administrative burdens while preserving existing special education oversight and collaboration.

HB 431, establishing a commission to study the costs of special education.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

This bill establishes a commission to examine the cost of providing special education in public schools and to identify potential revenue sources the state could use to increase its share of funding, thereby reducing reliance on local property taxes.

HB 676, relative to the composition and responsibilities of the parent and education service provider advisory commission, and establishing education freedom account impact and parent satisfaction surveys.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Altschiller for the committee.

House Bill 676 sought to alter the composition and quorum requirements of the Parent and Education Service Provider Advisory Commission. Additionally, the bill would have required an Education Freedom Account Parent Satisfaction Survey to be administered by the scholarship organization independent of the Department of Education.

HB 741-FN, allowing parents to send their children to any school district they choose.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Ward for the committee.

House Bill 741-FN would establish a statewide open enrollment program, allowing parents to enroll their children in any public school in New Hampshire regardless of district residency. The bill outlines transfer policies, prohibits discrimination in admissions, and shifts 80% of per-pupil funding to the receiving district.

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

SB 220-FN, relative to public hearings and deliberation for the denial of tax exemptions.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gray for the committee.

SB 220 allows taxpayers to request a public hearing with the assessing official if their tax credit or exemption applications are denied. The bill's primary sponsor initially asked that it be referred back to the committee for further development. However, the committee does not consider the bill ready and recommends Inexpedient To Legislate on SB 220.

SB 223-FN, relative to using college or university student identification cards to obtain a ballot.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gray for the committee.

SB 223 proposes offering in-state tuition at any institution within the New Hampshire university or community college systems for students registered to vote in the state. The bill also aims to eliminate the use of student IDs as proof of identity for voting. During the hearing, testimony indicated that passing this bill could result in significant increases in tuition costs across the board. Consequently, the Committee on Election Law and Municipal Affairs recommends Inexpedient to Legislate on SB 223.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

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

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

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

SB 226-FN would have paused the approval of new landfill applications until July 1, 2031, allowing applications to be submitted but not processed. However, it did not affect existing landfills or approved expansions on sites permitted before December 1, 2022. The bill also created a committee to explore waste incineration as an alternative to landfills, studying its environmental impact and effects on landfill capacity. The Department of Environmental Services projected an annual increase of over \$2.5 million in municipal waste disposal expenses.

SB 231, relative to road frontage requirements and setbacks for wetlands.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 231 is intended to improve housing density by limiting road frontage requirements and setbacks for wetlands to no more than 50 feet. These changes ensure consistency with existing shoreland protection laws under RSA 483-B:9 and maintain compliance with environmental standards under RSA 489:2. By reducing restrictive zoning barriers, this bill intends to facilitate residential development while preserving environmental protections, supporting housing availability. However, the Senate Energy voted to rerefer the bill, stating that the language needs further refinement before it can be advanced.

HB 171, establishing a moratorium on the issuance of permits for new landfills.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 4-1.

Senator Avarð for the committee.

HB 171 establishes a moratorium on the issuance of permits for new landfills in New Hampshire. During the moratorium, the Department of Environmental Services may accept and review applications for completeness but cannot process them further. The bill would allow for expansions or modifications of existing landfills permitted before December 1, 2022, under specific conditions. The term “site” is defined to include parcels owned by landfill operators or affiliates as of that date.

HB 221, relative to assessment of cost effectiveness of the systems benefit charge.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-1.

Senator Avarð for the committee.

House Bill 221 as amended defines “advanced nuclear resource” (ANR) and includes ANR options alongside renewable energy for utility services, establishes investment limits for distributed generation, clarifies the nuclear development coordinator’s duties, authorizes multi-year energy RFPs with regional coordination, expands community solar capacity (including doubling the low-moderate income cap from 6 MW to 12 MW), and permits group net metering members to contract with multiple hosts within their total load.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

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

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

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

Interim Study, Vote 4-0.

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 decided, in order to address the outstanding technical issues previously identified, more time was needed to gather the relevant information.

SB 298-FN, relative to sober living house certification and operational standards.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 298-FN was written to address operational standards and the certification process of recovery residences in New Hampshire. The ED&A committee amended the bill to require recovery residences to be certified by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, guarantee posting of residents' rights and proof of certification. The amendment also provides enforcement authority to the Department of Health and Human Services.

SB 301, creating a joint legislative oversight committee.

Interim Study, Vote 4-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 301 creates the Joint Standing Oversight Committee. The Executive Departments and Administration Committee concluded the bill was duplicative given there is an existing committee with oversight and performance audit authority. While that committee had previously focused more on the latter than the former, this is no longer the case. It was decided the current oversight committee needs to continue its work before any further legislation on the subject is taken up.

HB 233, requiring meetings of the New Hampshire vaccine association to be audio and video recorded and published on its website within 48 hours.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

HB 233 requires the New Hampshire Vaccine Association to record its meetings in both audio and video format and to post those recordings on its website within 48 hours. The Committee voted Inexpedient to Legislate on this bill, as the Association has already implemented these transparency measures voluntarily, making the legislation unnecessary.

HB 470, relative to the use of general anesthesia, deep sedation, and moderate sedation in dental treatment.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

HB 470 modifies the rule making authority of the Board of Dental Examiners, including allowing dentists to administer moderate sedation to patients under the age of thirteen without a second anesthesia provider, provided they meet certain standards for doing so. Since this bill was introduced the Board of Dental Examiners has changed their rules setting specific competency parameters and a minimum number of cases per year (10) to maintain proficiency and permission to do these procedures, and the Committee feels comfortable with effects of those new rules. However, interim study allows the bill to serve as a vehicle should future action be necessary.

FINANCE

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

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 6-0.

Senator Gray for the committee.

This bill would require the state Medicaid program to cover ear acupuncture as a treatment for substance abuse. DHHS estimates the bill's overall impact on state funds to be between \$1 million - \$5 million. The Department has confirmed there is still no change in the level of evidence backing the treatment. In addition, current state revenues continue to lag behind estimates. Therefore, committee members were not in support of the bill.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SB 136-FN, establishing an uncompensated care assessment, fund, and committee within the department of insurance.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss 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 Committee recognizes that the issue of uncompensated care in mental health care is a priority, however, this approach is only one that needs full examination. At this time, the Committee feels it is best to recommend this bill for interim study while a comprehensive solution is developed.

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

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Rochefort for the committee.

This bill establishes certain safety and procedural requirements for clinician-administered drugs by addressing the issues of “brown bagging” and “white bagging”, which are often used to store and administer specialty medications. The Committee adopted an amendment crafted with sponsor and stakeholder collaboration that prohibits the practice of “brown bagging”, while setting clear guidelines on “white bagging” to ensure there is communication between payers and dispensing pharmacies.

HB 126, relative to prescriptions for certain controlled drugs.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Rochefort for the committee.

As amended, this bill clarifies exceptions to the 34-day limit on prescriptions for controlled drugs and permits a pharmacist to fill a prescription for a 92-day supply of injectable androgen prescribed for the treatment of chronic low testosterone. This bill expands previously passed legislation allowing for a 92-day supply of topically applied androgen for the treatment of chronic low testosterone to also include injectable androgen.

HB 705, relative to health care cost transparency.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Avard for the committee.

This bill requires health plans to disclose specific pricing information regarding covered items and services. The bill is contingent upon finalization of federal guidance under Presidential Executive Order 14221. This bill is an effort to improve transparency surrounding health insurance costs and leaves flexibility for the State to respond to forthcoming federal guidance appropriately.

JUDICIARY

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

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Altschiller for the committee.

Senate Bill 53-FN authorizes the use of natural organic reduction (NOR) as a method of final disposition of human remains. Given the novelty of the process and outstanding questions regarding licensing, inspection, and compliance standards, the committee recommends that the bill be referred to interim study to further review regulatory and public health considerations.

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

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 139-FN seeks to amend RSA 354-B but does not create a private civil right of action. Lawmakers cited concerns that the bill could increase costs, cause delays, and place an undue burden on the court system. The Senate Judiciary Committee has recommended referring the bill for interim study.

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

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Carson for the committee.

Senate Bill 142-FN seeks to establish the Department of Children’s Services and Juvenile Justice, providing the department with the duties and powers of the Division for Children, Youth and Families. Observing the need for technical changes and considerations, the Senate Judiciary Committee recommends that the bill be referred to interim study.

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.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 261-FN would require police to record all custodial interrogations conducted anywhere after the moment of detention. It creates a \$50,000 Electronic Equipment Acquisition Fund to help agencies buy recording equipment. Law enforcement officials expressed concern that the proposal would be unduly burdensome and could increase caseloads for county attorneys. The Senate Judiciary Committee recommends referring the bill for interim study.

SB 270, relative to allowing owners to gather items necessary for work from impounded vehicles.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Bill 270 would allow individuals to retrieve personal or work-related items, such as tools, from an impounded vehicle if accompanied by the vehicle's owner. While the committee agreed with the intent to prevent undue hardship, members raised concerns about verifying ownership of retrieved property and the potential liability for towing companies. The Senate Judiciary Committee recommends the bill for Interim Study to allow further review of these issues and to consider clearer safeguards.

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

Interim Study, Vote 4-1.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 289-FN clarifies procedures for the use, retention, and destruction of body-worn camera (BWC) recordings in criminal, juvenile, and administrative proceedings. The Senate Judiciary Committee recommends referring the bill to Interim Study to allow further review of how these evidentiary standards may interact with civil proceedings and broader privacy considerations.

HB 480, relative to restoration of competency to stand trial for criminal defendants.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

House Bill 480-FN directs the existing study committee on competency restoration to submit additional recommendations and establishes a 2-year pilot program within the Department of Health and Human Services to create one or more forensic liaison positions to assist in competency proceedings once funding becomes available. The Senate Judiciary Committee recommends passage of the bill as a first step toward addressing gaps in the state's competency restoration process while allowing implementation to proceed only when adequate funding is secured.

HB 697-FN, relative to witness fees in criminal cases.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

HB 697-FN seeks to provide mileage reimbursement for civilian witnesses in court proceedings when required to return to testify in the same proceeding. The Senate Judiciary Committee recommends that the bill be referred to interim study, given the unintended inclusion of additional compensation measures among other considerations.

HB 733-FN, relative to reporting requirements for persons or entities financing lawsuits.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Reardon for the committee.

House Bill 733-FN regulates third-party litigation financing by imposing disclosure and reporting requirements on entities that fund civil lawsuits. The committee recommends that the bill be referred to interim study to allow additional time to examine the implications of disclosure on confidentiality, attorney-client privilege, and the broader judicial process.

TRANSPORTATION

SB 39-FN, relative to establishing an alternative driver education program.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill would have established an alternative driver education program and authorized the Commissioner of Safety to develop and adopt rules to implement it. The Committee heard testimony indicating that long wait times for driver education courses can create barriers for residents seeking to obtain a driver's license. While the Department of Motor Vehicles has taken steps to reduce these delays, additional efforts are still needed. Accordingly, the Committee has recommended that the bill be referred for interim study.

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.

Interim Study, 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 recommended this bill for interim study.

SB 155-FN, relative to highway toll credits.

Interim Study, 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. The committee recommended this bill be referred for interim study.

HB 105-FN, creating a new conservation license plate and directing the additional fee to the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator McConkey for the committee.

This bill would have established a new conservation license plate to generate revenue for the Cyanobacteria Mitigation Loan and Grant Fund. The Committee recommended this bill for interim study, citing concerns that the new plate could interfere with the existing Moose Plate program.

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.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Fenton for the committee.

This bill proposed allowing drivers to request an extension of the fine payment period for certain motor vehicle violations from 30 days to 90 days upon a driver's request. The committee found that several aspects of the bill required additional clarification and refinement. As a result, the committee recommends referring the bill for interim study.

HB 452-FN, relative to the issuance of drivers' licenses for aliens temporarily residing in New Hampshire.

Interim Study, Vote 5-0.

Senator Ward for the committee.

This bill attempted to impose stricter requirements on the issuance and renewal of nonresident drivers' licenses, but it raised serious concerns about practicality, enforcement, and potential legal issues. The Committee recommends interim study because further work needed to have been done to address the lack of clarity, enforceability, and policy foundation.

REGULAR CALENDAR REPORTS

COMMERCE

SB 88-FN, prohibiting state government entities from including specified terms related to labor organization agreements in construction related contracts and grants.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-2.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

HB 639-FN, relative to the use of and disputes over blockchain and digital currencies.

Interim Study, Vote 4-2.

Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

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.

No Recommendation, Vote 3-3.

Senator Innis for the committee.

EDUCATION

SB 208-FN, requiring local school boards and public libraries to adopt curation policies.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 3-2.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

HB 292, establishing a commission to study school administrative unit consolidation.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.

Senator Ward for the committee.

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS**HB 340-FN**, relative to electioneering by public employees.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.

Senator Lang for the committee.

HB 481, relative to moving the state primary date.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Lang for the committee.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**HB 707-FN**, requiring the department of environmental services to revise the rules for proposed new landfills.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

HB 723-FN, repealing the multi-use energy data platform.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2.

Senator Avard for the committee.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**SB 183**, relative to membership of the Pease development authority board of directors.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 3-2.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

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

Interim Study, Vote 3-2.

Senator McGough for the committee.

JUDICIARY**HB 59-FN**, relative to the assault of a firefighter, emergency medical care provider, or law enforcement officer.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

HB 109-FN, relative to false reports to law enforcement.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

HB 191-FN, providing criminal and civil penalties for the transporting of an unemancipated minor in order to obtain a surgical procedure without parental permission.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2.

Senator Gannon for the committee.

WAYS AND MEANS**HB 451-FN**, establishing the paint product stewardship program.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2.

Senator Lang for the committee.

AMENDMENTS

Senate Executive Departments and Administration

October 7, 2025

2025-2992s

07/05

Amendment to SB 56

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

1 Purpose and Findings. The general court finds that:

I. The New Hampshire health and education facilities authority and the New Hampshire business finance authority perform similar and compatible financing and other functions that benefit New Hampshire citizens and communities, and the New Hampshire economy.

II. The combination of the functions of the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority with and into the New Hampshire business finance authority will achieve the continued delivery of effective government services supporting New Hampshire's economy and communities and will further realize significant efficiencies and opportunities for increased public impacts.

III. The board of directors of each organization have expressed their support for the combination of operations and staff into a single, unified enterprise focused on the continued growth and development of the New Hampshire economy.

2 Merger of the New Hampshire Health and Education Facilities Authority and the New Hampshire Business Finance Authority; Transfer of Powers and Duties.

I.(a) Effective on and after July 1, 2026, the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority ("HEFA"), as created by RSA 195-D:4, shall be merged with and into the New Hampshire business finance authority ("BFA"), without any further action, and the rights, powers and duties, and properties of the HEFA shall on and after such date be exercised, performed, owned and held by the BFA as created by RSA 162-A:3. All real estate, property rights, personal property, funds, moneys, revenues, receipts, contract rights, trust agreements, any rights or interests of HEFA in any trusts or trust property, or other intangible assets, equipment or other ownership, possessory, or security interests or mortgages of any kind whatsoever, or any portion thereof held by HEFA, including, without limitation, funds previously appropriated by the state for HEFA, shall be deemed for record notice and otherwise, as applicable, to belong to the BFA on the same basis and with the same interest as previously held by HEFA, as applicable. Any and all rights, obligations, and liabilities of HEFA shall become rights, obligations, and liabilities of the BFA. Any resolution taken by or commitment made by HEFA with respect to any financing, including loans, bond issuances, guarantees and insurance and any other action made by HEFA shall become resolutions of the BFA.

(b) All duly existing contracts, leases, trusts, or obligations of HEFA that are in force immediately before the effective date of the merger of HEFA with and into the BFA shall be deemed to be the contracts, leases, trusts, or obligations of the BFA. No existing right or remedy under any such contract, lease, trust, or obligation shall be lost, impaired or affected by this act. The BFA shall have authority on or after such date to exercise all rights and enjoy all interests conferred upon HEFA by all such contracts, leases, trusts, or obligations.

(c) The transfer of the assets, liabilities, obligations and debts of HEFA to the BFA under this act shall be effective upon merger of HEFA with and into the BFA and shall bind all persons with or without notice and without any further action or documentation. Without derogating from the foregoing, the BFA may, from time to time, execute and record and file for registration with any registry of deeds or with the secretary of state, as appropriate, a certificate confirming the BFA's ownership of any interest in real or personal property formerly held by HEFA and transferred pursuant to the provisions of this act and establishing and confirming the rights and limits of property so transferred.

(d) This act shall not limit or impair the rights, remedies, or defenses of the state, the BFA, or HEFA in or to any action or proceeding. Actions and proceedings against or on behalf of HEFA shall continue unabated and, from and after the date of dissolution of HEFA, may be completed against or by the BFA.

(e) Notwithstanding the foregoing, no existing rights of the holders of the bonds and notes issued by HEFA shall be impaired, and the BFA as successor in interest to HEFA shall comply with the covenants of the trust indentures and loan agreements and other applicable documentation pertaining to such bonds and notes so long as such bonds and notes shall remain outstanding, except to the extent the BFA may modify, amend, or waive such covenants with such consents and agreements of other parties as are required by the terms thereof.

(f) All orders, rules and regulations duly made and all approvals duly granted by HEFA, which are in force immediately before the effective date of this act, shall continue in force and the provisions thereof shall thereafter be enforced, until superseded, revised, rescinded or canceled, in accordance with law, by the BFA.

(g) All books, papers, records, documents, equipment, buildings, facilities, cash and other property and assets, both personal and real, whether or not electronic, including all such property and assets held in trust, which on July 1, 2026, are in the custody of HEFA shall be transferred to the BFA.

II. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the term the 'New Hampshire health and educational facilities authority' or 'HEFA', wherever either appears in a general or special law, except as they appear in this act, shall mean the 'New Hampshire business finance authority', including, but not limited to RSA 195-D and 195-E; provided, however, that such change of reference shall not restrict or limit in any manner the exercise by the BFA of its rights, powers, duties or purposes, or to its ownership and holding of properties and assets under RSA 162-A, RSA 162-I, RSA 162-S, RSA 162-T or any other provision of law applicable to the BFA, including without limitation the power of the BFA to issue bonds under said chapters RSA 162-A, RSA 162-I, RSA 162-S, RSA 162-T or under any such other provision.

III.(a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, this section shall facilitate the orderly transfer of the employees, proceedings, rules and regulations, property and legal obligations of the following functions of state government from HEFA to the BFA.

(b) The employees of HEFA are hereby transferred to the BFA, without interruption of service, salary or compensation, or benefits, if any, notwithstanding any change in title or duties resulting from such reorganization, and without loss of accrued rights to holidays, sick leave, vacation and benefits. Nothing in this section shall be construed to confer upon an employee a right not held immediately before the date of said transfer, or to prohibit a reduction of salary grade, transfer, reassignment, suspension, discharge, layoff or abolition of position not prohibited before July 1, 2026.

(c) All petitions, requests, investigations and other proceedings appropriately and duly brought before HEFA or duly begun by HEFA and pending before it before the effective date of this act, shall continue unabated and remain in force, but shall be assumed and completed by the BFA.

(d) All orders, rules and regulations duly made and all approvals duly granted by HEFA, including approvals for the issuance of bonds and granting of direct loans duly made by HEFA, which are in force immediately before the effective date of this act, shall continue in force and shall thereafter be enforced, until superseded, revised, rescinded or canceled, in accordance with law, by the BFA.

(e) All transfers under this section shall be completed by July 1, 2026.

3 New Paragraphs; Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority; Definitions. Amend RSA 162-A:2 by inserting after paragraph XVII the following new paragraphs:

XVIII. "Non-profit representative" means an individual (a) who is an officer, director, trustee, member, employee, or representative of, or (b) who has significant experience providing professional or financial services to, an organization that is exempt from federal taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

XIX. "Institution for education" means an educational institution which by virtue of law or charter is a public or other nonprofit educational institution empowered to provide a program of education; or an affiliate of any of the foregoing.

XX. "Education official" means an individual (a) who works for an institution for education, or (b) who has significant experience providing professional or financial services to an institution for education.

XXI. "Health care institution" means a hospital; nursing home; health maintenance organization; home health care provider; an institution providing a health care program; ambulatory care clinic; or an affiliate of any of the foregoing.

XXII. "Health care official" means an individual (a) who is an officer, director, trustee, member, employee, or representative of a health care institution, or (b) who has significant experience providing professional or financial services to a health care institution.

4 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority; Management. Amend RSA 162-A:4, I to read as follows:

I. The management of the authority shall be vested in a board of ~~[14]~~ **16** directors, who shall serve without compensation. The governor, with the consent of the council, shall appoint ~~[9]~~ **11** members of the board, who shall include ~~[an executive director of a regional planning commission and one elected or appointed local official]~~ ***a member who is an education official, a member who is a health care official, and a member who is a non-profit representative.*** The governor shall designate one of the board members as chairperson. Each board member appointed by the governor shall hold office for 3 years, or until a successor has been appointed. The state treasurer shall serve as a voting ex officio member of the board. Two members of the house of representatives, who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and 2 members of the senate, who shall be appointed by the president of the senate, shall serve as nonvoting members of the board. A director serving as a member of the house of representatives or as a member of the senate shall serve for a term ending when the general court dissolves.

5 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority Revenue Bonds; Definitions. Amend RSA 162-I:2, III to read as follows:

III. "Bond" means ~~[an evidence of indebtedness issued by the authority under this chapter to finance a project in whole or in part or to refund indebtedness incurred for that purpose]~~ ***any bond, note, or other***

obligation evidencing indebtedness issued or entered into or acquired or incurred by the authority under this chapter, including any certificate of participation or lease or lease-purchase, installment sale, or other financing agreement, and any refunding bond or other indebtedness with respect to a bond or any other evidence of indebtedness issued by the authority or another party.

6 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority Revenue Bonds; Definitions. Amend RSA 162-I:2, III-a to read as follows:

III-a. “Commercial facility” shall be an eligible facility and means any facility, ***whether tangible or intangible***, which is to be used in a trade or business whether or not such business is operated for profit.

7 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority Revenue Bonds; Definitions. Amend RSA 162-I:2, V to read as follows:

V. “Eligible facility” means a facility which consists of real property, personal property ~~[or both]~~ ***or other assets, or any combination thereof, whether tangible or intangible***. An eligible facility may include appurtenances and structures such as pumping machinery, storage accommodations, transportation facilities or utility lines which are incidental to the operation of the facility. If less than an entire eligible facility is to be financed under this chapter, the portion of the facility which is to be financed may also be called an eligible facility. ~~[An eligible facility shall also include any intangible property, such as patents or licenses, reasonably necessary for the operation of the facility.]~~

8 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority Revenue Bonds; Definitions. Amend RSA 162-I:2, VIII to read as follows:

VIII. “Project” means ***any capital improvement, purchase of receivables, property, assets, commodities, bonds, or other revenue streams or related assets, working capital program or liability or other insurance program. The term “project” shall include*** the creation, establishment, acquisition, construction, expansion, remodeling or replacement of an eligible facility, or of one or more structural or operational components of an eligible facility, financed by the issue of bonds under this chapter.

9 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority Revenue Bonds; Definitions. Amend RSA 162-I:2, IX(g) and (h) to read as follows:

(g) Interest prior to and during construction and, ~~[until one year after the completion of a project]~~ ***if determined advisable by the authority, for a period after completion of such construction the cost of financing the project, including interest on bonds and notes issued by the authority to finance a project;***

(h) Working capital, ***whether or not*** related to a project, ***or to an eligible facility***; and

10 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority Revenue Bonds; Security Documents. Amend RSA 162-I:7, II to read as follows:

II. ~~[Any assignment, pledge, mortgage or other encumbrance of all or part of the authority’s right to receive payments with respect to an eligible facility contained in a security document shall be fully effective and perfected from the time when the security document is executed with or without any subsequent physical delivery or segregation of the money and without any filing or recording under RSA 382-A or otherwise]~~ ***A pledge of property, revenues, or other collateral by the authority to secure the payment of principal or redemption price of, or interest on, any bonds, or any reimbursement or similar agreement with any provider of credit enhancement for bonds, or any swap or other agreement entered into in connection with bonds, is binding on the parties and on any successors. The collateral shall immediately be subject to the pledge, and the pledge shall constitute a lien and security interest which shall attach immediately to the collateral and be effective, binding, and enforceable against the pledgor, its successors, purchasers of the collateral, creditors, and all others, to the extent set forth, and in accordance with, the pledge document, irrespective of whether those parties have notice of the pledge and without the need for any physical delivery, recordation, filing or further act.***

11 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority; Bonds. Amend RSA 162-I:8, II to read as follows:

II. ~~[Every bond shall be signed on behalf of the authority by 2 persons designated by the board. Any person so designated shall be a member of the board, or the executive director, senior credit officer, or the chief financial officer of the authority. Each such signature may be manual or facsimile but at least one signature on every bond shall be manual, unless the bond bears a manual authentication or certification by a bank, trust~~

company or other financial institution described in RSA 162-I:12, in which case each signature on behalf of the authority may be facsimile. Interest coupons, if any, shall bear the facsimile signature of one of the persons signing the bond on behalf of the authority. Bonds shall also bear the seal of the authority or a facsimile of the seal. Bonds executed as provided in this paragraph shall be valid notwithstanding that any or all of the persons whose signatures appear on the bond shall have ceased to hold office before delivery of and payment for the bond.] ***Bonds shall be executed in the manner provided in the resolution therefor and may be executed by one person designated by the board, provided that such execution may be by facsimile so long as the bond is signed by an authentication agent appointed by the authority. Any person so designated to execute a bond shall be a member of the board, or the executive director, senior credit officer, non-profit bonding and lending officer, or the chief financial officer of the authority.***

12 Public Safety and Welfare; Business Finance Authority; Approval of Governor and Council. RSA 162-I:9 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

162-I:9 Approval of Governor and Council.

I. The authority shall not acquire any interest in a project or an eligible facility or execute any financing or security document or issue any bonds with respect to the project or facility, unless the governor and council have found after a hearing that the proposed financing, operation and use of the project or facility will serve a public use and provide a public benefit and have determined that the authority's financing of the project will be within the policy of, and the authority conferred by, this chapter.

II. Nothing in this section shall prevent the authority from giving preliminary official approval of a proposed project or eligible facility and the financing of the proposed project or eligible facility. The finding and determination by the governor and council may be made upon the written recommendation of the authority supported by any documentation and information which the governor and council may request.

13 Education; New Hampshire Health and Education Financing. Amend the chapter heading of RSA 195-D to read as follows:

CHAPTER 195-D

NEW HAMPSHIRE HEALTH AND EDUCATION [FACILITIES AUTHORITY] ***FINANCING***

14 Education; New Hampshire Health and Education Financing. Amend RSA 195-D:1 to read as follows:

195-D:1 Declaration of Policy. It is declared to be the policy of the state that for the benefit of the people of the state, the increase of their commerce, welfare, and prosperity and the improvement of their health and living conditions, it is essential that this and future generations of youths be given the fullest opportunity to learn and develop their intellectual and mental capacities; that it is essential that participating educational institutions within the state be provided with appropriate additional means to assist such youths in achieving the required levels of learning and development of their intellectual and mental capacities; that it is essential that participating health care institutions within the state be provided with appropriate additional means to expand, enlarge and establish health care and other related facilities; that it is essential that participating health care institutions and participating educational institutions within the state be encouraged and assisted in reducing the costs of providing health care or education; that it is essential that powers be conferred on the New Hampshire ~~[health and education facilities]~~ ***business finance*** authority as will assure the successful completion of projects to be initiated by the corporation or the refinancing of existing indebtedness as provided in this chapter so as to accomplish the purposes of this chapter all to the public benefit and good. It is further declared that the exercise by the corporation of the powers conferred on the corporation under this chapter will constitute the performance of an essential governmental function.

15 Education; New Hampshire Health and Education Financing; Citation. Amend RSA 195-D:2 to read as follows:

195-D:2 Citation. This chapter as amended may be referred to as and cited as the "New Hampshire ~~[Health and Education Facilities Authority]~~ ***Health and Education Financing Act***".

16 Reference Change to Business Finance Authority. Amend RSA 195-D:3, I to read as follows:

I. "Corporation" means the New Hampshire ~~[health and education facilities]~~ ***business finance*** authority created and established as a corporation and constituted and established as a public body corporate and agency of the state under RSA ~~[195-D:4]~~ ***162-A:3***, or any board, body, commission, department, or officer succeeding to the principal functions thereof or to whom the powers conferred upon the corporation by this chapter shall be given by law.

17 Loan Corporations; Definition of Authority; Reference Change to Business Finance Authority. Amend RSA 195-E:2, I to read as follows:

I. “Authority” means the New Hampshire ~~[health and education facilities]~~ **business finance** authority, established under RSA ~~[195-D:4]~~ **162-A:3**.

18 Term Change; New Hampshire Business Finance Authority. Amend the following RSAs by replacing references made to “health and education facilities authority” with “business finance authority”: RSA 195-D:23; 195-E:1; and 541-A:21, I(v).

19 Repeal. RSA 195-D:4, relative to the establishment of the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority, is repealed.

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

2025-2992s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

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

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

Senate Commerce

October 30, 2025

2025-3069s

07/08

Amendment to SB 88-FN

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

2 New Section; Prohibition on Discriminatory Contract and RFP Provisions. Amend RSA 21-I by inserting after section 114 the following new section:

21-I:114-a Prohibition on Discriminatory Contract and RFP Provisions. No state agency shall issue an RFP or enter into or review any contract, construction grant, or related agreement that includes any provision that favors or disfavors a contractor based on their affiliation or non-affiliation with a labor organization, ensuring the state shall be neutral and shall not discriminate on the basis of labor affiliation.

Senate Health and Human Services

October 22, 2025

2025-3029s

05/09

Amendment to SB 256-FN

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

AN ACT establishing safety and care requirements for clinician-administered drugs.

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

1 New Subdivision; Managed Care Law; Clinician-Administered Drugs. Amend RSA 420-J by inserting after section 26 the following new subdivision:

Clinician-Administered Drugs

420-J:27 Definition of Clinician-Administered Drug. In this subdivision, “clinician-administered drug” means an outpatient prescription drug, other than a vaccine, that:

I. Cannot reasonably be self-administered by the patient to whom the drug is prescribed or by an individual assisting the enrollee with self-administration; and

II. Is typically administered:

(a) By a health care professional authorized under the laws of this state to administer the drug, including when acting under a physician's delegation and supervision; and

(b) In a physician's office, hospital outpatient infusion center, or other clinical setting.

420-J:28 Safety, Care, and Choice Requirements for Clinician-Administered Drugs.

I. No health insurer or pharmacy benefit manager shall mandate that a clinician-administered drug be dispensed by a pharmacy selected by the insurer or PBM and delivered to a provider for administration ("white bagging"), unless:

(a) There is a written agreement between the provider and the dispensing pharmacy outlining responsibilities for each party including, but not limited to, procedures for delivery, handling, storage, and liability; and

(b) The provider has given prior written consent to use that arrangement.

II. No health insurer or pharmacy benefit manager shall mandate that a pharmacy dispense a clinician-administered drug to a patient for transport to a health care provider for administration ("brown bagging"), unless:

(a) There is a written attestation from the patient and provider that transporting the medication will not compromise care.

(b) The patient and provider have given prior written consent to use that arrangement.

III. Pursuant to paragraphs I and II, a health carrier or pharmacy benefit manager shall not:

(a) Interfere with the enrollee's right to choose to obtain a clinician-administered drug from their provider or pharmacy of choice.

(b) Limit or exclude coverage for a clinician-administered drug when not dispensed by a pharmacy selected by the health carrier, if such drug would otherwise be covered.

(c) Require that an enrollee pay an additional fee, higher copay, higher coinsurance, second copay, second coinsurance, or any other form of price increase for clinician-administered drugs when not dispensed by a pharmacy selected by the health carrier or pharmacy benefit manager.

(d) Condition, deny, restrict, refuse to authorize or approve, or reduce payment to a participating health care provider for providing covered clinician-administered drugs and related services to covered persons when all criteria for medical necessity are met, because the participating health care provider obtains clinician-administered drugs from a pharmacy that is not a participating provider in the health carrier's network or managed or owned by the pharmacy benefit manager.

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

2025-3029s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes certain safety and procedural requirements for clinician-administered drugs.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration

December 3, 2025

2025-3105s

05/08

Amendment to SB 298-FN

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

AN ACT relative to certification of recovery residences.

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

1 New Paragraph; Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse; Definitions. Amend RSA 172-B:1 by inserting after paragraph XIII the following new paragraph:

XIII-a. “Recovery residence” means a home-like environment for individuals recovering from substance use disorder that provides an alcohol-free and drug-free living environment or any business holding themselves out as recovery housing, sober living, or a recovery residence.

2 Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse; Provision of Services; Acceptance Into Treatment. Amend RSA 172-B:2, V-VII to read as follows:

V.(a) The commissioner shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to establishing and providing for the administration of a ~~[voluntary registration]~~ **certification** program for operators of ~~[certified]~~ recovery **residences** ~~[housing seeking registration]~~ in the state of New Hampshire. The rules developed for the administration of the ~~[registration]~~ **certification** program shall include:

(1) A process for receiving complaints against certified recovery **residences** ~~[housing operators]~~.

(2) **A process for** certification by a certifying entity designated by the commissioner that is based on nationally recognized standards including, but not limited to, documents to show the recovery ~~[house]~~ **residence** meets minimum safety and recovery standards including, but not limited to health, building, zoning, and fire inspection approvals, proof of insurance, resident agreement, emergency procedures, and policies and procedures addressing grievances, non-discrimination, code of ethics, and safe storage of medication.

(3) Criteria by which the department may **revoke certification of** ~~[exclude]~~ a residence ~~[from the list]~~ if the frequency or severity of complaints received supports a determination that the recovery ~~[housing]~~ **residence** at issue does not maintain standards or provide an environment that appropriately supports recovery.

(4) Resident rights, a certificate of certification, and grievance procedures shall be posted within the residence for residents to review.

(5) Enforcement actions, including the administration of fines, and suspension or revocation of certification for failing to comply with this chapter and the rules adopted thereunder.

(6) The process for establishment of recovery residences.

VI. The department shall prepare, publish, and disseminate a list of **all certified** recovery **residences, to be publicly published** ~~[housing pursuant to paragraph V]~~. A state agency or vendor with a state or federally funded contract that is providing treatment or recovery support services to a person shall not refer the person to **a** recovery ~~[housing]~~ **residence** unless the recovery ~~[housing]~~ **residence** is certified pursuant to paragraph V.

VII.(a) The commissioner or designee shall designate an entity to serve as the certifying body for a ~~[voluntary]~~ certification program for recovery residences based upon nationally recognized standards. The certifying body shall establish and implement a certification program for recovery residences that maintain nationally recognized standards that:

(1) Uphold industry best practices and support a safe, healthy, and effective recovery environment;

(2) Evaluate the residence’s ability to assist persons in achieving long-term recovery goals;

(3) Protect residents of recovery residences against unreasonable and unfair practices in setting and collecting fee payments; and

(4) Verify good standing with regard to local, state, and federal laws and any regulations and ordinances including, but not limited to, building, maximum occupancy, fire safety and sanitation codes.

(b) The certifying body shall investigate complaints received by the department regarding non-compliance with ~~[NARR]~~ **nationally recognized** standards. The certifying body shall provide an annual report to the department, and shall report quarterly on any newly certified ~~[houses]~~ **residences** or ~~[houses]~~ **residences** that are out of compliance. ~~[The certifying body shall inform the department within 5 business days if a recovery house’s certification is suspended or revoked.]~~

~~(c) The department shall identify certified recovery houses in good-standing on the registry created pursuant to paragraph V.~~

~~(d) The department shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to the process for certification and the requirements of this paragraph.]~~

VIII. All recovery residences operating in the state of New Hampshire shall file with the department, on a form prescribed by the department, within 120 days of the effective date of this section to

initiate the certification process. For any recovery housing residence that begins operations after the effective date of this section, the required form shall be filed with the department no later than 30 days after the first resident begins occupancy. The following information shall be included on the form:

- (a) The name and contact information of the operator;*
- (b) The first date of occupancy;*
- (c) Information related to any existing certification or equivalent accreditation the residence has obtained or is in the process of obtaining; and*
- (d) Any other information required by the department through rule.*

IX. All recovery residences operating within the state of New Hampshire shall obtain and maintain certification directly or through a contracted entity pursuant to the rules adopted under this chapter and the following:

(a) Certification shall be completed within 12 months of filing. A recovery residence shall not operate without certification unless it is actively engaged in efforts to obtain certification. For purposes of identifying this 12-month time frame, a recovery housing residence is considered to begin operating on the date that the first resident occupies the residence.

(b) If the department finds that a recovery residence is operating without certification, the department shall issue by certified mail a cease operations notice. The department shall notify the attorney general for prosecution.

(c) No person, business, or government entity shall advertise or represent any residence or other building to be a recovery residence, sober living home, or any other alcohol and drug free housing for persons recovering from substance use disorder unless the residence or building meets one of the following conditions:

- (1) The residence or building is certified under this chapter;*
- (2) The residence or building is regulated and licensed by the department; or*
- (3) The residence is an Oxford House.*

3 State Board of Fire Control; Exemption for Recovery Residences. Amend RSA 153:10-d to read as follows:

153:10-d Exemption for Recovery [Houses] **Residences**.

I. An owner or operator of a recovery [house] **residence** which is in compliance with rules adopted by the commissioner of health and human services under RSA 172-B:2, V for the [voluntary] registry for operators of recovery [houses] **residences** [or who is certified by the New Hampshire Coalition of Recovery Residences] may apply to the state fire marshal and maybe granted an exemption under RSA 153:5, IV from certain requirements of the state fire code, provided the following requirements are in place:

- (a) A properly maintained electrical system.
- (b) A properly maintained heating system, inspected and tagged annually by a qualified service technician, including a domestic sprinkler head over the unit and smoke separation from living area.
- (c) Properly maintained cooking appliances.
- (d) Street number of the recovery [house] **residence** posted and visible from the street.
- (e) No smoking within 10 feet of the building unless approved by the local fire department.
- (f) A written evacuation plan submitted to and approved by the local fire department.
- (g) Monthly evacuation drills must be conducted with documentation available for review onsite.
- (h) Basement living spaces shall have an exit directly to grade.
- (i) The facility shall have a minimum of 50 gross square feet per bed per sleeping room.
- (j) At least one escape window in each sleeping room. An escape window shall comply with the state fire marshal's most recent informational bulletin document relative to size and dimensions.

(k) Installed interconnected smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, electrically powered with battery backup, on each level and in each sleeping room. Ten-year battery alarms with wireless interconnectivity may be substituted for electrically powered alarms. For occupancies exceeding 8 occupants, the installation of a complete fire alarm system, with carbon monoxide detection, including automatic notification to the local fire department shall be required.

(l) Annual compliance inspection by the local fire department.

(m) If the travel distance to an exit is greater than 75 feet, or for occupancies with living space above the second floor regardless of travel distance, there shall be 2 remote means of egress from each floor.

(n) A 24-hour emergency contact person with contact information and the approved building occupant load shall be posted in the common area of the building so it is readily visible to the fire department.

II. In this section, “recovery [house] **residence**” means ***as defined in RSA 172-B:1, XIII-a*** ~~[a residence that provides a safe, healthy, family-like, substance-free living environment that supports individuals in recovery from addiction and is centered on peer support and a connection to services that promote long-term recovery; provided that “recovery housing” shall not include a halfway house or any other facility requiring a license pursuant to RSA 151].~~

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

2025-3105s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the development of a certification process for recovery residences.

Senate Judiciary
November 5, 2025
2025-3083s
09/08

Amendment to HB 59-FN

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

2 New Subparagraph; Criminal Code; Second Degree Assault; Elements of Offense. Amend RSA 631:2, I by inserting after subparagraph (f) the following new subparagraph:

(g) Knowingly causes bodily injury to a law enforcement officer, a paid firefighter, volunteer firefighter, on-call firefighter, or licensed emergency medical care provider as defined in RSA 153-A:2, V, acting in the line of duty; or commits such an act against a law enforcement officer whether or not the officer is on duty, where the purpose was to harm the officer because of his or her present or previous employment as a law enforcement officer.

3 Extended Term of Imprisonment. Amend RSA 651:6, I(g) to read as follows:

(g) Has knowingly committed or attempted to commit any of the crimes defined in RSA 631, ***other than a violation of RSA 631:1, I(e) or RSA 631:2, I(g)***, where he or she knows the victim was, at the time of the commission of the crime, a law enforcement officer, a paid firefighter, volunteer firefighter, on-call firefighter, or licensed emergency medical care provider as defined in RSA 153-A:2, V acting in the line of duty;

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

Senate Judiciary
November 5, 2025
2025-3085s
09/05

Amendment to HB 109-FN

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

1 Criminal Code; False Reports to Law Enforcement. Amend RSA 641:4 to read as follows:

641:4 False Reports to Law Enforcement.

A person is guilty of a **class A** misdemeanor if he **or she**:

I. Knowingly gives or causes to be given false information to any law enforcement officer with the purpose of inducing such officer to believe that another has committed an offense; or

II. Knowingly gives or causes to be given information to any law enforcement officer concerning the commission of an offense, or the danger from an explosive or other dangerous substance, knowing that the offense or danger did not occur or exist or knowing that he **or she** has no information relating to the offense or danger.

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

2025-3085s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill enhances the penalty for the offense of false reports to law enforcement from a misdemeanor to a class A misdemeanor.

Senate Health and Human Services

October 22, 2025

2025-3030s

05/05

Amendment to HB 126

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

1 Controlled Drug Act; Sale by Pharmacist; Prescription Restrictions and Exceptions. RSA 318-B:9, IV is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

IV. No prescription shall be filled for more than a 34-day supply upon any single filling for controlled drugs of schedules II or III, except as specified below:

(a) For schedule II or III controlled drugs that are commercially packaged for dispensing directly to the patient, such as metered sprays and inhalers, liquids packaged in bottles with calibrated droppers, and topical preparations packaged with metered dispensing pumps, may be filled for greater than a 34-day supply, but not more than 60 days, utilizing the smallest available product size, in order to maintain the dosing integrity of the commercially packaged containers.

(b) A prescription for amphetamines and methylphenidate hydrochloride may be filled for up to a 90-day supply if the prescription specifies it is being used for the treatment of attention deficit disorder, attention deficit disorder with hyperactivity, or narcolepsy.

(c) Prescriptions for a topically applied androgen prescribed for the treatment of chronic low testosterone may be filled for up to a 92-day supply.

(d) Prescriptions for an injectable androgen prescribed for the treatment of chronic low testosterone may be filled for up to a 92-day supply.

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

2025-3030s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill clarifies exceptions to the 34-day limit on prescriptions for controlled drugs and permits a pharmacist to fill a prescription for a 92-day supply of injectable androgen prescribed for the treatment of chronic low testosterone.

Senate Judiciary

November 5, 2025

2025-3084s

09/05

Amendment to HB 191-FN

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

AN ACT providing criminal penalties for the transporting of an unemancipated minor in order to obtain a surgical procedure or a termination of the minor's pregnancy without parental permission.

Amend RSA 633:4-a, I as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. A person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor if such person intentionally transports a unemancipated minor within this state for the purpose of obtaining a surgical procedure for the minor or a termination of the minor's pregnancy without the express written consent of the minor's parent or guardian.

Amend RSA 633:4-a, IV(b)-(d) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(b) A person who has obtained the written consent of the unemancipated minor's parent or legal guardian;

(c) A common carrier transporting passengers in the course and scope of their business;

(d) An ambulance driver or operator and any corresponding emergency medical services personnel acting within the course and scope of their duties; or

(e) A person who is not emergency medical services personnel transporting an unemancipated minor in the case of a medical emergency that requires immediate medical attention.

Amend the bill by deleting section 2 and renumbering the original section 3 to read as 2.

2025-3084s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides criminal penalties for transporting an unemancipated minor without parental consent for the purpose of obtaining a surgical procedure or a termination of the minor's pregnancy.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources

October 24, 2025

2025-3044s

06/05

Amendment to HB 221

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

AN ACT enabling electric utilities to own, operate, and offer advanced nuclear resources, and relative to purchased power agreements for electric distribution utilities and limitations on community customer generators.

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

1 Findings and Purpose. The general court finds that:

I. The cost of electricity supply in New Hampshire is higher than the national average and continues to create an economic burden on the state's citizens and businesses.

II. The cost of electricity in New England is driven by a number of factors, including the retirements of baseload generation resources, lack of adequate natural gas capacity in the winter, and increases in the cost of natural gas due to international factors.

III. The retention of and development of reliable sources of low-cost electricity supply is critical to stabilizing and reducing the cost of electricity in New Hampshire.

IV. Market volatility is harming New Hampshire's residents and businesses.

V. To ensure that New Hampshire ratepayers can benefit from cost-effective energy sources, the general court finds that it is appropriate to allow the electric distribution utilities to issue requests for proposals to provide more diverse and long-term options for providing energy service to customers.

2 Coordination of Studies and Development Activities; Position Established. Amend RSA 162-B:4, III to read as follows:

III. The coordinator of nuclear development and regulatory activities shall have the duty to coordinate and produce the reports required by RSA 162-B:3, as well as coordinate the studies conducted, and the recommendations

and proposals made, in this state with like activities in New England and other states and with the policies and regulations of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. *These activities may include the management of funding and oversight of nuclear incentive programs, such as those described by RSA 374-G:4, as well as outreach programs to inform and educate the public, particularly regarding safety.*

3 Net Metering. Amend RSA 362-A:9, III and IV to read as follows:

III. Metering shall be done in accordance with normal metering practices. A single net meter that shows the customer's net energy usage by measuring both the inflow and outflow of electricity internally shall be the extent of metering that is required at facilities with a total peak generating capacity of not more than ~~[100]~~ **500** kilowatts. A bidirectional metering system that records the total amount of electricity that flows in each direction from the customer premises, either instantaneously or over intervals of an hour or less, shall be required at facilities with a total peak generating capacity of more than ~~[100]~~ **500** kilowatts. The bidirectional system may consist of one or more meters, as long as it can be used to appropriately meter and bill in compliance with utility tariffs and rules. Customer-generators shall not be required to pay for the installation of net meters, but shall pay for the installation of, or procure at their own cost if approved by the interconnecting utility, all bidirectional metering systems as outlined in utility interconnection tariffs or rules.

IV.(a) For facilities with a total peak generating capacity of not more than ~~[100]~~ **500** kilowatts, when billing a customer-generator under a net energy metering tariff that is not time-based, the utility shall apply the customer's net energy usage when calculating all charges that are based on kilowatt hour usage. Customer net energy usage shall equal the kilowatt hours supplied to the customer over the electric distribution system minus the kilowatt hours generated by the customer-generator and fed into the electric distribution system over a billing period.

(b) For facilities with a total peak generating capacity of more than ~~[100]~~ **500** kilowatts, the customer-generator shall pay all applicable charges on all kilowatt hours supplied to the customer over the electric distribution system, less a credit on default service charges equal to the metered energy generated by the customer-generator and fed into the electric distribution system over a billing period.

4 Net Energy Metering. Amend RSA 362-A:9, XIV(e) to read as follows:

XIV.(e) The department of energy, by rule or order, shall develop a process by which community solar developers can apply for designation as a community solar project for new solar arrays. Such projects designate their production for the benefit of households on the list required in subparagraph (d). Such projects will qualify for the low-moderate income solar addition as established in subparagraph (c) and shall specify the amount of on-bill credit they can offer to low-moderate income households. Annually, the number of projects designated as low-moderate income community solar shall not exceed a total nameplate capacity rating of ~~[6]~~ **12** megawatts in the aggregate. If more than ~~[6]~~ **12** megawatts of projects apply for designation, the department of energy shall select the projects that offer the largest on-bill credit and that demonstrates project readiness.

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

II-a. "Advanced nuclear resource" (ANR) means generation IV nuclear technologies that include gas-cooled, lead-cooled, sodium-cooled, supercritical water-cooled, and molten salt and very high temperature reactors, small modular, thermal-only, and encased fuel pellets reactors, including any micro, mini, or small nuclear reactor having a generating capacity between 0 and 300 megawatts.

6 Definitions. Amend RSA 362-F:2, X-a to read as follows:

X-a. "Low-moderate income community solar project" means ground-mounted or rooftop solar arrays *with a total peak generating capacity of up to and including 3 megawatts*, that directly benefit a group of at least 5 residential end-user customers, where at least a majority of the residential end-user customers are at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, or directly benefit the residents of a public housing authority created pursuant to RSA 203, or a housing project as described in RSA 78-B:2, XXIII, where the electric bills are either paid directly by the residents or by the public housing authority or housing project, provided that at least a majority of the residents receiving the direct benefit are at or below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) calculated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. No more than 15 percent of the projected load for such project shall be attributable to non-residential end-user customers.

7 Purchased Power Agreements. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 374-F:11, I to read as follows:

I. Investor-owned electric distribution utilities may elect to develop and, no later than June 30, [2025] **2040**, 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.

8 Purchased Power Agreements. Amend RSAv, 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.

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

(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.

(4) 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 3 million megawatt hours statewide, on an annual basis, if it finds such agreements to be just and reasonable and in the public interest.

(5) Further, any single source shall be eligible to procure an amount of energy not to exceed 1 million megawatt hours statewide, on an annual basis, except for advanced nuclear resources as defined in RSA 374-F:2, II-a, which may procure an amount not to exceed 2 million megawatt hours on an annual basis.

10 Purchased Power Agreements. Amend the introductory paragraph for RSA 374-F:11, II 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] **2041**.

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

2025-3044s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Defines “advanced nuclear resource” (ANR) and includes ANR options alongside renewable energy sources for utility services.

II. Sets limitations and guidelines for investments in distributed electric generation.

III. Clarifies the coordinator’s duties in nuclear development and regulatory activities.

IV. Allows the department of energy or the electric distribution utilities, or both, to issue requests for proposals (RFPs) for multi-year agreements for energy, in conjunction with or independent of any attendant environmental attributes from electric energy sources, and coordinate with one or more New England states in issuing this RFP.

V. Modifies the scope and capacity limits of community solar projects, including expanding the annual cap for low-moderate income community solar projects from 6 MW to 12 MW.

VI. Allows group net metering members to sign agreements with multiple group hosts, as long as their combined allocated load does not exceed their total load.

Senate Education
November 20, 2025
2025-3101s
07/08

Amendment to HB 292

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

AN ACT establishing a revolving loan fund for school districts.

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

1 New Subparagraph; The State and Its Government; State Treasurer; Application of Receipts. Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (410) the following new subparagraph:

(411) Moneys deposited in the school district adequacy revolving loan fund established in RSA 194:63.

2 New Subdivision; School District; Funding. Amend RSA 194 by inserting after section 61 the following new subdivision:

School District; Funding

194:62 Declaration of Intent. The intent of this subdivision is to provide a targeted, temporary fiscal stabilization mechanism through the establishment of a school district adequacy revolving loan fund administered by the state treasury to assist the district with cash flow in anticipation of adequacy payments owed to them by the state pursuant to RSA 198:40-a and paid under the schedule set forth in RSA 198:42.

194:63 School District Adequacy Revolving Loan Fund. There is hereby established in the department of treasury a fund to be known as the school district adequacy revolving loan fund, which shall be kept separate and distinct from all other funds. Moneys in the fund shall be nonlapsing and shall be continually appropriated to the treasury, and shall be used to provide loans to school districts.

194:64 Outstanding Loan Amount. At no time shall the total outstanding amount of loans made under this subdivision exceed 75 percent of total adequacy funding to be distributed to school districts, pursuant to RSA 198:41, in any given year.

194:65 Certification of Disclosure. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the school district adequacy revolving loan fund shall be considered an allowable use of the education trust fund pursuant to RSA 198:39. Moneys may be appropriated from the education trust fund to the school district adequacy revolving loan fund, with such funds then being loaned to school districts. Prior to the school district drawing upon the adequacy revolving loan fund, the governing body of the school district shall authorize such use of the fund by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members present and voting. Additionally, prior to drawing any funds from the revolving loan fund, the school board and superintendent shall file with the department of education a certification disclosing any activity in the preceding 2 fiscal years relative to reimbursement anticipation notes issued pursuant to RSA 198:20-d. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant from the education trust fund to be placed in the school district adequacy revolving loan fund within a fiscal year not to exceed the sum of the following:

I. Seventy-five percent of total adequacy funding to be distributed to the applying school district pursuant to RSA 198:41 within the fiscal year of the warrant; and

II. Seventy-five percent of the district's total adequacy funding estimated by the department of education to be distributed on September 1 of the following fiscal year pursuant to RSA 198:41, IV and RSA 198:42, I.

194:66 Loan Terms and Interest. Loans issued from the school district adequacy revolving loan fund shall bear interest at a rate established by the state treasurer, which shall be based on the state's current cost of borrowing. A quorum of a school district's governing body, the commissioner of the department of education, and the state treasurer shall all agree to the terms of the loan which shall include terms requiring the school district to report monthly deficit, status, cashflows, audits and status of any outstanding audits to the treasury, the department of revenue and the department of education, and timely submit all required reports consistent with RSA 198:4-d to the department of education. When an adequacy payment is due to be distributed pursuant to RSA 198:42:

I. The portion of the adequacy payment equivalent to the outstanding principal and interest balance of the revolving loan shall first be credited against such balance; and

II. Any remaining adequacy payment shall then be distributed to school districts.

III. If the commissioner of the department of education and the state treasurer determine that a school district fail to comply with loan terms pursuant to this section, a school district's ability to receive future loan funds shall be withheld until the school district complies with required loan terms received and accepted by the commissioner of the department of education and the state treasurer.

194:67 Loan Conditions.

I. Funding under the school district adequacy revolving loan fund shall be available to any school district that makes a request and receives approval from the commissioner of the department of education, the state treasurer, and the joint fiscal committee of the general court.

II. Interest rates for funding received under the school district adequacy revolving loan fund shall be determined by the state treasurer, but shall be no lower than the effective federal funds rate (EFFR) published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

III. Funds received under the school district adequacy revolving loan fund may be used to fulfill the obligations under a revenue anticipation note or tax anticipation note, but no school district shall receive funds if they would still have an outstanding obligation under a revenue anticipation note or a tax anticipation note.

IV. No school district shall apply for loans under the school district adequacy revolving loan fund for more than 3 consecutive academic years.

V. No school may submit a new application for funds under the school district adequacy revolving loan fund after June 30, 2030.

194:67 Condition for Acceptance.

I. School districts shall report monthly deficit, status, cash flows, audits, and the state of any outstanding audits to the legislative budget assistant of the general court, the state treasurer, the commissioner of the department of education, the commissioner of the department of revenue administration, the governor, the president of the senate, and the speaker of the house of representatives.

II. A school district that accepts funding under this subdivision shall be referred to the joint fiscal committee of the general court, who shall require that a financial and performance audit of the district be performed by the legislative budget assistant, to be reviewed by the joint fiscal committee, unless the committee unanimously votes that an audit of the school district should not be conducted.

III. Any school district participating in this program shall place a question of whether to adopt the provision of RSA 32:5-b on the ballot at its next annual school district meeting, unless the school district has already adopted the provisions of RSA 32:5-b.

IV. Any school district within a school administrative unit that is comprised on 2 or more school districts and participates in the school district adequacy revolving loan fund shall place a question of whether to adopt the provisions of RSA 194-C:9-a on its local ballot at its next annual school district meeting, unless the school district has already adopted the provisions of RSA 194 C:9-a.

194:68 Default. A school district's failure to fulfill all of the obligations and conditions of this subdivision shall constitute default. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the state treasurer shall orchestrate the return of all outstanding loan proceeds and withhold any other funds or state grants from the school district in default until the default is cured and the school district has repaid the loan in full.

3 New Paragraph; Education; Adequate Education; Education Trust Fund; Education Trust Fund Created and Established. Amend RSA 198:39 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

V. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, funds under this section may be used for the purpose of funding the school district adequacy revolving loan fund established in RSA 194:63.

4 Education; Education Freedom Accounts; Definitions. RSA 194-F:1, XIII is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

XIII. "Priority guidelines" means the ordered list:

- (a) A student currently enrolled in the EFA program;
- (b) A sibling of a student currently enrolled in the EFA program;
- (c) A child with disabilities as defined by RSA 186-C:2;
- (d) A student whose family income is less than or equal to 350 percent of the federal poverty guidelines as updated annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services under 42 U.S.C. section 9902(2).
- (e) A student residing in a school district participating in school district adequacy revolving loan fund.

5 Department of Education; Directive. The department of education shall amend rule 510.03(b), pursuant to RSA 541-A, to read as follows:

“(b) Unprofessional conduct shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Gross financial mismanagement;
- (2) Misappropriation of public funds; and
- (3) Failure to account for public funds or to keep adequate records of public funds in the credential holder’s care.”

6 Repeals. The following shall be repealed:

- I. RSA 6:12, I(b)(411), relative to moneys received by the school district adequacy revolving loan fund.
- II. RSA 194:62 through RSA 194:67, relative to the school district adequacy revolving loan fund.
- III. RSA 198:39, V, relative to the use of education trust funds for the school district adequacy revolving loan fund.

7 Effective Dates.

- I. Section 6 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2030.
- II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

2025-3101s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a revolving loan fund for school districts.

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs
October 27, 2025
2025-3053s
08/09

Amendment to HB 340-FN

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

1 Electioneering by Public Employees. RSA 659:44-a is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

659:44-a Electioneering by Public Employees.

I. No public employee shall electioneer while in the performance of his or her official duties. For purposes of this section, “public employee” shall have the same meaning as in RSA 273-A:1, IX; except that, notwithstanding RSA 273-A:1, IX(b), a person appointed to office by the chief executive or legislative body of the public employer shall also be included in the definition of public employee.

II. No public employee shall use any government property or equipment, including, but not limited to, telephones, facsimile machines, vehicles, and computers, for electioneering.

III. For the purposes of this section, “electioneer” means to visibly display or audibly disseminate information by a public employee while in the performance of his or her official duties that a reasonable person would believe expressly advocates for or against a candidate, political party or warrant article by:

(a) Distributing or posting a card, handbill, poster, placard, picture, pin, sticker, circular, or any other form of communication that expressly advocates for or against any candidate, political party, or warrant article during an officially declared election period.

(b) Making public statements in favor of or against any candidate, political party, or warrant article. This does not include acts or statements which are part of the public employee’s official duties, including but not limited to a department head commenting on his or her department’s budget, describing the effect of a warrant article on his or her department or the town or city clerk preparing a voter guide.

(c) Organizing or conducting surveys, questionnaires, forums, or events that expressly advocate for or against any candidate, political party, or warrant article.

(d) Using official authority or influence to interfere with or affect the vote of a voter.

IV. Nothing in this section shall prohibit:

(a) Lawful participation by candidates, political parties, or private groups in public parades, fairs, festivals, or similar events, including the display of campaign materials or the solicitation of voter support, provided such participation is conducted in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and does not intentionally favor one candidate, party, or warrant article over another.

(b) The use of public spaces or facilities by private individuals, groups, or organizations for lawful political activities, provided such use is not facilitated or promoted by public employees beyond standard administrative support necessary for access and use of the space and follows any relevant ordinance or law where applicable.

(c) Public employees engaging in strictly neutral voter registration drives or activities limited to general election awareness, such as announcing election dates or polling locations, without any reference to or discussion of candidates, parties, or warrant articles, and provided such activities are authorized by law.

(d) Public employees providing information derived directly from official filing forms or other legally required public documents regarding candidates who have officially filed for office, provided such information is presented in an impartial and neutral manner without additional commentary, analysis, or inference.

(e) Public universities, colleges, or institutions of higher education conducting public opinion polls or surveys.

(f) Public employees who are appointed to office by the chief executive or legislative body of the public employer from providing information and recommendations concerning items over which they have authority including but not limited to providing information, recommendations, or statements about the budget and warrant articles.

(g) Public employees from assisting elected officials with the preparation of voter guides.

V. Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

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

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs
October 30, 2025
2025-3068s
07/08

Amendment to HB 481

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

AN ACT relative to the state primary date.

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

1 Election of Officers and Delegates; Election Dates; State Primary Election. Amend RSA 653:8 to read as follows:

653:8 State Primary Election. The state primary election shall be held on the second Tuesday in ~~[September]~~ **June** of every even-numbered year.

2 Voters and Checklists; Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Amend RSA 654:32 to read as follows:

654:32 Hearings on Alterations to Party Registration. Before each state or presidential primary election, the supervisors of the checklist shall be in session before each primary for the change of registration of legal voters as provided in RSA 654:34 or 654:34-a or both. Before the presidential primary, the session shall be on the Friday preceding the first day of the filing period, between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. Before the state primary election, the session shall be on Tuesday before the first ~~[Wednesday]~~ **Friday** in ~~[June]~~ **March** between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours.

3 Voters and Checklists; Change of Registration. Amend RSA 654:34, IV to read as follows:

IV. No person, who is already registered to vote, whether his *or her* party membership has been previously registered or not, shall affiliate with a party or disaffiliate from a party between the first [Wednesday] **Friday** in [June] **March** and the day before the state primary election.

4 Elections; Nominations by Primary; Filing: General Provisions. Amend RSA 655:14 to read as follows:

655:14 Filing: General Provisions. The name of any person shall not be printed upon the ballot of any party for a primary unless he or she is a registered member of that party, he or she shall have met the age and domicile qualifications for the office he or she seeks at the time of the general election, he or she meets all the other qualifications at the time of filing, and he or she shall file with the appropriate official between the first [Wednesday] **Friday** in [June] **March** and the Friday of the following week a declaration of candidacy as provided in RSA 655:17.

5 Elections; Nominations; Personal Filing. Amend RSA 655:16 to read as follows:

655:16 Personal Filing. Except for those who must file with a town or city clerk, any person who files on the last day of the filing period must do so in person before the secretary of state[; ~~provided, however, that this requirement shall not apply to the filling of vacancies by party committees. If the person must file with a town or city clerk and is filing on the last day of the filing period, he or she shall do so in person~~].

6 Elections; Nominations by Primary. Amend RSA 655:21 to read as follows:

655:21 Form. Primary petitions shall be made in the following form:

State of New Hampshire

County of _____ ss.

City (Town) of _____

I do hereby join in a petition for the printing on the primary ballot of the name of _____ whose domicile is in the city (town) of _____ (ward, street, and number, if in a city), in the county of _____, for the office of _____ to be voted for on Tuesday, the _____ day of [September] **June**, _____ (year), and certify that I am qualified to vote for a candidate for said office, that I am a registered member of the _____ party, and am not at this time a signer of any other similar petition for any other candidate for the above office; that my domicile is in the city (town) of _____ (ward, street, and number, if in a city), in the county of _____. I certify that to my knowledge the above-named candidate is not a candidate for incompatible offices as defined in RSA 655:10, and that he or she is not a federal employee which makes him or her ineligible to file as a candidate for this office. I further certify that I believe the above-named person is especially qualified to fill said office.

I hereby swear, under the penalties for voting fraud set forth below, that the information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Print Voter's name

Voter's Signature

In accordance with RSA 659:34, the penalty for knowingly or purposefully providing false information when registering to vote or voting is a class A misdemeanor with a maximum sentence of imprisonment not to exceed one year and a fine not to exceed \$2,000. Fraudulently registering to vote or voting is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000.

7 Elections; Nomination by Primary; Examination and Rejection. Amend RSA 655:26 to read as follows:

655:26 Examination and Rejection. The officer with whom primary petitions are filed shall immediately upon receipt thereof examine the same and ascertain whether they conform to the law. If found not to conform thereto or to be conflicting as provided in RSA 655:23, [he] **they** shall then endorse thereon the reason why such petition cannot be accepted and shall, within 24 hours, return the same to the candidate in whose behalf it was filed. In such case, the candidate may file supplementary petitions with the official, but not later than the third [Wednesday] **Friday** in [June] **March**.

8 Elections; Nominations; Straw Candidates. Amend RSA 655:31 to read as follows:

655:31 Straw Candidates. No person shall be a candidate for nomination at any primary unless his candidacy is bona fide and is filed for the actual purpose of personally seeking the nomination. Any candidate for nomination whose name is to be voted upon at primary election may, no later than the [Wednesday] **Friday** after the last day for filing declarations of candidacy and primary petitions, file a petition with the ballot law commission alleging that one or more candidates for the same nomination is not a bona fide candidate. Upon receipt of such a petition, the commission shall notify in writing all candidates of that party for the same nomination of the time and place for its hearing. After such hearing, the ballot law commission shall have the power and duty to order stricken forthwith from the primary ballot the name or names of any candidate or candidates for said nomination if the commission finds that such candidate or candidates is obviously not a bona fide candidate, obviously having filed not primarily for the purpose of seeking the nomination but primarily for the purpose of drawing votes which might otherwise be cast for some other candidate for the same nomination. The decision of the commission shall be final as to questions both of law and fact, and no court shall have jurisdiction to review such decision.

9 Elections; Nominations; No Declaration Filed. Amend RSA 655:32, I to read as follows:

I. In case no declaration shall be filed by a candidate for any nomination to be voted for at a primary, the nomination may be made by the appropriate party committee as provided in this section. The appropriate party committee shall notify the secretary of state in writing of a person it designates to fill the vacancy. The person so designated may accept the nomination by, on or before the [Wednesday] **second Friday** following the expiration of the period for filing declarations of candidacy as provided in RSA 655:14, filing with the secretary of state a declaration of candidacy as provided in RSA 655:17. Any candidate accepting a nomination under this paragraph who has already filed for an incompatible office as defined in RSA 655:10 shall withdraw the prior filing. Any vacancy created by the withdrawal of a filing may be filled pursuant to this section. If the candidate is designated for the office of governor, councilor, state senator, or state representative, he or she shall also file on or before the [Wednesday] **second Friday** following the period for filing declarations of candidacy the appropriate affidavit as provided in RSA 655:29. Any candidate so designated by a party committee who has not filed all the forms required by this section within the required period of time shall not have his or her name printed on the state primary election ballot for that office.

10 Elections; Nominations; Certification. Amend RSA 655:41, I to read as follows:

I. Each nomination paper shall be submitted to the supervisors of the checklist of the town or ward in which the signer is domiciled or is registered, and a majority of the supervisors shall certify whether or not the signer is a registered voter in said town or ward. The supervisors of the checklist shall certify nomination papers under this section in a timely fashion, so that their certification shall be complete for each candidate, together with any objections to the nomination papers submitted, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the [Wednesday] **Friday** 2 weeks before the primary. Each nomination paper shall be submitted to the supervisors of the checklist no later than 5:00 p.m. on the [Wednesday] **Friday** 5 weeks before the primary.

11 Elections; Nominations; Filing Deadline. Amend RSA 655:43, I to read as follows:

I. Nomination papers shall be filed with the secretary of state no later than 5:00 p.m. on the [Wednesday] **Friday** one week before the primary. Nomination papers to be filed shall be grouped by municipality. No nomination papers shall be accepted by the secretary of state unless the candidate shall have met the age and domicile qualifications for the office he or she seeks at the time of the general election and meets all the other qualifications at the time of filing; and if a candidate for the office of governor, executive councilor, state senator, or state representative, unless the candidate shall file with the nomination papers an affidavit of qualifications as provided in RSA 655:28 and 655:29; and if a candidate for United States senator or United States representative, unless the candidate shall meet the qualifications for office under RSA 655:3 and 655:4.

12 Ballot Law Commission; Hearing Date. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 665:5, I to read as follows:

I. If necessary, the ballot law commission shall meet on the third Thursday of [September] **June** in each general election year and the third Friday following the presidential primary election in order to hear and decide:

13 Appointment of Inspectors of Election. Amend RSA 658:2 to read as follows:

658:2 Appointment.

Each state political committee of the 2 political parties which received the largest number of votes cast for governor at the last previous general election is authorized through their respective chairmen to appoint between May 15 and July 15 of each general election year 2 inspectors of election to act at each polling place. If the number of voters qualified to vote at a polling place shall exceed 2,000, said political committees may each appoint for such polling place one additional inspector for each 1,500 qualified voters or fraction thereof in excess of 2,000. By April 15 of each general election year, the secretary of state shall provide a list to the chairman of each such state political committee of the number of inspectors of election that should be appointed for each town or ward. Each such state political committee may also appoint such equal number of additional inspectors as the moderator considers necessary for the efficient conduct of the election. ~~[On or before July 15]~~ ***Between February 1 and April 30***, the chairmen of said political committees shall notify the appointees and the town or ward clerk concerned as to appointments made under this authority. If any such appointments are not made by said political committees and proper notification thereof given ~~[on or before July 15]~~ ***between February 1 and April 30***, then the appointments shall be made by the selectmen of the town or ward in equal numbers from said 2 political parties.

14 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2028.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
October 24, 2025
2025-3050s
08/09

Amendment to HB 707-FN

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

AN ACT establishing a solid waste site evaluation committee.

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

1 Solid Waste Facility Site Evaluation Committee; Purpose and Findings. The general court hereby finds and declares that:

I. There is a compelling state interest in maintaining adequate, reasonably priced disposal capacity for solid waste generated in New Hampshire.

II. As a result of changes in federal and state law over the past 50 years and the economics of solid waste management, waste disposal facilities are sited regionally in New Hampshire, but they provide disposal capacity for municipalities throughout the state, often irrespective of whether a municipality is in close proximity to the disposal facility.

III. The siting of new disposal capacity is often locally controversial and the use of local land-use regulation to prevent siting of new capacity can result in the frustration of the state's interest in maintaining adequate capacity. The general court prefers that new landfill capacity be developed in expansions of existing permitted landfills instead of on greenfield sites because existing sites have already been carefully studied before being permitted and have been found suitable for landfilling by the department of environmental services.

IV. The department of environmental services typically has decades of familiarity with conditions at such sites and the expansion of an existing use is generally consistent with the overall objectives of land-use controls.

V. The state's preference for such expansions warrants that the state's regulatory and policy interests take precedence over local regulation and restrictions, particularly because the department's rules provide robust protection of human health and the environment.

VI. Because of the overriding state interest, the department already regulates virtually every aspect of landfill siting and development that would ordinarily be regulated under local zoning and planning ordinances.

VII. This legislation establishes a preference for siting of new landfill capacity on land adjacent to existing permitted landfill capacity and gives the department of environmental services comprehensive exclusive authority to approve the siting of such new capacity.

VIII. This legislation leaves unchanged current law regarding siting of new landfill capacity on land that is not adjacent to existing permitted landfill capacity.

2 New Paragraph; Public Health; Solid Waste Management; Definitions. Amend RSA 149-M:4 by inserting after paragraph X-a the following new paragraph:

X-b. “Landfill expansion” means an addition to the permitted capacity of a landfill or the construction of previously permitted capacity for an existing landfill on a parcel or adjacent parcels, including those separated by a right of way, owned by the landfill operator or its affiliates. A landfill expansion does not include a remedial landfill expansion. A landfill expansion may either be integrated into an existing landfill or be developed separately from the existing landfill.

3 New Paragraph; Public Health; Solid Waste Management; Definitions. Amend RSA 149-M:4 by inserting after paragraph XX the following new paragraph:

XX-a. “Recycling facility” means a collection, storage, and transfer facility which collects, stores, and prepares recyclable materials for market and transfers both processed recyclable materials to markets for recycling and bypass waste for disposal.

4 New Paragraph; Public Health; Solid Waste Management; Definitions. Amend RSA 149-M:4 by inserting after paragraph XXI the following new paragraph:

XXI-a. “Remedial landfill expansion” means an expansion of an existing landfill that has ceased operating, that is not in compliance with the department’s then-current rules for the design and construction of landfills, and that is a source of ongoing contamination of soils, surface water, or groundwater, where there is no solvent person other than state, county, or municipal government that can be compelled by law to fully remediate the existing landfill site and where expansion will provide the permittee with revenue to effectuate a substantial reduction in such ongoing contamination and provide substantially greater protection of the environment during operation and upon closure of the expansion than would be the case if the expansion were not permitted.

5 New Paragraph; Public Health; Solid Waste Management; Definitions. Amend RSA 149-M:9 by inserting after paragraph XV the following new paragraph:

XVI.(a) To implement the state’s preference for landfill expansion over greenfield siting of new landfill capacity and notwithstanding any other provision in this section, landfill expansions shall be subject to approval solely by the department, and no municipal ordinance, bylaw, rule, regulation, agreement, or other restriction shall be effective to prevent the siting of a landfill expansion approved by the department. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to limit the jurisdiction that any other state department may have over such landfill expansions.

(b) The owner of any landfill receiving an approval of a landfill expansion under this paragraph and who has an existing agreement with the host municipality to provide free services

and pay the municipality a fee for each ton of waste received at the landfill shall increase the total value of such services and fee to a minimum of \$2.50 per ton for all waste received in the landfill expansion.

6 New Paragraph; Public Health; Solid Waste Management; Definitions. Amend RSA 149-M:11 by inserting after paragraph VII the following new paragraph:

VII-a. Any remedial landfill expansion or facility designed to manage food waste in accordance with RSA 149-M:27, V(b) shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of paragraph III.

7 New Subdivision; Solid Waste Facility Site Evaluation Committee. Amend RSA 149-M by inserting after section 64 the following new subdivision:

Solid Waste Facility Site Evaluation Committee

149-M:65 Declaration of Purpose. The legislature and the executive branch recognize that the selection of sites for major solid waste disposal facilities may have significant statewide, regional and local impacts that are not fully evaluated through existing regulatory review. Accordingly, the legislature and the executive branch find that it is in the public interest to establish a procedure to evaluate the suitability of the proposed site for a new major solid waste facility, considering criteria that are not captured by existing regulatory reviews, including local and in-state regional economic impacts, property value impacts, and impacts on tourism and recreation.

149-M:66 Definitions. In this subdivision:

I. “Acceptance” means a determination by the committee that it finds that the application is complete and ready for consideration.

II. “Administrator” means the administrator of the site evaluation committee established pursuant to RSA 162-H:3-a.

III. "Affected municipality" means any municipality or unincorporated place in which a major solid waste disposal facility is proposed to be located and any bordering municipality or unincorporated place from which any part of the proposed major solid waste disposal facility will be visible or audible.

IV. "Certificate" means the document issued by the committee, containing such reasonable terms and conditions as the committee deems appropriate, that authorizes the use of the site for the proposed facility.

V. "Committee" means the solid waste facility site evaluation committee established by this subdivision.

VI. "Major solid waste disposal facility" means a location, system, or physical structure for the collection, separation, storage, transfer, processing, treatment, or disposal of solid waste with a proposed waste acceptance rate greater than 100,000 tons per year and includes the real property on which such structure or system is sited. Major solid waste disposal facility does not include a facility designed to manage food waste in accordance with RSA 149-M:27, V(b)(1)-(5), an expansion of a recycling facility, a landfill expansion, or any facility proposed to be constructed by a New Hampshire municipal government.

VII. "Filing" means the date on which the application is first submitted to the committee.

VIII. "Person" means any individual or other jural entity.

IX. "Region" means the area of the state in which a major solid waste disposal facility is to be sited if a certificate is issued.

149-M:67 Solid Waste Facility Site Evaluation Committee Established.

I. There is hereby established a committee to be known as the New Hampshire solid waste facility site evaluation committee consisting of 7 members, as follows:

(a) The commissioner of the department of business and economic affairs, or designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the committee.

(b) The commissioner of the department of environmental services, or designee.

(c) Five members and, as provided by RSA 149-M:68, alternate members, appointed by the governor with the consent of the executive council, including a member with expertise in municipal planning, a member with expertise in achieving natural resource protection in the context of large project development, a member who has expertise in the private waste management industry, a member who serves on the state conservation commission, and a member who is representative of the business community.

II. All members, including those who sit for a member disqualified or recused under RSA 149-M:68, shall refrain from ex parte communications regarding any matter pending before the committee.

III. The committee shall be administratively attached to the department of environmental services.

IV. The chairperson shall serve as the chief executive of the committee and may:

(a) Serve as presiding officer.

(b) Delegate to other members the duties of the presiding officer, as appropriate.

(c) Establish, with the consent of the committee, the budgetary requirements of the committee.

(d) Engage personnel in accordance with this subdivision.

V. The presiding officer may appoint a retired justice of the supreme court, superior court, or circuit court or another person with similar experience adjudicating disputes as a hearing officer to perform the functions described in RSA 149-M:70, V.

149-M:68 Committee Members.

I. All members of the committee and any hearing officer appointed under RSA 149-M:67, V, shall meet the impartiality standard set forth in Part 1 Article 35 of the state constitution.

II. Members and alternate members appointed under RSA 149-M:67, I(c) shall serve 5-year terms and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Any member chosen to fill a vacancy occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be appointed for the unexpired term of the member who is succeeded.

III. If at any time a member appointed by the governor with the consent of the executive council is recused or otherwise disqualified from participating in a matter before the committee or is not otherwise available for good reason, an alternate member shall replace such member.

IV. If at any time an ex officio member of the committee under RSA 149-M:67, I(a) and (b) or designee is recused or otherwise disqualified from participating in a matter before the committee or is not otherwise available for good reason, the ex officio member shall designate a replacement for such member.

V. Neither a member nor any spouse or domestic partner, parent, child, in-law, or sibling of a member shall receive income from entities that own or operate, or have applied to own or operate, major solid waste disposal facilities in New Hampshire. The members appointed by the governor with the consent of the executive council and their alternates shall comply with RSA 15-A and RSA 15-B.

VI. Any member appointed by the governor with the consent of the executive council may be removed from office in accordance with RSA 4:1 and shall be promptly replaced by the governor with the consent of the executive council.

149-M:69 Administrator and Other Committee Support. The administrator shall provide support to the committee. If the administrator is not available or the position is vacant, the committee may hire an independent contractor. The administrator shall be under the supervision of the chairperson when performing duties for the committee. The administrator shall be compensated for work performed for the committee as set forth in RSA 149-M:85. The administrator, or chairperson in the absence of an administrator, with committee approval, may engage additional technical, legal, or administrative support to fulfill the functions of the committee as necessary.

149-M:70 Powers and Duties of the Committee; Rules.

I. The committee shall:

(a) Evaluate an application on the merits after acceptance and timely grant or deny the application in accordance with this subdivision, incorporating in its decision such findings and rulings as are reasonably necessary to support its decision.

(b) Include with any decision the reasonable terms and conditions of any certificate issued under this subdivision, including, without limitation and if warranted, bonding or other form of security for performance.

(c) Assist the public in understanding the requirements of this subdivision.

II. The committee shall hold the hearings required by this subdivision and in addition to any other notice requirements provided by law it shall ensure public notice of such hearings of no less than 7 calendar days.

III. The department shall use its enforcement powers under this chapter, including its power to refer a matter to the department of justice, to enforce the terms and conditions the committee imposes on the issuance of a certificate.

IV. The committee shall not delegate its authority or duties except as provided under this subdivision.

V. In any matter before the committee, the presiding officer, or a hearing officer designated by the presiding officer, may hear and decide prehearing matters that are before the committee, including procedural schedules, consolidation of parties with substantially similar interests, discovery schedules and methods, motions, and conferences to identify witnesses and exhibits and otherwise plan for the hearing on the merits. Undisputed motions for intervention may be decided by the hearing officer and disputed motions for intervention shall be decided by the presiding officer. Any party aggrieved by a decision on a motion to intervene may within 10 calendar days request that the committee review such decision de novo. All prehearing decisions by the presiding officer or the hearing officer shall be provided promptly to the committee members, and any such decision shall be reviewed de novo by the full committee upon written request by any member to the presiding officer within 7 days of the member's receipt of the decision.

VI. On or before July 1, 2026, the committee shall adopt rules to implement and administer the requirements of this subdivision pursuant to RSA 541-A, after public notice and hearing, and may adopt further rules thereafter as may from time to time be required. The committee's failure to adopt rules under this paragraph shall not affect the committee's obligation to accept, process, and rule upon applications for a certificate under this subdivision.

VII. The committee shall hold its first organizational meeting on or before September 1, 2025. The department shall prepare an application form for the use of applicants for a certificate and shall present such application form to the committee at its first organizational meeting for the committee's review and approval.

149-M:71 Prohibitions and Restrictions.

I. No person shall commence construction of any major solid waste disposal facility within the state unless it has obtained a certificate pursuant to this subdivision. Such facilities shall be constructed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the terms and conditions of the certificate. Such a certificate shall not be transferred or assigned without approval of the committee as provided by RSA 149-M:73, VII. Unless otherwise specified in this subdivision or required by any other state or federal permit for the facility, any approved major solid waste facility shall not be constructed, operated, or closed in a manner materially different than the manner in which it was presented in the application for a certificate as modified and conditioned by such certificate.

II. Applications for certificates may at the election of the applicant be filed and evaluated by the committee concurrently with other state approvals and public hearings may be scheduled concurrently with hearings held by other state agencies as part of their permitting process for the same facility.

III. Notwithstanding paragraph II, for permit applications under this subdivision for major solid waste disposal facilities pending before the department on or prior to July 1, 2025, the applicant shall make a filing with the committee within one year of the effective date of this act.

149-M:72 Application for Certificate.

I. All applications for a certificate for a major solid waste disposal facility shall be filed with the administrator or the chair of the committee.

II. Within 30 days of the filing of an application, the committee shall notify the applicant in writing whether the application contains all of the information required by this subdivision and by rule for such applications. If the committee concludes that the application is not complete, it shall include in its notice the specific information the applicant must submit to render the application complete. The applicant's submission of additional information in response to any notice from the committee that the application is incomplete shall restart the 30-day period for the committee's determination whether the application is complete. If the committee concludes that the application is complete, it shall notify the applicant, and such notice shall constitute an acceptance. During any period between a notice that the application is incomplete and the applicant's response to such a notice, the committee shall suspend its consideration of the application.

III. To carry out the committee's duties in RSA 149-M:70, each application shall:

(a) Describe in reasonable detail the types and quantities of waste the applicant expects to accept and the proposed location and dimensions of each principal component of the proposed facility.

(b) Describe in reasonable detail the impact of the proposed facility on existing local, regional, and state land uses.

(c) Document that copies of the application have been hand-delivered or sent by certified mail to the governing body of each affected municipality. The application shall include a list of each affected municipality.

(d) Provide analysis on the visual impact of the proposed facility during construction, operation, and post-closure through a visual impact assessment prepared in accordance with professional standards by an expert in the field.

(e) Provide information in reasonable detail about the projected impacts of the proposed facility on state and regional business development, local, regional and state economies, property values, aesthetics, tourism, and outdoor recreation. These analyses shall be conducted in accordance with professional standards by an expert in these fields.

(f) Provide information in reasonable detail relative to the economic impacts of the proposed facility and potential infrastructure improvements associated with the proposed project on affected municipalities, the region, and the state.

(g) Provide information in reasonable detail about the projected impacts from noise, odor, or traffic associated with the transportation of waste to the facility over roads between the closest federal interstate highway and the facility site to the extent such noise, odor, or traffic is not regulated by the department. These analyses shall be conducted in accordance with professional standards by an expert in these fields.

(h) Provide such additional information regarding subjects not regulated by the department or any other state agency as the committee may require by rule to carry out the purpose of this subdivision.

IV. For all information submitted with the application that was prepared by a consultant or expert retained by the applicant, the applicant shall submit the qualifications of each such consultant or expert to prepare such information.

V. The committee may seek such additional information from the applicant or a consultant or expert retained by the applicant as may be necessary for the committee to conduct its assessment of the application and proposed project and to understand the basis for the analyses and conclusions prepared by such consultant or expert as part of the application. To the extent any such consultant or expert fails to respond to such a request for additional information to the reasonable satisfaction of the committee, the committee may hire another consultant or expert with expertise in the same discipline as the applicant's retained consultant or expert to assist the commission in its assessment of the application. The applicant shall bear the reasonable fees and expenses of any such consultant or expert hired by the committee.

VI. Public information sessions shall be held in accordance with RSA 149-M:76, I and II.

VII. Within 180 days of the acceptance of an application, the committee shall issue or deny a certificate for the proposed major solid waste disposal facility.

VIII. The committee may request that state agencies with relevant technical expertise participate in committee proceedings.

IX. The committee may deny a certificate based upon the criteria in RSA 149-M:9, IX.

X. A state agency may seek intervention as a party in any proceeding before the committee in accordance with RSA 541-A:32.

149-M:73 Disclosure of Ownership. Any application for a certificate, or for change in ownership and transfer of certificate, shall be signed and sworn to by or on behalf of the person making such application and shall contain the following information:

I. Full name and address of the applicant.

II. If the applicant is not an individual,

(a) The state in which the applicant was formed and the address of the applicant's principal place of business.

(b) The names and addresses of each person having an ownership interest in the applicant, provided that if the applicant is a subsidiary of a publicly traded company it shall provide, (1) the names and addresses of each intermediate subsidiary of the publicly traded company having an ownership interest in the applicant and the names and addresses of each person having an ownership interest in each intermediate subsidiary and (2) the names and addresses of the directors and officers and the states of formation and principal places of business of the publicly traded company and each such intermediate subsidiary.

III. A statement demonstrating that the applicant will have the financial resources to develop the major solid waste disposal facility as proposed in the application.

IV. The committee shall administratively approve changes of ownership and transfers of certificates within 90 days of a petition if it determines the new certificate holder has adequate financial, technical, and managerial capability to assure construction and operation of the facility in continuing compliance with the terms and conditions of the certificate.

149-M:74 Application and Filing Fees.

I. A person filing an application for a certificate for a major solid waste disposal facility under this subdivision shall pay to the committee at the time of filing the fee prescribed in paragraph II.

II. The committee shall charge the following fees for filings made pursuant to this subdivision and shall post such filing fees on its website:

(a) Application fee for a major solid waste disposal facility: \$20,000 base charge and \$1,000 per additional 10,000 tons/year throughput in excess of 100,000 tons per year.

(b) Filing fees for administrative proceedings:

(1) Petition for committee jurisdiction: \$500.

(2) Certificate transfer of ownership: \$1,000.

(3) Request to modify a certificate: \$1,000.

III. All fees charged shall be deposited in the solid waste evaluation committee fund established in RSA 149-M:84 and shall be nonlapsing and accounted for as a separate line item.

IV. Each year the committee may increase the fees prescribed in paragraph II by no more than the increase in the consumer price index from the prior year, provided that any such increase shall occur not more frequently than once during any 12-month period. Modifications to the fee schedule shall be posted on the committee website, with a link prominently displayed on the home page.

V. If the committee expends funds under RSA 149-M:85 in order to review and process the applicant's application, and such funds exceed the value of the original filing fee under paragraph II, then the committee may charge an additional fee to the applicant to cover such costs but such additional fee shall not exceed the value of the original fee.

149-M:75 Counsel for the Public.

I. An application for a certificate under this subdivision shall be served contemporaneously by the applicant upon the attorney general. Upon receipt of such an application, the attorney general shall appoint an assistant attorney general as counsel for the public in connection with the committee's consideration of the application. Counsel for the public shall be deemed to represent the public as a party to the proceedings before the committee.

II. This section shall not be construed to prevent any person otherwise entitled to participate in any meeting or hearing under this subdivision from being heard or represented by counsel.

149-M:76 Public Hearing; Studies.

I. At least 30 days prior to filing an application for a certificate, an applicant shall hold at least one public information session in the affected municipality where the proposed facility is to be located. This session may be held concurrently with a public session held as a requirement of any other state or federal permit or approval.

II. Within 60 days after acceptance of an application for a certificate, the committee shall hold at least one public information session in the municipality where the major solid waste disposal facility is proposed to be located. Public information sessions under paragraphs I and II shall not be public hearings and shall be designed to reasonably explain and answer the public's questions about the proposed project and the committee's procedure for considering and deciding upon an application.

III. Public hearings on the application shall be in the nature of adjudicative proceedings under RSA 541-A and shall be held in the municipality in which the proposed major solid waste disposal facility is to be located or in Concord, New Hampshire, as determined by the committee.

IV. The committee shall adopt rules regarding the timing and method of notices for public information sessions and public hearings and any other requirements regarding such sessions and hearings, provided that such rules shall not provide less protection of the public's right to know than RSA 91-A provides.

V. The committee shall consider and weigh all evidence presented at public hearings. Members of the public may provide written comments, information, reports, arguments, analyses, and the like to counsel for the public who may present such comments, information, reports, arguments, analyses, and the like or a compilation or summary thereof in public hearings if they are relevant to the committee's jurisdiction and otherwise admissible under RSA 541-A:33. The committee shall provide an opportunity at one or more public hearings for testimony from the governing body of each affected municipality and the governing body of the county in which the proposed facility is proposed to be located. The committee shall consider, as appropriate, prior committee findings and rulings on the same or similar subject matters. The burden of establishing the existence of any adverse impacts from the proposed facility at the public hearing shall be upon the persons asserting their existence.

VI. The committee and counsel for the public shall conduct such reasonable studies and investigations as are necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subdivision and may employ one or more qualified experts to the extent necessary to enable them to carry out their duties under this subdivision, the reasonable cost of which shall be borne by the applicant or certificate holder in such amount as may be approved by the committee.

VII. Times for conducting public hearings and rendering a decision on the application may be extended for good cause upon written request of the applicant.

149-M:77 Judicial Review. Decisions made pursuant to this subdivision shall be reheard and appealed in accordance with RSA 541.

149-M:78 Monitoring and Enforcement.

I. The department shall monitor the construction and operation of any major solid waste disposal facility granted a certificate under this subdivision to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of such certificate. With the exception of the authority retained by the state agencies in accordance with paragraph V, the department may delegate the authority to monitor the construction or operation of any major solid waste disposal facility granted a certificate under this subdivision to such state agency or official as it deems appropriate but shall ensure that the terms and conditions of the certificate are met. Any authorized representative or delegate of the department shall have a right of entry onto the premises of any part of the facility to ascertain if it is being constructed or operated in continuing compliance with the terms and conditions of the certificate. During normal hours of business, such a representative or delegate shall also have a right to inspect such records of the certificate-holder as are relevant to the terms or conditions of the certificate.

II. Whenever the department administratively determines, on its own or in response to a complaint, that any term or condition of any certificate issued under this subdivision or prior law is being violated, it shall, in writing, notify the certificate holder of the specific violation and order the person to immediately terminate the violation. If, 15 days after receipt of the order, the person has failed or neglected to terminate the violation, the department shall notify the committee which may suspend the person's certificate. Except for emergencies posing an imminent threat to human health or the environment, prior to any suspension the committee shall give written notice of its consideration of suspension and of its reasons therefor and shall provide reasonable notice and an opportunity for a hearing before a suspension is ordered. In addition to suspension, if, after 15 days of receipt of the order, the person has failed or neglected to terminate the violation, after notice and a hearing the committee may impose a fine not to exceed \$5,000 per day until the violation is corrected.

III. In addition to other remedies provided in this subdivision, upon petition of the department, the committee may suspend a certificate if the committee determines that a person has made a material misrepresentation in the application, or in supplemental or additional statements of fact, or studies required of the applicant, or if the committee determines that the person has violated the provisions of this subdivision, or any rule adopted under this subdivision. Except for emergencies, prior to any suspension, the committee shall give written notice of its consideration of suspension and of its reasons therefor and shall provide an opportunity for a prompt hearing before a suspension is ordered.

IV. Upon petition of the department, the committee may revoke any certificate that is suspended after the person holding the suspended certificate has been given at least 90 days' written notice of the committee's consideration of revocation and of its reasons therefor and has been provided an opportunity for a full hearing before a revocation is ordered.

V. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, each state agency having permitting or other regulatory authority shall retain all of its powers and duties of enforcement.

VI. The full amount of actual costs and expenses incurred by the department and committee in connection with any enforcement action against a person holding a certificate, in which the person is determined to have violated any provision of this subdivision, any rule adopted by the committee, or any of the terms and conditions of the issued certificate, shall be assessed to the person and shall be paid by the person to the committee. Any amounts paid by a person to the committee pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited in the state's general fund.

VII. The department may adopt rules in furtherance of its monitoring and enforcement responsibilities under this subdivision.

149-M:79 Records. Complete verbatim records shall be kept by the committee of all hearings, and records of all other actions, proceedings, and correspondence of the committee, including submittals of information and reports by members of the public, shall be maintained, all of which records shall be open to the public inspection and copying as provided for under RSA 91-A and made available on the committee's website unless such records were submitted under seal and are exempt from public disclosure under RSA 91-A.

149-M:80 Findings and Certificate Issuance.

I. The decision to issue or deny a certificate shall be based on the hearing record and made by a majority of the committee.

II. In order to issue a certificate, the committee shall find that:

(a) The applicant has adequate financial, technical, and managerial capability to assure construction, operation, and closure of the facility in continuing compliance with the terms and conditions of the certificate.

(b) The facility will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of municipal and regional planning commissions and municipal governing bodies.

(c) The public benefit of the facility outweighs any adverse impact of the facility on aesthetics, historic preservation, economic impacts to the region, tourism, outdoor recreation, regional and statewide business development, existing land uses, and property values and from noise, odor, or traffic associated with the transportation of waste to the facility over roads between the closest federal interstate highway and the facility site to the extent such noise, odor, or traffic is not otherwise regulated by the department.

III. The committee shall issue a written order granting or denying a certificate. Within 90 days of an order granting a certificate the committee shall issue a written summary and analysis of each issue raised in the public hearing in opposition to issuance of the certificate unless such issue addresses a subject matter regulated by a division of the department created by RSA 21-O or any other state agency, in which case the committee shall refer such issue in writing to such division or agency for analysis and response as part of the division or agency's consideration of an application for a permit for such facility. Motions for rehearing of an order granting a certificate under RSA 541:3 shall not be due until 30 days after the committee has issued such written summary and analysis.

IV. A certificate, when issued, shall be final and subject only to rehearing and judicial review.

V. The committee shall condition the certificate upon the applicant's obtaining the requisite federal and state approvals.

149-M:82 Penalties.

I. Any construction or operation of major solid waste disposal facilities without first obtaining a certificate from the committee, or any material violation of the terms and conditions of a certificate issued by the committee, shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation or for each day of a continuing violation. Such violation may also be enjoined by the superior court upon application of the attorney general.

II. Whoever purposely or knowingly commits any violation of any provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor if a natural person, or guilty of a felony if any other person.

149-M:83 Severability. If any provision of this subdivision, or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the subdivision which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this subdivision are severable.

149-M:84 Fund Established; Funding Plan; Fines and Penalties.

I. There is hereby established in the office of the state treasurer a nonlapsing, special fund to be known as the solid waste facility site evaluation committee fund. All application and other filing fees received by the committee under this subdivision shall be deposited in the fund. All moneys in the fund shall be continually appropriated to the committee and shall be used to pay for operating costs of the committee and the partial salary of the administrator. If the administrator position is vacant, the fund may be used to pay an independent contractor to perform the duties of the administrator for the committee. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the committee may engage the department for technical, legal, or administrative support to fulfill the requirements of this subdivision. Any cost incurred by the committee for such support shall be charged directly to the applicant.

II. In the event lawful expenditures by the committee in a fiscal year are greater than the total monies held in the solid waste evaluation committee fund, the chair of the committee may request, with prior approval of the legislative fiscal committee that the governor and council authorize additional funding from general funds not otherwise appropriated.

III. All fines and civil penalties recovered by the committee, the department, or the department of justice from the enforcement of the provisions of this subdivision shall be deposited into the state's general fund.

149-M:85 Compensation and Reimbursement.

I. The public members of the committee shall be compensated for all time spent on committee business, including compensation and reimbursement for major solid waste disposal facility proceeding time and expenses. Compensation shall be provided on a pro rata basis, based upon the daily salary rate of an unclassified position at the initial step in grade FF under RSA 94:1-a, I(a).

II. State agencies represented on the committee shall be reimbursed for major solid waste disposal facility proceeding time and expenses incurred by their respective members or designees, except that time spent for the first 5 full days of their participation with respect to any application or other proceeding concerning a major solid waste disposal facility shall not be subject to reimbursement. The rate of reimbursement to each respective agency shall be based on a pro rata share of the employee's salary, benefits, and related costs.

III. The department of justice shall be reimbursed in the same manner as described in paragraph II for major solid waste disposal facility proceeding time and expenses that are incurred by the counsel for the public.

IV. All persons or agencies seeking compensation or reimbursement under this section shall keep detailed time and expense records which shall be submitted to the chairperson or administrator and used to determine the amount of compensation or reimbursement. The chairperson or administrator shall develop a recordkeeping system and accounting and payment procedures.

V. Compensation shall not be provided to members of the committee for initial meetings conducted prior to acceptance of application fees. The department shall provide support for the adoption of rules established by the committee.

149-M:86 Solid Waste Permit Applications Suspended. Except for an application for a landfill expansion or a remedial landfill expansion, the department shall not issue any permit approvals that authorize new capacity for major solid waste disposal facilities until July 1, 2027. During the period that the department's authority to issue such permit approvals is suspended under this section, the department shall accept applications for new capacity at such facilities, evaluate such applications for completeness, request more information to make such applications complete, and, if warranted under the department's rules, find such applications to be complete, but shall not further evaluate or process any such complete applications, notwithstanding RSA 149-M:9, VIII.

8 New Subparagraph; The State and Its Government; State Treasurer; Application of Receipts. Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (400) the following new subparagraph:

(411) Moneys deposited in the solid waste facility site evaluation committee fund as established in RSA 149-M:84.

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

2025-3050s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill creates the solid waste facility site evaluation committee in order to evaluate applications for solid waste facility siting and to grant or deny such applications.

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.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, Room 103, SH

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

- 1:00 p.m. **SB 539-FN**, relative to eligible biomass technology in the renewable portfolio standards.
- 1:15 p.m. **SB 592**, enabling regional, conservation, and energy resource planning for habitat strongholds and wildlife corridors.
- 1:30 p.m. **SB 540-FN**, relative to portable solar generation devices.
- 1:45 p.m. **SB 599-FN**, relative to the renewable energy fund.
- 2:00 p.m. **SB 447**, enabling electric utilities to own, operate, and offer advanced nuclear resources, and relative to purchased power agreements for electric distribution utilities and limitations on community customer generators.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 103, SH

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

- 9:00 a.m. **SB 486**, relative to the administrative procedure act.
- 9:10 a.m. **SB 427-FN**, relative to the joint committee on employee classification.
- 9:20 a.m. **SB 425**, relative to the terms and qualifications for the adjutant general and deputy adjutant general, and commandant of the New Hampshire veterans' home.
- 9:30 a.m. **SB 448-FN**, modifying the definition of veteran and relative to lifetime hunting and fishing license fees for disabled veterans.
- 9:40 a.m. **SB 472**, removing the maximum age on the tenure of office for the position of deputy adjutant general.
- 9:50 a.m. **SB 473**, defining the term "field officers" within the national guard.
- 10:00 a.m. **SB 492-FN**, authorizing the department of military affairs and veterans services to license and lease property in which the department holds a property interest.
- 10:10 a.m. **SB 566-FN**, relative to recruiting incentive programs for the national guard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Room 100, SH

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

- 9:00 a.m. **SB 543-FN**, relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor.
- 9:15 a.m. **SB 610-FN**, relative to long-term care insurance standards, form approvals, and public hearing procedures.
- 9:30 a.m. **SB 614-FN**, establishing pooled risk management programs for the benefit of child care centers and foster family homes.
- 9:45 a.m. **SB 611-FN**, relative to rate setting parity for Medicaid state plan case management services.
- 10:00 a.m. **SB 612-FN**, relative to clinical eligibility criteria for nursing facility and home and community based care.

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 519-FN**, relative to the use of unmanned aerial systems.
- 1:15 p.m. **SB 521-FN**, relative to unauthorized camping on private property.
- 1:30 p.m. **SB 648**, requiring age verification to allow access to certain material harmful to minors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026

COMMERCE, Room 100, SH

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

- 9:30 a.m. **SB 417-FN**, requiring on-premises licensees, off-premises licensees, and state liquor outlets to post warnings relative to the increased risk of cancer and birth defects from drinking alcoholic beverages.
- 9:45 a.m. **SB 524**, enabling on-premises licensees to deliver liquor to customers who order a meal for home delivery.
- 10:00 a.m. **SB 563-FN**, relative to direct shippers of wine.
- 10:15 a.m. **SB 418**, prohibiting municipalities from requiring licenses for the production and sale of homestead food products.
- 10:30 a.m. **SB 639**, establishing a committee to study the health and safety impacts of Red Dye 40 and other food additives in food and beverages sold in New Hampshire.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

EDUCATION, NH Department of Education, Event Center, 25 Hall Street, Concord, NH

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

- 9:00 a.m. Presentation on education trends and content area topics by NH Department of Education.

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, Room 122-123, SH

Sen. Gray (C), Sen. Lang (VC), Sen. Rochefort, Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Sen. Long

- 9:15 a.m. **SB 435**, relative to the zoning board of adjustment variance criteria.
- 9:30 a.m. **SB 436**, relative to zoning board of adjustment membership criteria.
- 9:45 a.m. **SB 439**, relative to municipal data center zoning.
- 10:00 a.m. **SB 495**, increasing the limit for transfers of appropriations in Carroll County.

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

- 1:00 p.m. **SB 406-FN-A**, making an appropriation to the city of Nashua for the purpose of purchasing the former Daniel Webster College property.
- 1:20 p.m. **SB 481-FN-A**, relative to the sale of the Sununu youth services center property and making an appropriation to the youth development center settlement fund.
- 1:30 p.m. **SB 483-FN-A**, making a contingent appropriation to the department of health and human services for recruitment and benefit grants for child care employers.
- 1:40 p.m. **SB 484-FN**, prohibiting Medicaid premiums and limiting Medicaid expansion cost sharing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

TRANSPORTATION, Room 122-123, SH

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

- 1:00 p.m. **SB 499**, relative to the duties and reporting requirements of the traffic safety commission.
- 1:15 p.m. **SB 500**, relative to restroom access for certain commercial motor vehicle operators.
- 1:30 p.m. **SB 469**, allowing the director of the division of motor vehicles to adopt administrative rules regarding the use of electronic signatures.
- 1:45 p.m. **SB 629**, renaming the new roundabout on Route 302 at the East Conway Road intersection to "Oliveira Circle."
- 2:00 p.m. **SB 649-FN**, increasing fines for using a hand-held mobile electronic device while driving a motor vehicle.

2:15 p.m. **SB 632-FN**, relative to a certain highway sign in Concord.
EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Room 100, SH

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

9:00 a.m. **SB 545-FN**, relative to financial eligibility for the Medicare savings program.
 9:15 a.m. **SB 546-FN**, relative to health carrier network access monitoring.
 9:30 a.m. **SB 547-FN**, relative to regulation and transparency of pharmacy benefit manager practices.
 9:45 a.m. **SB 548-FN**, relative to health carrier provider contract standards.
The Committee will break at the conclusion of the hearing on SB 548-FN.
 1:00 p.m. **SB 457-FN**, relative to the licensing of international physicians.
 1:15 p.m. **SB 645-FN**, relative to income eligibility for the New Hampshire child care scholarship program and reallocating certain revenue to fund the program.
 1:30 p.m. **SB 608-FN**, relative to family caregiver support in certain programs and child care support for kinship caregivers.
 1:45 p.m. **SB 615-FN**, relative to the use and regulation of EBT cards and SNAP eligibility.
EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 122-123, SH

Sen. Lang (C), Sen. Murphy (VC), Sen. Sullivan, Sen. Rosenwald, Sen. Fenton

9:00 a.m. **SB 471-FN**, relative to affordable housing investment fees.
 9:15 a.m. **SB 633-FN**, establishing a voluntary surcharge program and fund for the division of the arts and state council on the arts.
 9:45 a.m. **SB 634**, enabling municipalities to adopt a municipal occupancy fee.
 10:05 a.m. **SB 636-FN**, establishing tax credits for qualifying small businesses against documented tariff-related costs.
 10:20 a.m. **SB 637-FN**, relative to certain tax credits for purchase from New Hampshire farms.
 10:35 a.m. **SB 638-FN**, relative to establishing a small business tariff stabilization fund.
EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

EDUCATION, Map Room, SL

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

9:15 a.m. **SB 429-FN-A**, relative to the placement of trauma kits in public schools and making an appropriation therefor.
 9:30 a.m. **SB 432-FN**, authorizing the application of sunscreen in schools and camps without a doctor's note or prescription and establishing a skin cancer prevention education program.
 9:45 a.m. **SB 531-FN**, establishing a task force to study the feasibility of the creation of cosmetology related programming in Coos County.
 10:00 a.m. **SB 577-FN**, prohibiting the use of specific color additives in meals offered or made available by public schools.
 10:15 a.m. **SB 578**, extending recess for students from kindergarten to eighth grade and prohibiting the deprivation of recess time as punishment in schools.
EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

MEETINGS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2025

COMMISSION TO STUDY COSTS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION (RSA 186-C:1-a)

10:00 a.m. Room 232, GP Regular Meeting

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RSA 126-A:13)

10:00 a.m. Room 158, GP Regular Meeting

FISCAL COMMITTEE (RSA 14:30-a)

11:00 a.m. Room 234, GP Regular Meeting

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

3:00 p.m. Remote Only Regular Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86117818803?pwd=cWRXdGwQnQvc2ZRbkNOBhGc3M0dz09>

Meeting ID: 861 1781 8803

Passcode: 669915

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025

HEALTH CARE CONSUMER PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 7:6-h)

10:00 a.m. Room 153, GP Regular Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)

5:00 p.m. Edward Cross Training Complex Regular Meeting
722 Riverwood Drive
Pembroke, NH

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026

PUBLIC SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION (RSA 198:15-z)

9:00 a.m. New Hampshire Department of Education Regular Meeting
Event Center
25 Hall Street
Concord NH

MOUNT WASHINGTON COMMISSION (RSA 227-B:3)

10:00 a.m. Mount Washington View Room Regular Meeting
Base Lade
Bretton Woods Ski Area
Bretton Woods, NH

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026

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

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

CAPITAL PROJECT OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (RSA 17-J:2)

9:00 a.m. Room 228, GP Regular Meeting
The YouTube link to view the meeting livestream is;
https://www.youtube.com/live/Yim31_or0Rk

LONG RANGE CAPITAL PLANNING AND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE (RSA 17-M:1)

9:30 a.m. Room 228, GP Regular Meeting
The YouTube link to view the meeting livestream is;
<https://www.youtube.com/live/XKabbuZctkw>

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

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

10:00 a.m. NH Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources Regular Meeting
172 Pembroke Road
Concord, NH
Join the meeting now
Meeting ID: 246 473 049 276 6
Passcode: En9FD7iP
Join on a video conferencing device
Tenant key: nhgov@m.webex.com
Video ID: 119 033 038 3

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

2:00 p.m. Department of Business Regular Meeting
and Economic Affairs
Suite 100
100 North Main Street
Concord, NH

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026

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

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026

SOLID WASTE WORKING GROUP (RSA 149-M:61)

9:30 a.m. NHDES Regular Meeting
Room 208C
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH
Remote attendance option:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3435858814888164108>

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)

5:00 p.m. Edward Cross Training Complex Regular Meeting
 722 Riverwood Drive
 Pembroke, NH

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

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

10:00 a.m. Room 234, GP Regular Meeting
 The Youtube link to view the meeting livestream is:
 <https://youtube.com/live/J703hFuGqx4?feature=share>

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026

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

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)

5:00 p.m. Edward Cross Training Complex Regular Meeting
 722 Riverwood Drive
 Pembroke, NH

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)

5:00 p.m. Edward Cross Training Complex Regular Meeting
 722 Riverwood Drive
 Pembroke, NH

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)

5:00 p.m. Edward Cross Training Complex Regular Meeting
 722 Riverwood Drive
 Pembroke, NH

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026

STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 115-A:2)

5:00 p.m. Edward Cross Training Complex Regular Meeting
 722 Riverwood Drive
 Pembroke, NH

* * * * *

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 2026 BILLS:

SENATE BILLS: 404, 446, 515, 538, 540, 565, 585, 602, 614, 635, 636, 637

* * * * *

NOTICES

NOTICE

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on November 24, 2025, voted to formally issue the following advisory opinion, which is printed below in its entirety.

Advisory Opinion 2025-5

Response to a Request for an Advisory Opinion from Representative Sherri Reinfurt (November 24, 2025)

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on November 24, 2025, considered a request for an advisory opinion from Representative Sherri Reinfurt addressing whether she is required to recuse from voting or testifying on 2026 House Bill 1554-FN, “AN ACT requiring insurance carriers to provide peer-to-peer review at any stage of prior authorization and mandating disclosure of reviewer credentials.”

In her email message to the Committee, dated November 6, 2025, Representative Reinfurt stated that she and her husband own a chiropractic center and “at times during the prior authorization requirement by insurance companies, treatment is denied as not being medically necessary.” She stated that under current law the decisions “are generally made by someone outside of the chiropractic/musculoskeletal profession. As a result, we would stand to benefit by this legislation if treatment were approved as a result of a peer-to-peer review.” She further stated that the number of times such approvals happen “is maybe 1-1000, however, with insurance companies ever changing and requiring prior authorization, the opportunity does still exist.” She also stated that financial remuneration from insurance companies for one patient is roughly \$50.00 per visit.

Relevant Statutory Provisions

14-C:4-a Recusal for Conflicts of Interest. –

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.

14-B:1 Definitions. –

In this chapter:

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.

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, or a person or organization, whether nonprofit or for profit, by which the legislator is employed, or from which the legislator receives compensation, to act as the person’s or organization’s agent or advocate, could stand to gain or lose anything of material value as a result of the official activity.

Committee Analysis

In completing its consideration, the Committee reviewed the written request submitted by Representative Reinfurt, received testimony from her, and reviewed the relevant provisions of law.

Under the statutory language set forth in RSA 14-C, recusal is required when a legislator has a conflict of interest with the subject of legislation and the legislator “could reasonably be expected to incur a direct and substantial financial benefit or detriment” [emphasis added].

The proposed bill is not limited to insurance claims involving chiropractic health care providers. It applies to all health care providers licensed by the state who participate in managed care plans. While it is possible that required peer-to-peer reviews might increase the likelihood of claims being approved, that result is uncertain. Whether peer-to-peer reviews would result in an increase of claims involving Representative Reinfurt’s own practice is speculative. As the Committee held in *Advisory Opinion 2025-3*:

A “direct” benefit must be more than hypothetical. To be direct, a benefit need not be immediate, but given the legislator’s current circumstances, there must be a reasonable expectation that the legislator will receive financial benefit from the legislative activity.

The Committee concluded that based on the facts presented, the proposed bill would not result in a direct financial benefit to Representative Reinfurt and her husband through their ownership of the chiropractic center.

Conclusion

The Committee determined that Representative Reinfurt’s participation in testifying and voting on the proposed insurance bill would not violate RSA 14-C:4-a, I. She would not receive a direct and substantial benefit from her participation in official legislative activity pertaining to the proposed bill. She is not required to recuse.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

Honorable Edward M. Gordon, Chairman
 Honorable Donna Sytek, Vice Chairman
 Senator Ruth Ward
 Senator Patrick Long
 Representative Bob Lynn
 Representative Catherine A. Rombeau
 Honorable David W. Hess

For the Committee,
 Edward M. Gordon
 Chairman

[Vote: 7-0]

* * * * *

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026

Senator Debra Altschiller would like to invite Senators to *In Congress at Exeter: A Celebration of America’s First Constitution*. This event will take place on Monday, January 5th, 2026, from 6-8pm at the Exeter Town Hall. Six months before the Declaration of Independence, the colonial government of New Hampshire drafted the first constitution in America. The original document, being brought down from Concord, will be on display on January 5th in Exeter, 250 years to the day from when it was written, in the town where it was written. The event is free and open to the public, with complimentary refreshments and remarks from special guests Judge Will Delker and Professor Lawrence Friedman. It is being organized and hosted by the American Independence Museum and is sponsored by the New Hampshire Supreme Court Society. <https://www.independencemuseum.org/event/in-congress-at-exeter/>

Senator Debra Altschiller

* * * * *

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

Legislators are invited to Great Bay Community College for the opening of the college’s new welding lab, on Friday, January 16 at 10 AM. The new lab will provide space for the college to expand and enhance its welding programs and broaden workforce training to meet acute employer demand. Join the team at Great Bay, Gov. Ayotte and other invited guests to help us celebrate this exciting milestone. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to cblackington@ccsnh.edu. Location is 320 Corporate Drive, Portsmouth NH (on the Pease Tradeport).

Senate Rebecca Perkins Kwoka, Senate Minority Leader

* * * * *

SENATE SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 25, 2025	Christmas Day (State Holiday)
Thursday, January 01, 2026	New Year's Day (State Holiday)
Wednesday, January 07, 2026	Convening Day
Monday, January 19, 2026	Martin Luther King Jr./Civil Rights Day (State Holiday)
Monday, February 16, 2026	President's Day (State Holiday)
Monday, February 23, 2026 - Friday, February 27, 2026	SENATE BREAK
Thursday, March 05, 2026	Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all Senate bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.
Thursday, March 26, 2026	CROSSOVER - Deadline to ACT on all Senate bills.
Thursday, April 30, 2026	Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all House bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.
Thursday, May 14, 2026	Deadline to ACT on all House bills.
Thursday, May 21, 2026	Deadline to FORM Committees of Conference.
Monday, May 25, 2026	Memorial Day (State Holiday)
Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.	Deadline to SIGN Committee of Conference Reports.
Thursday, June 04, 2026	Deadline to ACT on Committee of Conference Reports.
Friday, July 03, 2026	Independence Day (Observed) (State Holiday)
Monday, September 07, 2026	Labor Day (State Holiday)
Wednesday, November 11, 2026	Veterans' Day (State Holiday)
Thursday, November 26, 2026	Thanksgiving Day (State Holiday)
Friday, November 27, 2026	Day after Thanksgiving (State Holiday)
Friday, December 25, 2026	Christmas Day (State Holiday)