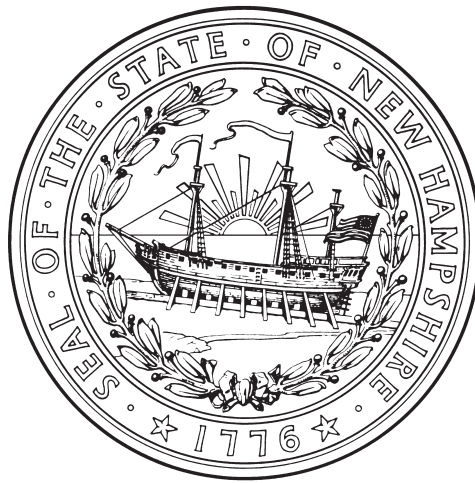


January 29, 2026
Nos. 1-2

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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



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

Legislative Proceedings

SENATE JOURNAL

**ADJOURNMENT – JANUARY 7, 2026 SESSION
COMMENCEMENT – JANUARY 29, 2026 SESSION**

SENATE JOURNAL 1 *(continued)*

January 7, 2026

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives has passed Bills with the following titles, in the passage of which it asks the concurrence of the Senate:

HB 54-FN, allowing alternative treatment centers to operate for-profit.

HB 121-FN, (New Title) relative to school district financial requirements and district probation processes.

HB 131, (New Title) relative to bullying and cyberbullying prevention.

HB 158, relative to public inspection of absentee ballot lists.

HB 164-FN, relative to local records retention.

HB 194-FN, relative to the crime of interference with custody.

HB 206-FN, relative to government agent entries into secured premises.

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

HB 219-FN, (New Title) relative to changes to the minimum electric renewable portfolio standards.

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

HB 246-FN-A, directing the state conservation committee to implement the conservation district climate resilience grant program and making an appropriation therefor.

HB 266, relative to structural changes to the department of energy.

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

HB 297-FN, relative to providing self-funded employer health benefit plans access to their claims data.

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

HB 323, requiring the presentation of a government-issued photographic means of identification in order to vote.

HB 360, (New Title) prohibiting public schools from performing surgical procedures or prescribing pharmaceutical drugs.

HB 396, (New Title) relative to the processing of beef cows, swine, sheep, and goats at facilities not certified by the United States Department of Agriculture.

HB 463, relative to the composition of the board of recount in elections for the select board and for the school board.

HB 524-FN, (New Title) relative to disbursement of funds by the New Hampshire vaccine association and establishing a committee to study the efficacy of the New Hampshire vaccine association.

HB 529, relative to the liquor commission.

HB 564, relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.

HB 565, allowing persons under 21 into veterans' clubs, private clubs, and social clubs under certain conditions.

HB 609-FN, relative to the general court's authority over the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, and other matter pertaining to firearms, stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices, knives and other self-defense tools.

HB 610-FN, (New Title) relative to the office of the consumer advocate.

HB 656, relative to the authority of local school districts to accept federal grants.

HB 709-FN, allowing parents or guardians to admit their children into any school district where they pay any property or school district taxes.

HB 767-FN, expanding requirements for reports to law enforcement by the department of health and human services.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives concurs with the Senate in the passage of the following entitled Bills sent down from the Senate:

SB 189, relative to fetal death records.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the passage of the following entitled Bills sent down from the Senate:

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

SB 44, relative to hand counts of ballots in elections.

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

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

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

SB 162-FN, relative to restrictions on acquisition of ownership, controlling, and occupancy interests in real property by certain foreign principals on or around certain military installations, and criminal penalties and civil forfeiture procedures for illegal acquisition.

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

SB 200, relative to accepting a portrait of Sylvia Larsen.

SB 204-FN-A, relative to the responsibility of local school districts to provide meals to students during school hours, reimbursing schools for meals provided to students at no cost, and making an appropriation therefor.

SB 211, relative to biological sex in student athletics.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives has referred for Interim Study the following entitled Bills sent down from the Senate:

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

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

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

SB 247, prohibiting network exclusion for pharmacies that refuse to dispense a prescription of the PBM reimbursement that is below the pharmacy's acquisition cost.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives has passed Bills with the following titles, in the passage of which it asks the concurrence of the Senate:

HB 104-FN, relative to requiring an official declaration of war for the activation of the New Hampshire national guard in a foreign state.

HB 155-FN, reducing the rate of the business enterprise tax.

HB 173, relative to maintaining the purpose of a petitioned warrant article.

HB 186-FN-A, relative to the legalization and regulation of cannabis and making appropriations therefor.

HB 232-FN, relative to the rights of conscience for medical professionals.

HB 257-FN, (New Title) relative to the crime of endangering the welfare of a child or incompetent.

HB 348, relative to eligibility for local assistance.

HB 349-FN, relative to the practice of optometry and authorization to perform ophthalmic laser procedures.

HB 365-FN, relative to proof of United States citizenship for indigent voters.

HB 366-FN-A, (New Title) modifying the priority of applications for school building aid grants.

HB 392-FN, (New Title) directing the dissolution of the department of health and human services' office of health access and the department of environmental services' functions for environmental justice.

HB 488, (Second New Title) relative to limiting conflicts of interest and concentrations of power for municipal board and committee members.

HB 510-FN, relative to establishing certain due process rights for students, student organizations, and faculty members facing disciplinary actions by state institutions of higher learning.

HB 704-FN-A, (New Title) making an appropriation to the retired senior volunteer program.

HB 751-FN, (Second New Title) establishing a committee to study licensure of outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives concurs with the Senate in the passage of the following entitled Bills sent down from the Senate:

SB 268, permitting classification of individuals based on biological sex under certain limited circumstances.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the passage of the following entitled Bills sent down from the Senate:

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

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the passage of the following entitled Bill sent down from the Senate and has indefinitely postponed the Bill:

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

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Senator Birdsell offered the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That in accordance with the list in the possession of the Senate Clerk, the following legislation shall be by this resolution read a first and second time by the therein listed title and referred to the therein designated committee. Adopted in recess.

First and Second Reading and Referral

26-2244

SB 468, relative to enabling alternative treatment centers to operate a greenhouse cultivation location. (Pearl, Dist 17; Fenton, Dist 10; Innis, Dist 7; Reardon, Dist 15; Polozov, Merr. 10; Weber, Ches. 5; McLean, Hills. 15; Ebel, Merr. 7; Judiciary)

26-2089

SB 650, relative to use of cannabis products for therapeutic purposes by alternative treatment centers. (Rochefort, Dist 1; Innis, Dist 7; McGough, Dist 11; Sullivan, Dist 18; Murphy, Dist 16; Polozov, Merr. 10; Weber, Ches. 5; C. McGuire, Merr. 27; Ebel, Merr. 7; Judiciary)

26-2257

SB 651-FN-A, relative to the legalization and regulation of cannabis and making appropriations therefor. (Fenton, Dist 10; Rosenwald, Dist 13; Watters, Dist 4; Long, Dist 20; Prentiss, Dist 5; Altschiller, Dist 24; Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Simpson, Rock. 33; Telerski, Hills. 11; Judiciary)

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Senator Birdsell offered the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That in accordance with the list in the possession of the Senate Clerk, the following legislation shall be by this resolution read a first and second time by the therein listed title and referred to the therein designated committee. Adopted in recess.

First and Second Reading and Referral

HB 104-FN, relative to requiring an official declaration of war for the activation of the New Hampshire national guard in a foreign state. (Finance)

HB 155-FN, reducing the rate of the business enterprise tax. (Ways and Means)

HB 173, relative to maintaining the purpose of a petitioned warrant article. (Election Law and Municipal Affairs)

HB 186-FN-A, relative to the legalization and regulation of cannabis and making appropriations therefor. (Judiciary)

HB 232-FN, relative to the rights of conscience for medical professionals. (Health and Human Services)

HB 257-FN, relative to the crime of endangering the welfare of a child or incompetent. (Children and Family Law)

HB 348, relative to eligibility for local assistance. (Election Law and Municipal Affairs)

HB 349-FN, relative to the practice of optometry and authorization to perform ophthalmic laser procedures. (Health and Human Services)

HB 365-FN, relative to proof of United States citizenship for indigent voters. (Election Law and Municipal Affairs)

HB 366-FN-A, modifying the priority of applications for school building aid grants. (Education Finance)

HB 392-FN, directing the dissolution of the department of health and human services' office of health access and the department of environmental services' functions for environmental justice. (Executive Departments and Administration)

HB 488, relative to limiting conflicts of interest and concentrations of power for municipal board and committee members. (Election Law and Municipal Affairs)

HB 510-FN, relative to establishing certain due process rights for students, student organizations, and faculty members facing disciplinary actions by state institutions of higher learning. (Judiciary)
 HB 704-FN-A, making an appropriation to the retired senior volunteer program. (Finance)
 HB 751-FN, establishing a committee to study licensure of outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities. (Executive Departments and Administration)

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Senator Birdsell offered the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That in accordance with the list in the possession of the Senate Clerk, the following legislation shall be by this resolution read a first and second time by the therein listed title and referred to the therein designated committee. Adopted in recess.

First and Second Reading and Referral

26-3254

SB 652-FN, changing the maximum award of tax credits for overpayment of due taxes. (Lang, Dist 2; Ways and Means)

26-3253

SB 654-FN, creating tax credits for businesses that have on-site child care services and for businesses that provide health care coverage for certain employees. (Sullivan, Dist 18; Lang, Dist 2; Ricciardi, Dist 9; Rice, Hills. 38; Notter, Hills. 12; Kuttub, Rock. 17; Ways and Means)

January 15, 2026

2026-0125-EBA

05/09

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 451-FN

The Committee on Enrolled Bills to which was referred HB 451-FN

AN ACT establishing the paint product stewardship program.

Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill as amended ought to pass.

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Explanation to Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 451-FN

This enrolled bill amendment makes a grammatical correction.

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 451-FN

Amend RSA 149-M:65, VII as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing line 1 with the following:

VII. "Manufacturer" means a manufacturer of a paint product who sells, offers for sale, or

Senator Carson moved adoption of the Enrolled Bill Amendment. Adopted in recess.

January 15, 2026

2026-0126-EBA

09/05

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 705

The Committee on Enrolled Bills to which was referred HB 705

AN ACT relative to health care cost transparency.

Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill as amended ought to pass.

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Explanation to Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 705

This enrolled bill amendment makes technical changes to the bill, including renumbering section numbers to avoid conflict with 2025, 262.

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 705

Amend RSA 420-J:20 through 420-J:26, as inserted by section 1 of the bill, by renumbering sections RSA 420-J:20 through 420-J:26 to read as RSA 420-J:27 through RSA 420-J:33, respectively.

Amend section 1 of the bill by replacing line 2 with the following:

inserting after section 26 the following new subdivision:

Amend RSA 420-J:28, III as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing lines 2-3 with the following:

under RSA 420-J:29 in 3 machine-readable files, in accordance with the method and format requirements described in RSA 420-J:30, and updated as required under RSA 420-J:30, III.

Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 420-J:29, II(c) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing line 7 with the following:

Consistent with RSA 420-J:32, II, nothing in this paragraph requires the disclosure of information

Amend RSA 420-J:29, III(d)(3) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing line 6 with the following:

RSA 420-J:32, II, nothing in this paragraph requires the disclosure of information that would violate

Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 420-J:30, I as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing line 1 with the following:

I. Pricing information from the machine-readable files described in RSA 420-J:29 shall be

Amend RSA 420-J:30, III as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing line 2 with the following:

420-J:29 and the information submitted to the commissioner described in this subdivision on a

Amend RSA 420-J:30, IV as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing line 2 with the following:

this subdivision and make it available to the public through an online tool that facilitates market

Senator Carson moved adoption of the Enrolled Bill Amendment. Adopted in recess.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ENROLLED BILLS

The committee on Enrolled Bills has examined and found correctly Enrolled the following entitled House and/or Senate Bills:

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

SB 189, relative to fetal death records.

SB 268, permitting classification of individuals based on biological sex under certain limited circumstances.

Senator Avard moved adoption of the Report of Committee on Enrolled Bills. Adopted in recess.

Out of Recess. Call the Senate to Order.

MOTION TO ADJOURN FROM LATE SESSION

Senator Birdsell moved that the Senate adjourn from the Late Session.

Adopted. Adjournment from the Late Session.

SENATE JOURNAL 2

January 29, 2026

The Senate reconvened at 10:00 a.m., a quorum being present.

Senator Birdsell offered the following prayer:

Oh God from all power comes by whose divine will all must abide. We pray to keep everyone safe in the aftermath of yet another New England Nor'easter. We thank you for our civil liberties and freedom, for our opportunities and our privileges. We beg of you to bless assist and enlighten the senators in this body today

and always. May they prove worthy of the confidence placed in them by their fellow citizens. May they be just and upright in their thinking, honest in their actions, and ever be guided by a true conscience in the legislation they propose to vote on. Hold onto in your protective hands our military and first responders. Forgive us for all our mistakes and help prepare us by our good deeds for an eternal union with you. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Senator Long led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

(The Chair recognized Senator McGough.)

SENATOR MCGOUGH: Thank you, Madam President. I'm really privileged and honored, and I appreciate the opportunity to introduce to you, the Milford High School Championship "We The People" Constitutional Debate class, if they'd join us in the chamber, and their teacher, Mr. Thomas Lundstedt. They're coming. I'll tell you a little bit about them as they're on their way in. This group of students are some of the most brilliant students that I've ever encountered. I had the privilege of guest teaching their class for one day and helping them prepare another evening. They spend months preparing and they won the 23rd championship since 1999. Come on up.

This competition is sponsored every year by the Bar Association. They compete against multiple other high schools at the St. Anselm New Hampshire Institute of Politics. It's an all-day competition, a constitutional debate. They cite obscure references from every Federalist Paper, multiple Supreme Court decisions. It's exhausting. They prepare for months and months and months, and I've frankly never met another group. And here's the most amazing thing to me. This group, there's no senior quarterback that's been doing it for four years. They get one shot at this. So they prepare for months and they can never do it again. And they've won it 23 times since 1999? Or is this 24? And this is your third, Mr. Lundstedt? So congratulations to you and to this team. And I just have a quick resolution. The New Hampshire Senate presents a resolution:

Be it known that the New Hampshire Senate extends its congratulations to Milford High School in recognition of winning the "We the People" 2026 State Championship. A competition dedicated to celebrating excellence in civics and the United States Constitution. And be it further known, the New Hampshire Senate extends its best wishes for continued success.

SENATOR MCGOUGH: Thank you and congratulations. Thank you so much for joining us today.

MR. THOMAS LUNDSTEDT: Thank you Madam President, Senators, could I yield my time to a couple of my students to say a couple of words?

SHAE HANSEN: Thank you, Madam President. Good morning, Senators. I'm Shae Hansen. I'm a senior.

OLIVIA SKARE: I'm Olivia Skare. I'm also a senior.

SHAE HANSEN: I think we just want to say how much time and effort we put into this. Over Christmas break, for example, we weren't in school for like two weeks. And I think each of us met at least for like six hours at a Starbucks, just like going through everything, memorizing our essays, so it took a lot of time and effort, so I'm really proud of each and every one of us for stepping up and doing a great job.

OLIVIA SKARE: And we're very thankful to Mr. Lundstedt, who continued to push us throughout the year and continues to push us as we go on to nationals.

SHAE HANSEN: Thank you for your time.

SENATOR MCGOUGH: Thank you so much, Madam President and colleagues. I appreciate it. This was the best booth I visited at the pumpkin fest and then here we are today. So really appreciate it. Thank you again.

Recess. Out of recess.

2ND AMENDED FN Report for January 29, 2026

W/F	Bill	Title	R/C	Committee	Full Name
Waive	SB 515	relative to judicial determinations related to children placed in a qualified residential treatment program in certain juvenile matters and appointment of counsel in certain circumstances.	Consent	CFL	Children and Family Law

Waive	SB 450	relative to a state parks pass pilot program for recovery centers and community mental health centers.	Consent	ENR	Energy and Natural Resources
Finance	SB 539	relative to eligible biomass technology in the renewable portfolio standards.	Consent	ENR	Energy and Natural Resources
Waive	SB 590	relative to electric aggregation plans.	Consent	ENR	Energy and Natural Resources
Waive	SB 644	requiring background checks for solid waste and hazardous waste facility owners.	Consent	ENR	Energy and Natural Resources
Waive	SB 401	relative to removing an obsolete annual reporting requirement by municipal overseers of public welfare to the department of health and human services and repealing the department of health and human services reporting requirement on 10-year demographic cost projections.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Waive	SB 402	eliminating certain non-compete agreements for physician associates.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Finance	SB 424	relative to the organization of the department of business and economic affairs.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Waive	SB 427	relative to the joint committee on employee classification.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Finance	SB 448	modifying the definition of veteran and relative to lifetime hunting and fishing license fees for disabled veterans.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Waive	SB 492	authorizing the department of military affairs and veterans services to license and lease property in which the department holds a property interest.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Waive	SB 502	removing references to the department of business and economic affairs and the office of planning and development relative to the department of energy.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Finance	SB 528	prohibiting receiving compensation for lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Waive	SB 529	giving preference to lumber sourced in the United States on all state-funded building projects.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Waive	SB 530	relative to fetal death reporting to the Centers For Disease Control.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Finance	SB 566	relative to recruiting incentive programs for the national guard.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Waive	SB 641	relative to examination requirements for licensure as a chiropractor.	Consent	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Finance	SB 408	relative to health insurance coverage for prosthetics.	Consent	HHS	Health and Human Services
Waive	SB 454	requiring the department of health and human services to update existing relevant public health outreach programs by incorporating information to aid public understanding and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.	Consent	HHS	Health and Human Services
Waive	SB 543	relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor.	Consent	HHS	Health and Human Services
Finance	SB 608	relative to family caregiver support in certain programs and child care support for kinship caregivers.	Consent	HHS	Health and Human Services
Waive	SB 610	relative to long-term care insurance standards, form approvals, and public hearing procedures.	Consent	HHS	Health and Human Services
Waive	SB 409	relative to the penalties for the offense of disobeying an officer.	Consent	JUD	Judiciary

Waive	SB 521	relative to unauthorized camping on private property.	Consent	JUD	Judiciary
Finance	SB 618	relative to the penalties for repeat speeding offenders.	Consent	JUD	Judiciary
Waive	SB 620	relative to refusal of consent to testing to determine alcohol concentration and penalties for aggravated driving while intoxicated.	Consent	JUD	Judiciary
Waive	SB 622	relative to the offense of identity fraud.	Consent	JUD	Judiciary
Waive	SB 632	relative to a certain highway sign in Concord.	Consent	TRANS	Transportation
Waive	SB 649	increasing fines for using a hand-held mobile electronic device while driving a motor vehicle.	Consent	TRANS	Transportation
Waive	SB 471	relative to affordable housing investment fees.	Consent	WM	Ways and Means
Waive	SB 505	repealing the fee for temporary registration of nonresidents relative to OHRVs.	Consent	WM	Ways and Means
Finance	SB 511	relative to state park fees for state residents.	Consent	WM	Ways and Means
Finance	SB 638	relative to establishing a small business tariff stabilization fund.	Consent	WM	Ways and Means
Finance	HB 639	relative to the use of and disputes over blockchain and digital currencies.	Regular	COM	Commerce
Finance	SB 223	relative to using college or university student identification cards to obtain a ballot.	Regular	ELMA	Election Law and Municipal Affairs
Waive	HB 751	(New Title) requiring licensure of outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities and relative to complaint investigation of treatment facilities by the department of health and human services office of the ombudsman and making an appropriation therefor.	Regular	EDA	Executive Departments and Administration
Waive	SB 553	relative to penalties for attempting to elude pursuit by law enforcement.	Regular	JUD	Judiciary
Waive	SB 633	establishing a voluntary surcharge program and fund for the division of the arts and state council on the arts.	Regular	WM	Ways and Means
Waive	SB 636	establishing tax credits for qualifying small businesses against documented tariff-related costs.	Regular	WM	Ways and Means
Finance	SB 637	relative to certain tax credits for purchase from New Hampshire farms.	Regular	WM	Ways and Means

Please Note: Senate Rule 4-5 requires every bill and joint resolution appropriating money, and every other bill which is accompanied by a fiscal note pursuant to RSA 14:44, which has been referred to another committee and found Ought to Pass by the Senate, shall be referred to the Senate Finance Committee for review, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate upon recommendation of the Chair of the Senate Finance Committee. Senator Gray has reviewed the bills on the Consent and Regular Calendars to be acted upon by the Senate on January 29, 2026, and his recommendations are listed on this FN Report. Bills listed as Waive should be sent to Third Reading. Bills listed as Finance should be sent to the Senate Finance Committee. The recommendations are only applicable to bills found Ought to Pass.

Without objection, the FN Report is adopted.

CONSENT CALENDAR REPORTS REMOVED

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

SB 439, by Senator Perkins Kwoka

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 400, by Senator Gannon

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SB 610, by Senator Rochefort

SPECIAL ORDER

Without objection, the following bills are Special Ordered to Next Session. Adopted.

COMMERCE

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

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SB 610-FN, relative to long-term care insurance standards, form approvals, and public hearing procedures.

WAYS AND MEANS

SB 633-FN, establishing a voluntary surcharge program and fund for the division of the arts and state council on the arts.

SB 637-FN, relative to certain tax credits for purchase from New Hampshire farms.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Senator Birdsell moved that the Consent Calendar, with the relevant amendments as printed in the day's Calendar be adopted and that all such bills found Ought to Pass be ordered as follows:

FN bills not waived under Senate Rule 4-5, to the Committee on Finance; non-FN bills approved for referral to Finance by the day's FN Report, to the Committee on Finance; and all other bills, to Third Reading.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

SB 412, relative to the conditional release of delinquent minors and children in need of services.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0. Senator Sullivan for the committee.

SB 412 updates both the CHINS and delinquency statutes to clarify that courts may retain jurisdiction to hear violations of a youth's conditional release, as long as the violation is filed during the release period.

SB 413, relative to the detention of a minor attaining the age of 18 during the pendency of a delinquency action. Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0. Senator Sullivan for the committee.

SB 413 specifies that if a minor is detained pending an adjudicatory hearing, they will be held at a facility certified for the detention of minors if under 18, and at a county corrections facility once turning 18.

SB 515-FN, relative to judicial determinations related to children placed in a qualified residential treatment program in certain juvenile matters and appointment of counsel in certain circumstances.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0. Senator Long for the committee.

SB 515-FN revises delinquency, FFPSA, and CHINS statutes to assert the department shall complete an assessment to be reviewed by the courts within 60 days of institutionalization. Additionally, if there are no attorneys available to represent the child's expressed interest, litigation may resume on other matters of the case; the amendment removes this capability after 1 year.

Senate Children and Family Law

January 16, 2026

2026-0129s

09/05

Amendment to SB 515-FN

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 4 with the following:

5 Repeal. RSA 169-C:10, II(f), relative to attorneys and guardians ad litem, is repealed.

6 Effective Date.

I. Section 4 of this act shall take effect August 1, 2026.

II. Section 5 of this act shall take effect August 1, 2027.

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

COMMERCE

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.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Fenton for the committee.

This bill would establish 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. The committee would be charged with re-

viewing scientific evidence; examining the potential impact these products have on families, schools, and businesses; and determining how a ban, if any, would be implemented. Since the federal government has expressed interest in banning dyes and additives, this bill could serve as a placeholder to determine how to mitigate losses felt by small businesses.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SB 450-FN, relative to a state parks pass pilot program for recovery centers and community mental health centers.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Watters for the committee.

SB450 would establish a 3-year pilot program that gives state parks passes to mental health centers across the State. The committee and experts said that outdoor recreation leads to an improved mental health and well-being overall. Amendment 2026-0124s changes the date from 2027 to 2029.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources

January 15, 2026

2026-0124s

04/09

Amendment to SB 450-FN

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

2 Prospective Repeal; 2029. RSA 216-A:3-g, IX, relative to the pilot program for community mental health centers, is repealed.

3 Effective Date.

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

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

SB 539-FN, relative to eligible biomass technology in the renewable portfolio standards.

Interim Study, Vote 4-0. Senator McConkey for the committee.

SB 539-FN restructured how biomass technologies are categorized. However, the Energy and Natural Resources committee decided the legislation was not ready for passage and recommended a motion of interim study instead.

SB 590-FN, relative to electric aggregation plans.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Watters for the committee.

SB 590-FN allows municipalities the flexibility to use a revolving fund for approved electric aggregation plans. This bill as amended expands a town's ability to use non-tax revenue to invest in pre-approved energy projects.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources

January 13, 2026

2026-0083s

04/05

Amendment to SB 590-FN

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

1 New Subparagraph; Revolving Funds. Amend RSA 31:95-h, I by inserting after subparagraph (g) the following new subparagraph:

(h) Facilitating the provision of energy services pursuant to the approved electric aggregation plan under RSA 53-E, provided that no funds raised from local taxes shall be used for such purposes.

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

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

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

Senate Bill 644-FN would require background checks for solid waste and hazardous waste facility owners including partners and managers. This bill is a request from the Department of Environmental Services that will bring existing language into compliance with FBI requirements and allow DES to access the federal database to continue conducting the background checks.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 401-FN, relative to removing an obsolete annual reporting requirement by municipal overseers of public welfare to the department of health and human services and repealing the department of health and human services reporting requirement on 10-year demographic cost projections.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 401-FN removes now-defunct reporting requirements for municipal public welfare officials and the department of health and human services. Additionally, it eliminates the 10-year demographic cost projections requirements, for which there is no longer an organization to submit reports to.

SB 402-FN, eliminating certain non-compete agreements for physician associates.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 402 would strike the non-compete clause for physician associates. This will only apply to new contracts or renewals of contracts which take place after the bill's effective date. The language is modeled after other statutes which eliminate non-compete agreements for other professions.

SB 422, relative to membership of the governor's commission on addiction, treatment, and prevention.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 422 amends the membership of the Governor's commission on addiction, treatment, and prevention by adding one new member who has expertise in gaming addiction and increasing the members in long-term recovery from one to two. The bill also makes the representative from the state's faith-based community into a voting member.

SB 424-FN, relative to the organization of the department of business and economic affairs.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0. Senator McGough for the committee.

SB 424-FN proposes a reorganization of the Department of Business and Economic Affairs, including the creation of regional economic development directors across the state and the repeal of the Northern County Area Industrial Agent. The bill did not have sufficient support from communities in the North Country to proceed.

SB 426, repealing the permissible fireworks advisory committee.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 426 would disband the permissible fireworks advisory committee, at the request of the members of this committee. The committee has fulfilled its statutory obligations regarding consumer safety, and the Fire Marshal has the tools needed to continue the relevant work without continuing to assemble the committee.

SB 427-FN, relative to the joint committee on employee classification.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-1. Senator McGough for the committee.

SB 427-FN revises the maximum allowable salary ranges for several state officer positions, including medical examiner positions in the Department of Justice, to improve recruitment and retention. It does not create new positions or appropriate additional funding but permits salary adjustments within existing or future budget authority.

SB 428, relative to the maximum amount of terms an individual can serve on the electricians' board.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 428 would allow members of the electricians' board to serve a maximum of three terms. This is an increase from the current maximum of two terms. Obtaining a third term would still require one to be nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Executive Council.

SB 448-FN, modifying the definition of veteran and relative to lifetime hunting and fishing license fees for disabled veterans.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 448-FN amends the definition of veteran to expand eligibility for state benefits and programs by including individuals discharged under honorable conditions. The bill also establishes a lifetime combination hunting and fishing license, with a one-time fee that is tied to a veteran's military service-connected disability rating. In addition, the amendment clarifies that the revised definition of veteran applies throughout the bill.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
 January 8, 2026
 2026-0061s
 05/09

Amendment to SB 448-FN

Amend the bill by replacing sections 2-6 with the following:

2 New Hampshire Veterans' Home; Command and Employees. Amend RSA 119:6 to read as follows:

119:6 Commandant and Employees. The board shall appoint, or may remove, for just cause, a commandant of the home. ~~[Honorably discharged veterans as defined in RSA 119:1]~~ **A veteran as defined by RSA 21:50** shall have preference for employment in the home if qualified by the New Hampshire division of personnel.

3 Preference of Resident Laborers and Veterans; Employment of Veterans. Amend RSA 283:4, I to read as follows:

I. In public employment of clerks, office help, mechanics, laborers, inspectors, supervisors, foremen, janitors, peace officers, and relief employees in the construction of public works, public projects and in the conduct of city, town or district departments by a county, city, town, or district, or by persons contracting therewith for such construction, carrying out of relief projects and in the conduct of city, town, or district departments, preference shall be given to citizens of the state who have served in the armed forces of the United States, for not less than 90 days, in times of war, and ~~[have been discharged honorably therefrom, or released from active duty therein]~~ **meet the definition of "veteran" in RSA 21:50**, if equally qualified for said employment and if registered in accordance with the provisions of RSA 283:7. Where such employment is obtained from relief rolls or for persons in need, in cases of equal or greater need preference shall be given to such veterans.

4 Property Taxes; Certain Disabled Veterans. Amend the introductory paragraph in RSA 72:36-a to read as follows:

72:36-a Certain Disabled Veterans. Any person, who is ~~[discharged from military service of the United States under conditions other than dishonorable]~~ **a veteran as defined by RSA 21:50**, or an officer who is honorably separated from military service, who owns a specially adapted homestead which has been acquired with the assistance of the Veterans Administration or which has been acquired using proceeds from the sale of any previous homestead which was acquired with the assistance of the Veterans Administration, the person or person's surviving spouse, shall be exempt from all taxation on said homestead, provided that:

5 Reemployment of Veterans; Veterans Guaranteed Reemployment. Amend RSA 97:1 to read as follows:

97:1 Veterans Guaranteed Reemployment. Each county, town, city, precinct, school board or other political subdivision of the state shall reemploy a veteran of any branch of the military service of the United States who has been placed on inactive status or ~~[been given a discharge other than dishonorable]~~ **is a veteran as defined by RSA 21:50** and who, within 90 days after being so made inactive or discharged, in writing, notifies the treasurer or other fiscal agent of such political subdivision that he **or she** desires to be reinstated in the position he **or she** held with such political subdivision at the time he **or she** entered said military service.

6 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. Amend RSA 110-D:3, XX to read as follows:

XX. "Veteran" ~~[means a person who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable]~~ **shall have the same meaning as in RSA 21:50.**

SB 451, amending the title of the position of senior deputy secretary of state.
 Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 451 changes the title of Senior Deputy Secretary of State to Special Deputy Secretary of State. This change clarifies the order of seniority within the Secretary of State's office.

SB 472, removing the maximum age on the tenure of office for the position of deputy adjutant general.
 Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator McGough for the committee.

SB 472 removes the maximum age limit for the tenure of office for the deputy adjunct general. This is a civilian position; therefore, the officeholder is not subject to military age restrictions.

SB 473, defining the term “field officers” within the national guard.
Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator McGough for the committee.

SB 473 defines “field officers” within the National Guard as those officers holding the rank of lieutenant colonel and colonel. Prior to this legislation, there had not been an official definition established for the term “field officer.”

SB 486, relative to the administrative procedure act.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator McGough for the committee.

SB 486 modernizes and revises the Administrative Procedures Act. The revisions range from clarifying language and improving formatting to more substantive changes, such as transferring authority in the rule-approval process to the Director of the Division of Administrative Rules. The amendment also provides agencies with clearer guidance on procedures for interim rules, specifically when compliance with new or amended laws is required.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
January 8, 2026
2026-0059s
09/08

Amendment to SB 486

Amend RSA 541-A:19, X as inserted by section 24 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

X. ~~[No proposed interim rule shall be adopted unless the committee has voted to approve the proposed interim rule or conditionally approve the proposed interim rule, provided that the committee legal counsel has sent written confirmation to the agency pursuant to RSA 541-A:19, VIII(b).]~~ An adopted interim rule and any ~~[new or amended] form[, or screenshot, mock-up, or prototype of an electronic-only form,]~~ which the rule incorporates by reference or **for which** the requirements ~~[for which]~~ are set forth in the rule pursuant to RSA 541-A:19, shall be filed with the director ~~[of legislative services]~~ no later than 30 days following committee approval or conditional approval or in the case of a board or commission, 7 days ~~[following]~~ **of** its next regularly scheduled meeting after committee approval or after receipt of the written confirmation **of compliance with a** ~~[pursuant to RSA 541-A:19, VIII(b) for a committee]~~ conditional approval. An interim rule shall be effective ~~[under RSA 541-A:16, II]~~ **at 12:01 a.m.** on the day after filing with the director ~~[of legislative services]~~, or at a later date, provided ~~[the]~~ **an** agency ~~[so]~~ specifies **the date** in a letter to the director ~~[of legislative services]~~ and the effective date is within 30 days ~~[following]~~ **of** committee approval or conditional approval or, in the case of a board or commission, within 7 days following its next regularly scheduled meeting after **committee approval or conditional approval** ~~[receipt of the written confirmation pursuant to RSA 541-A:19, VIII(b)].~~ **The effective date of an interim rule may fall outside of the 30 and 7 day time periods above if the interim rule is adopted to conform with a new or amended statute or chaptered session law pursuant to RSA 541-A:19, I(a), and the effective date is the same as the effective date of the statute or chaptered session law with which the interim rule is adopted to conform.** Interim rules shall be effective for a period ~~[not to exceed]~~ **no longer than** 180 days **except as extended pursuant to RSA 541-A:14-a.** During the time an interim rule ~~[shall be]~~ **is** in effect, the agency may propose a permanent rule to replace the interim rule ~~[once it expires]~~, but it shall not adopt another interim rule to replace ~~[the]~~ **an** expiring interim rule.

SB 490, establishing a task force to assess the development of housing at Great Bay community college and authorizing the college the right to use vacant property for the purpose of developing housing.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 490 establishes a task force to determine the feasibility of developing housing at Great Bay Community College. The bill creates a multi-stakeholder task force to evaluate housing models, funding sources, ownership and financing structures, operational needs, and affordability and sustainability considerations. The task force would be required to report its findings and recommendations to state and local leaders by December 30, 2026. The amendment clarifies that the task force shall review the acceptability of the proposed housing development under applicable federal authorities and regulations.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
January 14, 2026
2026-0118s
07/08

Amendment to SB 490

Amend RSA 12-G:13-a, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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

(a) Review the permissibility of military and student housing on Pease Development Authority property pursuant to the Department of Transportation, the Federal Aviation Administration, and avenues for any needed amendment to federal statute.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 492-FN authorizes the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services to lease or license property under its jurisdiction. The bill also creates a dedicated Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services Property Fund to manage revenues and expenses related to department property and projects. The amendment requires lease agreements to include tax payment obligations, rather than prescribing detailed tax enforcement in statute.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
January 14, 2026
2026-0114s
07/05

Amendment to SB 492-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraphs; National Guard Facilities. Amend RSA 110-B:28 by inserting after paragraph VI the following new paragraphs:

VII. The department of military affairs and veterans services shall have the authority to license or lease all property under its jurisdiction.

VIII. All department property that is leased or licensed by a person, other than by the department or any other entity exempted from taxation under RSA 72:23, shall include in the lease or other agreement the terms providing for the payment of properly assessed real and personal property taxes by the party using or occupying said property under the provisions of RSA 72:23.

SB 502-FN, removing references to the department of business and economic affairs and the office of planning and development relative to the department of energy.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 502-FN removes obsolete references to the Department of Business and Economic Affairs and the Office of Planning and Development in relation to the Department of Energy. The bill modernizes statutory language to reflect the current structure of state government. The amendment further cleans up language regarding committee and board meeting rules, clarifies administrative structures for certain state boards, updates elevator safety law references, and repeals some statute references to innovation centers.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
January 14, 2026
2026-0116s
07/08

Amendment to SB 502-FN

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

AN ACT removing references to the department of business and economic affairs and the office of planning and development, and makes various changes to how certain committees and commissions participate or operate.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 13 with the following:

14 New Paragraph; New Hampshire Retirement System; Independent Investment Committee. Amend RSA 100-A:14-b by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

IV. Notwithstanding RSA 91-A or any other provision of law to the contrary, independent investment committee members shall be permitted to participate in meetings by telephone, video conference, or other electronic means, provided that any independent investment committee member so participating shall be able to be heard by and to hear every other member of the committee participating in the meeting and, unless the committee is meeting in a nonpublic session as permitted by RSA 91-A:3, shall be able to be heard by all members of the public attending the meeting. Voting members of the independent investment committee participating electronically shall be treated as present at the meeting for all purposes, including the establishment of a quorum. Any meeting at which one or more committee members are participating electronically shall be recorded verbatim by magnetic tape or otherwise, and such recording shall be made available for public inspection to the same extent as minutes of the meeting, provided that the accidental destruction of a recording or the accidental failure to record any meeting shall not invalidate any action taken at that meeting.

15 New Paragraph; New Hampshire Health Care Workplace Safety Commission; Duties. Amend RSA 151-J:2 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. Notwithstanding RSA 91-A or any other law to the contrary, commission members shall be permitted to participate in meetings by video or telephone, provided that any member so participating shall be able to be heard by and to hear every other member of the commission participating in the meeting. Voting members participating by video or telephone shall be treated as present at the meeting for all purposes, including the establishment of a quorum.

16 New Paragraph; Department of Labor; Labor Commissioner; Penalty Appeal Board. Amend RSA 273:11-b by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraph:

VI. The penalty appeal board shall be an administratively attached agency under RSA 21-G:10, to the department of labor, but shall operate independently from the department. The commissioner shall hire and appoint an administrator for the board from department of labor staff, who shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner. The administrator shall perform all the administrative duties of the board, including but not limited to, scheduling the docket, record keeping, providing liaison between the public and board members, conducting board meetings, and assigning committees to address regulatory, legislative and policy issues.

17 Safety and Health of Employees; Generally; Elevator Law. Amend RSA 277:1-a to read as follows:

277:1-a Elevator Law. The provisions of **RSA 157-A and** RSA 157-B also apply to all places covered by RSA 277:1.

18 Repeals. The following are repealed:

I. RSA 187-A:31, relative to the innovation research center grant program.

II. RSA 187-A:33-b, relative to fees collected by the innovation research center.

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

2026-0116s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill removes references to the department of business and economic affairs and the office of planning and development, and makes various changes to how certain committees and commissions participate or operate.

SB 510, ensuring state-operated, publicly accessible spaces have designated smoking areas undetectable to visitors.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Altschiller for the committee.

This bill requires that any designated smoking area on publicly-owned or publicly-operated property accessible to the public is constructed or maintained so that cigarette smoke is not detectable by sight or smell in any public or common area. It exempts properties or areas under state control that are not accessible to the visiting public.

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

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 516 brings clarity and more precise language to unclassified positions within the Department of Health and Human Services. It does so by amending one position title to “lead attorney” to better reflect the position’s responsibilities. The bill also corrects grammatical errors elsewhere in the statute, where “council” was erroneously used instead of the correct term “counsel.” Finally, the amendment removes Section 2 of the legislation, as it was decided the subject matter is more appropriately addressed in separate legislation.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration

January 14, 2026

2026-0117s

07/07

Amendment to SB 516

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

2026-0117s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill revises the job title for certain positions in the department of health and human services.

SB 528-FN, prohibiting receiving compensation for lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 528-FN would ban lobbying on behalf of foreign adversaries. Foreign adversary is defined as The People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolas Maduro, or the Syrian Arab Republic; any agencies or instruments of those governments; as well as any persons, businesses, or subsidiaries subject to their authority.

SB 529-FN, giving preference to lumber sourced in the United States on all state-funded building projects.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB529-FN would give a preference to lumber sourced in the United States in state-funded projects, where it is appropriate and design criteria allows. The bill does not mandate the use of United States lumber.

SB 530-FN, relative to fetal death reporting to the Centers for Disease Control.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 530 would prohibit the Division of Vital Records from releasing sensitive information when reporting fetal deaths, including parental names, full dates of birth, medical record numbers, or addresses. The bill allows for the release of parental birth years and fetal delivery dates. The bill also clarifies terminology recorded on fetal death forms.

SB 566-FN, relative to recruiting incentive programs for the national guard.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 566-FN expands two programs related to recruitment and retention within the National Guard and establishes a third. The bill broadens eligibility for the cash incentive referral program for recruitment and increases the financial incentive bonus program aimed at retaining mid-career servicemembers. In addition, it authorizes reimbursement for expenses and fees associated with certifications and qualifications related to military job specialties when those costs are not federally covered.

SB 569, relative to the qualifications for hearings officers within the department of labor.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 569 sets qualifications for hearing officers in the Department of Labor and corrects one grammatical error in statute. It requires hearing officers to be attorneys in good standing with a qualified education. This legislation does not require that any new hearing officers have prior experience conducting administrative adjudicative hearings, rather, it requires that they have experience in the conduct of such hearings.

SB 571, relative to the requirements to be issued a certificate as a certified public accountant.
Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 571 updates the requirements for a Certified Public Accountant certification in New Hampshire. The bill replaces the “substantial equivalency” standard with a “comparable” standard for evaluating foreign accountancy credentials and revises the educational requirements for certification. It also allows applicants to take the exam up to 120 days before earning their baccalaureate degree, subject to board rules.

SB 572, relative to New Hampshire hospital real estate.
Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

SB 572 would resolve an issue with the sale of the Anna Philbrook Center for Children property. The legislation would exempt this sale from the requirements of RSA 4:39-a, which is needed as the property is not subdivisible.

SB 641-FN, relative to examination requirements for licensure as a chiropractor.
Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

SB 641 streamlines the examination requirements for licensure as a chiropractor. Some elements in statute were duplicative and unnecessary. The legislation adds a requirement for applicants to pass a state ethics and jurisprudence exam as given by the New Hampshire Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SB 408-FN, relative to health insurance coverage for prosthetics.
Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill requires health insurance plans to provide coverage for adult activity-specific prosthetic devices. The law currently requires such coverage for children’s prosthetics. This bill represents an ongoing collaborative effort between the legislature, insurance carriers, and the Insurance Department to provide coverage of one activity-specific prosthetic device every five years for adults. This will have a positive impact on the mental and physical health of those who have experienced limb loss and presents the opportunity for a cost-benefit over time.

SB 454-FN, requiring the department of health and human services to update existing relevant public health outreach programs by incorporating information to aid public understanding and awareness of Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Avaré for the committee.

As amended, this bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to engage in certain public health outreach regarding Alzheimer’s disease and other related dementia. This bill represents a collaborative effort between the legislature, the Department of Health and Human Services, and stakeholders to support residents with Alzheimer’s disease or dementia, their families, and communities as a whole.

Senate Health and Human Services
January 21, 2026
2026-0211s
05/07

Amendment to SB 454-FN

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

AN ACT relative to public health outreach by the department of health and human services regarding awareness of Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.

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

1 New Paragraph; Department of Health and Human Services; Public Health Outreach; Awareness of Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Dementias. Amend RSA 126-A:5 by inserting after paragraph XXVII the following new paragraph:

XXVII-a.(a) Subject to available resources, the commissioner shall direct the bureau of adult and aging services to collaborate with the division of public health to update and incorporate into existing relevant public health outreach programs, the following information electronically to aid people's understanding and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and to improve public health regarding:

(1) Early signs of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias that should be discussed with health care professionals.

(2) The value of early detection and diagnosis.

(3) The relationship between Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and other chronic health conditions.

(4) Lifestyle interventions that promote brain health and reduce the risk of cognitive decline.

(b) The bureau of adult and aging services shall collaborate with the division of public health to incorporate in existing relevant public health outreach programs information to educate health care providers on:

(1) The importance of risk reduction, early detection, and timely diagnosis of cognitive impairment.

(2) Validated cognitive assessment tools and biomarker tests for the detection and diagnosis of cognitive impairment.

(3) The value of a Medicare annual wellness visit for cognitive health and the Medicare care planning billing codes for individuals living with cognitive impairment.

(4) Information regarding FDA-approved treatments.

(5) Resources available to individuals living with dementia and their families and caregivers.

(c) The bureau of adult and aging services shall compile a report every 2 years regarding the incorporation of Alzheimer's and dementia into the state public outreach programs that shall be submitted to the subcommittee on Alzheimer's disease and other related dementias, established in RSA 126-A:15-a, by September 1, 2027 and bi-annually thereafter.

(d) It is the intent of the legislature that the department apply for available federal or private funds when such funds are appropriate and relevant to supporting the state's efforts to implement this paragraph or the Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map, as described by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as available resources and eligibility permit. Any such federal funds obtained shall be utilized to support the state's efforts to fully integrate brain health into public-health practice and reduce the risk and impact of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

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

2026-0211s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill directs the department of health and human services to engage in certain public health outreach regarding Alzheimer's disease and other related dementia.

SB 543-FN, relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Rochefort for the committee.

This bill establishes provisional eligibility for Medicaid nursing facility services as part of the long-term care application process and makes an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services for this purpose. This bill reflects an ongoing effort to help nursing homes serving Medicaid-eligible patients while their applications are pending. A committee amendment has been adopted to make a technical correction and reduce the appropriation.

Senate Health and Human Services

January 14, 2026

2026-0109s

05/07

Amendment to SB 543-FN

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

2 Appropriation; Provisional Eligibility. The sum of \$1 is hereby appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, to the department of health and human services for the purposes of funding provisional eligibility expenses RSA 167:8. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

3 County Reimbursement of Funds; Limitations on Payments. Amend RSA 167:18-a, I(b) to read as follows:

(b) Counties shall not be liable for ***provisional eligibility appropriations and/or payments as identified in RSA 167:8, and for*** Medicaid recipients in state institutions[, ~~the Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Center,~~] and intermediate care facilities (ICF) approved by the department of health and human services and servicing developmentally impaired persons.

SB 608-FN, relative to family caregiver support in certain programs and child care support for kinship caregivers. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Avard for the committee.

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to seek approval from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to cover family caregiver support services as an allowable service under specified waiver programs. The bill also eliminates the child care scholarship cost share for children in kinship care. An amendment has been adopted at the request of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Senate Health and Human Services
January 21, 2026
2026-0210s
05/07

Amendment to SB 608-FN

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 4 with the following:

5 Contingency. RSA 167:83, II(q), as amended by section 3 of this act, and RSA 167:83, II(v), as inserted by section 4 of this act, shall take effect upon certification by the commissioner of the department of health and human services to the director of the office of legislative services and secretary of state that the federal Office of Child Care has approved modification of the child care scholarship program as provided in sections 3 and 4 of this act.

6 Effective Date.

- I. Sections 3 and 4 of this act shall take effect as provided in section 5 of this act.
- II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

JUDICIARY

SB 409-FN, relative to the penalties for the offense of disobeying an officer. Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

Senate Bill 409-FN was a request of the Department of Safety and updates the penalties for disobeying a law enforcement officer during a motor vehicle stop or pursuit. The bill establishes graduated penalties tied to the severity of the outcome while maintaining existing license suspension provisions, with the stated goal of deterring dangerous pursuits and improving public safety on New Hampshire roadways.

SB 410, relative to possession of human remains for law enforcement training purposes. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Bill 410 as introduced would establish a framework allowing accredited law enforcement agencies to possess limited portions of human remains for cadaver dog training purposes. The Committee Amendment clarifies oversight through the Police Standards and Training Council and establishes lawful final disposition of remains under existing medical waste statutes.

Senate Judiciary
January 14, 2026
2026-0098s
12/09

Amendment to SB 410

Amend RSA 291-B:3 and 291-B:4 as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

291-B:3 Conduct During Possession of Human Remains; Return.

- I. Upon completion of training, all remaining portions of the human remains shall be returned to either:

(a) The institution of higher education located in New Hampshire that assisted in the preparation of the training aids; or

(b) A company licensed to conduct human medical waste disposal in New Hampshire. Such companies shall be authorized by the New Hampshire department of environmental services to collect, transport, and dispose of regulated medical waste in compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations.

II. The funeral home or mortuary shall ensure the proper and lawful disposition of the remains in accordance with RSA 290 and other applicable laws.

III. Institutions of higher education located in New Hampshire may assist in the preparation of training aids derived from human remains for law enforcement purposes, provided that:

(a) The institution employs or contracts with a properly trained and credentialed medical professional, including a doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) in a relevant anatomical or forensic science field, a doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.), or a doctor of medicine (M.D.), who shall oversee the preparation process.

(b) The preparation of the training aid occurs on-site at a licensed funeral home or mortuary, with the consent of the funeral director and in accordance with all applicable health and safety regulations.

(c) The institution maintains a written agreement with the law enforcement agency requesting the training aid, outlining the scope of work, handling procedures, and chain of custody for the remains.

(d) All activities are conducted in compliance with the consent requirements outlined in RSA 291-B:2, I and II.

291-B:4 Agency Policy Requirements. Any law enforcement agency in New Hampshire that conducts training involving the possession or use of human remains for cadaver canine or related law enforcement purposes shall develop and maintain a written policy governing such activities. This policy shall be submitted to and kept on file with the New Hampshire police standards and training council. The policy shall include, at a minimum:

I. A detailed acquisition plan outlining the lawful and ethical process for obtaining human remains, including documentation of consent as required under RSA 291-B:2.

II. A handling, storage, and documentation plan that ensures the secure, respectful, and traceable management of human remains throughout the training process.

III. A destruction or final disposition plan that complies with RSA 291-B:3 and applicable state and federal regulations, including procedures for returning remains to an authorized institution or licensed medical waste disposal provider.

SB 411, relative to the procedure concerning search warrant inventories.
Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0. Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Bill 411 would update search warrant inventory requirements to reflect modern law enforcement practices. The bill modernizes search warrant inventory procedures by allowing the inventory to be completed by the law enforcement officer executing the search rather than requiring the warrant applicant to be present. The bill also addresses electronically served search warrants by removing impractical in-person witness requirements while preserving accuracy through officer attestations and electronic records.

SB 521-FN, relative to unauthorized camping on private property.
Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Reardon for the committee.

Senate Bill 521-FN clarifies and extends existing restrictions on unauthorized camping by applying them to private property in municipalities with populations over 10,000. The bill prohibits camping on private land without the property owner's consent, establishes clear enforcement authority for law enforcement, and preserves exemptions for regulated campgrounds.

SB 618-FN, relative to the penalties for repeat speeding offenders.
Interim Study, Vote 4-0. Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 618-FN would allow the Department of Safety and the courts to require certain drivers, following specified speeding-related offenses, to install a device that uses GPS technology to actively limit a vehicle's speed to posted or present speed limits. At the request of the prime sponsor, the Senate Judiciary Committee recommends referral to interim study to allow for a comprehensive review of New Hampshire-specific data and consideration of how any future proposal could be appropriately tailored to align with New Hampshire's values, existing traffic laws, and enforcement practices.

SB 620-FN, relative to refusal of consent to testing to determine alcohol concentration and penalties for aggravated driving while intoxicated.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Gannon for the committee.

SB 620-FN increases administrative license suspension periods for refusal to submit to chemical testing, expands consideration of prior out-of-state DWI convictions and refusals, and provides judicial discretion in aggravated DWI sentencing tied to treatment and ignition interlock requirements. The adopted Judiciary Committee Amendment increases the first-refusal suspension from 180 days to 12 months and the subsequent-refusal suspension from 2 years to 3 years.

Senate Judiciary
January 16, 2026
2026-0130s
09/09

Amendment to SB 620-FN

Amend RSA 265-A:14, I(a)(1)-(2) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(1) The director shall suspend his or her license to drive or nonresident driving privilege for a period of ~~[180 days]~~ **12 months**; or

(2) If the person is a resident without a license or permit to drive a motor vehicle in this state, the director shall deny to the person the privilege to drive and the issuance of a license for a period of ~~[180 days]~~ **12 months** after the date of the alleged violation.

Amend RSA 265-A:14, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Except as provided in paragraph VI, the ~~[180-day]~~ **12-month** or ~~[2-year]~~ **3-year** suspension period or denial of issuance period imposed pursuant to this section shall not run concurrently with any other penalty imposed under the provision of this title. Any such suspension or denial of a license or privilege to drive shall be imposed in addition to any other penalty provided by law, subject to review as provided in RSA 265-A:31.

Amend the bill by inserting after section 4 the following and renumbering the original section 5 to read as 6:

5 New Paragraph; Driving or Operating Under the Influence of Drugs or Liquor; Penalties. Amend RSA 265-A:18 by inserting after paragraph VII the following new paragraph:

VII-a. If a person's license or privilege to drive is revoked under this section, such revocation shall run consecutively to any administrative suspension or revocation imposed by the department of safety pursuant to this chapter.

SB 622-FN, relative to the offense of identity fraud.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0. Senator Abbas for the committee.

SB 622-FN as amended addresses the growing problem of fraud by broadening New Hampshire's identity fraud statute. It adds the term "entity" to extend protections beyond individuals to include businesses, governments, and other legal organizations. The definition of "entity" covers corporations, LLCs, trusts, partnerships, associations, and public agencies at every level.

Senate Judiciary
January 13, 2026
2026-0094s
09/05

Amendment to SB 622-FN

Amend RSA 638:25, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. "Personal identifying information" means any name, number, or information that may be used, alone or in conjunction with any other information, to assume the identity of an individual **or entity**, including any name, address, telephone number, driver's license number, social security number, employer or place of employment, employee identification number, mother's maiden name, demand deposit account number, savings account number, credit card number, debit card number, personal identification number, account number, ~~[or]~~ computer password identification, **or logo or other mark used to identify an entity**.

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Identity Fraud. Amend RSA 638:26, I to read as follows:

I. A person is guilty of identity fraud when the person:

(a) Poses as another person **or entity** with the purpose to defraud in order to obtain money, credit, goods, services, or anything else of value;

(b) Obtains, [or] records, **or uses** personal identifying information about another person **or entity** without the express authorization of such person **or entity**, with the intent to pose as such person **or entity**;

(c) Obtains, [or] records, **or uses** personal identifying information about a person **or entity** without the express authorization of such person **or entity** in order to assist another to pose as such person **or entity**; or

(d) Poses as another person **or entity**, without the express authorization of such person **or entity**, with the purpose of obtaining confidential information about such person **or entity**, **or another person or entity**, that is not available to the general public.

TRANSPORTATION

SB 469, allowing the director of the division of motor vehicles to adopt administrative rules regarding the use of electronic signatures.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Fenton for the committee.

SB 469 would allow the director of the Division of Motor Vehicles to adopt administrative rules regarding the use of electronic signatures. As amended, this bill would allow the Division of Motor Vehicles to permit electronic, non-notarized, signatures on documents transferring vehicle ownership to an insurer after a total loss and requires applicants to indemnify the department for errors or misrepresentations.

Senate Transportation

January 13, 2026

2026-0097s

09/08

Amendment to SB 469

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

AN ACT allowing the director of the division of motor vehicles to adopt administrative rules regarding the use of electronic signatures and relative to signature requirements where ownership of a vehicle is transferred to an insurer after payment of damages.

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

4 Destruction of Vehicles; Total Loss, Salvage, and Rebuilt Vehicles. Amend RSA 261:22, II-b to read as follows:

II-b. *Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, supporting documents used to transfer ownership of a vehicle to an insurer after payment of damages do not require a notarized signature, may be signed electronically, and may be printed on hard copy. For purposes of this paragraph, supporting documents include but are not limited to limited power of attorney, duplicate title, and odometer statement forms.*

II-c. An applicant under RSA 261:22, II-a **and II-b** shall indemnify and hold harmless the department from any liability arising from an error or misrepresentation made by such applicant in a submission to the department pursuant to RSA 261:22, II-a **and II-b**.

2026-0097s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Authorizes the director of the division of motor vehicles to adopt rules regarding records, documents, applications, and forms that can be signed electronically, and requires electronic signatures to be accepted on such forms.

II. Allows supporting documents used to transfer ownership of a vehicle to an insurer after payment of damages to not require a notarized signature and allows the signatures to be signed electronically and printed on hard copy.

SB 500, relative to restroom access for certain commercial motor vehicle operators.
Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill would require businesses and shipping facilities to provide commercial drivers with access to existing restrooms when delivering, loading, or waiting for cargo, provided there is no obvious health, safety, or security risk. It also requires port and terminal operators to ensure adequate restroom access for drayage truck drivers, including additional facilities and parking where needed.

SB 629, renaming the new roundabout on Route 302 at the East Conway Road intersection to “Oliveira Circle.”
Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator McConkey for the committee.

This bill would rename the new roundabout at the intersection of Route 302 and East Conway Road to “Oliveira Circle” in honor of David and Catherine Oliveira, who tragically lost their lives in a traffic collision at the site prior to the roundabout’s construction.

SB 632-FN, relative to a certain highway sign in Concord.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Fenton for the committee.

As amended, this bill would authorize the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce (or a successor non-profit) to erect and maintain one internally lit advertising sign near Exit 12 on I-93 to promote nonprofit downtown Concord events and destinations, with limited message changes and up to 20% of space allowed for for-profit sponsors to offset costs. The sign must meet local zoning standards, be privately funded and maintained, and exclude the city as a sponsor.

Senate Transportation
January 14, 2026
2026-0099s
05/07

Amendment to SB 632-FN

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

1 New Subparagraph; Regulation of Erection and Maintenance of Certain Advertising Devices. Amend RSA 236:74, IV by inserting after subparagraph (g) the following new subparagraph:

(h) Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph to the contrary, the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, or any successor nonprofit organization that exists to promote visitation and commerce in the downtown area of Concord, may erect and maintain one advertising device in the current location of existing offsite signage that is within 500 feet of Exit 12 North on Interstate 93 in Concord for the sole purpose of promoting nonprofit events and places of interest in the downtown area of Concord. Such device shall:

(1) Be located in the parcel already in existence as of the effective date of this subparagraph.

(2) Comply with the structural and design standards in the zoning ordinance of the city of Concord, provided that the advertising device may be as large as the largest sign permitted by the sign ordinance of Concord, may be internally lit, and may allow for a change in message or promotion only 4 times in any 24-hour period.

(3) Display and promote any events and destinations sponsored by Concord based not-for-profit entities, subject to the right of the Chamber of Commerce, or its successor organization, to include up to 20 percent of any display for for-profit entities to offset the costs of erection and maintenance of the device or such lesser amount as may be necessary.

(4) Promote only events that occur in the downtown area of Concord between exits 13 and 15 of Interstate 93.

(5) Specifically exclude the city of Concord as an eligible sponsor.

(6) Be funded and maintained only by the Chamber of Commerce or its successor organization.

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

2026-0099s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, or its successor entity, to install and maintain one advertising device near Exit 12 on Interstate 93 for the sole purpose of promoting nonprofit events and destinations in downtown Concord.

SB 649-FN, increasing fines for using a hand-held mobile electronic device while driving a motor vehicle. Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0. Senator Fenton for the committee.

SB 649-FN would increase the penalties for using a mobile electronic device while driving by raising fines, adding higher fines when the violation contributes to a crash, and imposing license suspensions for repeat offenses within 24 months.

WAYS AND MEANS

SB 471-FN, relative to affordable housing investment fees.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 4-1. Senator Sullivan for the committee.

This bill sought to allow municipalities to adopt and enforce a fee upon development which does not meet local inclusionary zoning ordinances, to then be invested in affordable housing. Several concerns were raised during the hearing including that there are no parameters around how much the fee can be; the bill could result in stranded money, essentially creating small trust funds throughout the state, which would not be enough to get a project built; adding a fee to development will further drive up the cost of housing, potentially stranding people in affordable, starter homes; and it could have the opposite of the intended effect and decrease development.

SB 505-FN, repealing the fee for temporary registration of nonresidents relative to OHRVs. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

This bill eliminates the 10-day temporary registration for nonresident OHRVs. The temporary registration was put in place to entice out-of-state riders to come to NH to ride on our trails, and while it was successful in doing so, it is no longer working well. Nonresidents are able to purchase as many as they'd like and can get two temporary registrations for less than the cost of one regular registration. The number of dealers offering them is declining, which makes them frustrating to find and sell. Financially, it is difficult to estimate how many people will purchase them from year to year, resulting in wasted money spent on decals that don't get used. The funds from the temporary registrations do not go toward trail maintenance. The bill also removes the \$25,000 cap on law enforcement grants that are used to partner with local law enforcement to help keep the trails safe. The committee amendment addresses an issue regarding the registration of guides, ensuring that the applications are made to the chief of the Fish and Game Law Enforcement Division and changes the effective date of the bill.

Senate Ways and Means

January 21, 2026

2026-0205s

08/05

Amendment to SB 505-FN

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

AN ACT relative to applications for guide licenses and repealing the fee for temporary registration of nonresidents relative to OHRVs.

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

1 Guide Licenses. Amend RSA 215:2 to read as follows:

215:2 Application for License; Issue.

Application for a license shall be made to the [~~executive director, or their designee~~] **chief of the fish and game law enforcement division**. The executive director shall prescribe rules and regulations under which such licenses shall be issued.

I. Every new applicant applying for a New Hampshire guide's license for the first time shall submit to the fish and game department a criminal history record release form, as provided by the New Hampshire division of state police, which authorizes the release of any criminal history record to the department.

II. The applicant shall submit with the release form a complete set of fingerprints taken by a qualified law enforcement agency or an authorized employee of the department of safety. In the event that the first set of fingerprints is invalid due to insufficient pattern, a second set of fingerprints shall be necessary in order to complete the criminal history records check. If, after 2 attempts, a set of fingerprints is invalid due to insufficient pattern, the department may, in lieu of the criminal history records check, accept police clearances from every city, town, or county where the person has lived during the past 5 years.

III. The department shall submit the criminal history records release form and fingerprint form to the division of state police which shall conduct a criminal history records check through its records and through the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Upon completion of the records check, the division of state police shall release copies of the criminal history records to the [department] ***chief of the fish and game law enforcement division***.

IV. The chief of the fish and game law enforcement division or their designee shall review the criminal record information prior to making a registration decision and shall maintain the confidentiality of all criminal history records received pursuant to this section.

V. The applicant shall bear the cost of a criminal history record check.

VI. For the purposes of this section, “department” means the enforcement division of the New Hampshire fish and game department.

2 Repeal. The following are repealed:

I. RSA 215-A:23, V-b, relative to temporary registration fees for OHRVs for nonresidents.

II. RSA 215-A:23, VIII-a, relative to enhancements for enforcement of and compliance with certain OHRV laws.

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

2026-0205s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires applicants for guide licenses to apply to the chief of the law enforcement division of the fish and game department and repeals the fee for temporary registration of nonresidents relative to OHRVs.

SB 511-FN, relative to state park fees for state residents.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Sullivan for the committee.

This bill directs the Commissioner of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to set state park fees for NH residents at no more than half of the fees charged to nonresidents. NH is currently the only state in New England that does not charge a separate fee structure for out-of-state visitors. The bill also allows the commissioner to set discounted or waived rates for veterans and school or student groups.

SB 542, limiting game dates available to charities at gaming facilities and increasing the number of charities working with a gaming facility each day based on the facility's revenue.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Lang for the committee.

As amended by the committee, this bill changes the number of game dates per year a charitable organization is eligible for from 10 days to 7 days. This addresses several concerns raised by the charitable gaming study commission. The 7-day limit will be easier to administer and will allow more charities to access charitable gaming, increasing the number from a minimum of 72 charities per location to 104 charities per location. The committee amendment eliminates language from the original bill that sought to create a tier system.

Senate Ways and Means

January 21, 2026

2026-0199s

08/07

Amendment to SB 542

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

AN ACT limiting the game dates available to charities at gaming facilities.

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

1 Game Dates. Amend RSA 284:23, I (d) to read as follows:

(d) Each person, association, or corporation licensed to conduct historic horse race wagering shall collect a sum equal to 25 percent of revenues generated from historic horse race pari-mutuel pools after breakage and payment of winnings to patrons. Each licensee that conducts wagering on historic horse races shall distribute 35 percent of the amount collected under this paragraph to charitable organizations with whom

the licensee contracts on each licensed game date. Charitable organizations from within the executive council district where the licensee is located shall be given preference, and no charitable organization shall be eligible for more than [10] 7 dates of revenue under this section, within a 12 month period. Each licensee operating historic horse racing machines must contract with 2 licensed charitable organizations for each game date. The remainder of the total amount collected by the licensee under this paragraph shall be paid to the lottery commission for use according to the special fund established under RSA 284:21-j.

2 Game Dates. Amend RSA 284-D:4-a, I to read as follows:

I. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, game operator employers licensed under RSA 287-D:4 are required to annually operate ~~a minimum of 7~~ but not more than [10] 7 game dates for the benefit of the town or city where the game operator employer is located.

3 Cross Reference; Game Dates. Amend 284-D:4-a, III to read as follows:

III. The game dates benefiting the host municipality shall be in place of a charity game date, however, this shall not prevent the game operator employer from hosting ~~a charity~~ **one or more charities** on the same game dates when [2] **additional** charities would normally ~~operate~~ **participate in charitable gaming**.

4 Game Dates. Amend RSA 287-D:6, IV to read as follows:

IV. Only one license shall be issued to each applicant per year to operate games of chance for [10] 7 days, which [10] 7 days need not be consecutive.

5 Game Dates. Amend RSA 287-D:13, I to read as follows:

I. A charitable gaming license shall be \$50, which shall entitle the charity up to [10] 7 game dates per calendar year.

6 Game Dates. RSA 287-D:14, XXII(b) to read as follows:

(b) Any single facilities licensee shall not award the host municipality more than [10] 7 days per calendar year.

7 Game Operator Employer; Distribution of Daily Gross Revenues. RSA 287-D:19, III(f) to read as follows:

(f) ~~[No charitable organization]~~ **The game operator employer** shall ~~[receive less than]~~ **equally distribute** 35 percent of the **daily** gross revenues from any games of chance minus any prizes paid, **to the licensed charitable organizations or host community partnering with the game operator on that date**.

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

2026-0199s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill limits the game dates available to charities at gaming facilities.

SB 638-FN, relative to establishing a small business tariff stabilization fund.
Inexpedient to Legislature, Vote 3-2. Senator Lang for the committee.

This bill sought to establish a small business tariff stabilization fund. Increased costs to small businesses would be nearly impossible to segment in order to attribute them to tariffs versus interest rates versus inflation and as such would make it an administrative burden to isolate any increased costs related strictly to tariffs.

The question is on the adoption of the Consent Calendar. Adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR

FINANCE

SB 101-FN, authorizing parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-1. Senator Lang for the committee.

Senate Finance
January 21, 2026
2026-0194s
05/07

Amendment to SB 101-FN

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

AN ACT authorizing parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state and creating a limited exemption from parental consent required for certain recordings under the parental bill of rights.

Amend RSA 194-D:5, I as inserted by section 7 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. There shall be no tuition charge for any pupil attending an open enrollment school located in that pupil's resident district. For an open enrollment school authorized by a receiving school district, the pupil's sending district shall pay the receiving district an amount equal to not less than 80 percent ***and not greater than 100 percent*** of the sending district's average cost per pupil as determined by the department of education using the most recent available data as reported by the sending district to the department, ***pursuant to RSA 189:75, I(c), in addition to special education expenses. Sending districts may pay less than 100 percent of the sending district's average cost per pupil provided that the sending district demonstrates the need for a lower tuition rate relative to fixed costs. If the transferring student's resident district average cost per pupil is less than the receiving district's average cost per pupil, such difference shall be charged as tuition and paid by the pupil's parents or guardians to the receiving district prior to the start of each semester.***

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 8 with the following:

9 New Paragraph; Parental Bill of Rights; Definitions Added. Amend RSA 189-B:2 by inserting after paragraph VI the following new paragraphs:

VII. "Open to the general public" means an event that is generally open to parents, guardians, family, and members of the community, including events for which attendance may require registration, ticketing, or invitation for admission due to space, security, or other concerns.

VIII. "Required assessment" means any standardized assessment that is required by state or federal statute or regulation.

10 Parental Rights; Consent to Recording; Limited Exemption for Required Assessments and Events Open to the General Public. Amend RSA 189-B:4, I(p) to read as follows:

(p) To consent in writing before the state or any of its political subdivisions, including, without limitation, any school pursuant also to the provisions of RSA 189:68, III-V, makes a video or voice recording, unless such recording is made during or as part of a court proceeding or part of a forensic interview in a criminal or other investigation by the bureau of child protective services or it is to be used solely for the purpose of a safety demonstration, including the maintenance of order and discipline in the common areas of a school or on student transportation vehicles, ***or such recording is made as a component of the administration of a required assessment or is made during a school-sponsored event that is open to the general public.***

11 Repeal. The following are repealed:

I. RSA 194-D:3, relative to limitations on procedure for adoption and rescission.

II. RSA 194-D:4, relative to pupil selection and enrollment.

12 Effective Date.

I. Sections 9 and 10 of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

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

2026-0194s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Allows parents to send their children to public schools outside of their resident district.

II. Creates a limited exemption from the consent requirement under the parental bill of rights for required assessments and school-sponsored events open to the general public.

The question is on the adoption of the Committee Amendment.

A roll call was requested by Senator Altschiller, seconded by Senator Fenton.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, McGough, Avard, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: Watters, Prentiss, Ricciardi, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Abbas, Altschiller.

Roll Call, Yeas: 14 - Nays: 10. Adopted.

President Pro Tempore Abbas presiding.

Without objection, Senator Birdsell moved to call the question.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

A roll call was requested by Senator Rosenwald, seconded by Senator Fenton.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, McGough, Avar, Carson, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Gannon.

The following Senators voted No: Watters, Prentiss, Ricciardi, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller, Abbas.

Roll Call, Yeas: 14 - Nays: 10. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

Recess. Out of recess.

President Carson presiding.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 751-FN, establishing a committee to study licensure of outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration

January 22, 2026

2026-0223s

12/07

Amendment to HB 751-FN

Amend subparagraph I(b) as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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

The question is on the adoption of the Committee Amendment. Adopted.

Senator Lang offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Lang, Dist 2

January 26, 2026

2026-0297s

07/05

Floor Amendment to HB 751-FN

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

AN ACT establishing a committee to study licensure of outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities, authorizing parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state, and creating a limited exemption from parental consent required for certain recordings under the parental bill of rights.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 5 with the following:

6 Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 193:1, I to read as follows:

I. A parent of any child at least 6 years of age and under 18 years of age shall cause such child to attend [the] **a** public school [to which the child is assigned in the child's resident district]. Such child shall attend full time when such school is in session unless:

7 School Attendance; Legal Residence Required. Amend RSA 193:12, III to read as follows:

III. For the purposes of this title, "legal resident" of a school district means a natural person who is domiciled in the [school district] **state** and who, if temporarily absent, demonstrates an intent to maintain a principal dwelling place in the school district indefinitely and to return there, coupled with an act or acts

consistent with that intent. A married person may have a domicile independent of the domicile of his or her spouse. ~~[If a person removes to another town with the intention of remaining there indefinitely, that person shall be considered to have lost residence in the town in which the person originally resided even though the person intends to return at some future time.]~~ A person may have only one legal residence at a given time.

8 School Attendance; Legal Residence Required. Amend RSA 193:12, VI(a) to read as follows:

(a) The commissioner of the department of education, or designee, shall decide residency issues for all pupils, excluding homeless children and youths, in accordance with this section. ~~[If more than one school district is involved in a residency dispute, or the parents who live apart cannot agree on the residence of a minor child, the respective superintendents shall jointly make such decision. In those instances when an agreement cannot be reached, the commissioner of the department of education, or designee, shall make a determination within 30 days of notice of the residency dispute and such determination shall be final. If the unresolved residency dispute has resulted in an interruption of educational or related services, or such an interruption is likely to occur if the determination cannot be made before the expiration of 30 days, the determination shall be made within 14 days. With the agreement of the school districts involved and of the minor child's parent or legal representative, the time for determination of the residency dispute may be extended. Residency disputes may be submitted to the commissioner for determination by a school district involved in a dispute. In cases where the failure to resolve a residency dispute has resulted in or is likely to result in the interruption of educational or related services, a minor child's parent or legal representative may submit a residency dispute for determination to the commissioner. In all cases, all parties with an interest in the dispute shall be notified of the pendency of the proceedings, shall have an opportunity to review all information provided to the commissioner, and shall have an opportunity to present facts and legal arguments to the commissioner.]~~ **When addressing residency issues, the only question the commissioner shall consider is whether the child is a resident of the state.** The commissioner's decision, including a written explanation for that decision, shall be provided to the parties of record and a copy of such explanation shall be kept on file by the department of education. No school district shall deny a pupil attendance or implementation of an existing individualized education program.

9 Open Enrollment Schools; Definitions; Open Enrollment Public School. Amend RSA 194-D:1, I to read as follows:

I. "Open enrollment public school" or "open enrollment school" means any public school ~~[which, in addition to providing educational services to pupils]~~ **that is currently enrolling pupils both** residing within its attendance area or district, ~~[chooses to accept]~~ **and** pupils from other attendance areas within its district and from outside its district.

10 Open Enrollment Schools; Definitions; Teacher. Amend RSA 194-D:1, IX to read as follows:

IX. "Teacher" means any individual providing or capable of providing direct instructional services to pupils, and who meets requirements prescribed in the ~~[Elementary and Secondary Education Act]~~ **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015** and the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act.

11 Open Enrollment Schools; Establishment; Parental Choice; Admission. Amend RSA 194-D:2 to read as follows:

194-D:2 Establishment; Parental Choice; Admission.

I. ~~[Any school district legislative body may vote to designate one or more of its schools as an open enrollment school.]~~ **Each district legislative body shall establish an open enrollment policy to allow pupils to transfer among schools within the district, from another district in the state, or in any state that has an interstate compact with New Hampshire that does not require nonresident pupils to pay an application fee or tuition.**

II. ~~[Open enrollment schools shall operate under the same laws, rules, and policies as any other public school, except as provided in this chapter.]~~ **Each school district shall determine for each school in the district the capacity of each school and each grade level. A school district shall post the total capacity of each individual school in the district, the capacity of each grade level, and the number of vacancies in each individual school in the district on the district website by the first of each month. Each school district in the state shall report annually to the state commissioner of education the number of transfer applications, acceptances, denials and the reason for each denial. The department of education shall publish the data annually on its web site and provide reports to the senate and house education committees, and the state board of education.**

III. ~~[No public school, except a chartered public school, shall be required to be an open enrollment school.]~~
A parent may apply to any school or district within the state on behalf of a pupil.

~~[IV. A school district may predetermine the number of pupils residing outside an open enrollment school's district or attendance area it deems appropriate to accept.]~~

~~[V.]~~ **IV.** Applications may be made on behalf of eligible pupils to more than one ~~[open enrollment]~~ school within the state.

~~[VI.]~~ **V.** Every ~~[open enrollment]~~ school shall make available information about its curriculum and policies to all persons, and parents and pupils considering enrollment in that school.

~~[VII.]~~ **VI.** There shall be no application fee for pupil admission to any ~~[open enrollment]~~ school.

~~[VIII. A pupil who meets the admission requirements of an open enrollment school, and who is a resident of the district where the school is located or is a dependent child of active duty military personnel whose move resulted from military orders, shall be given absolute admission preference over a nonresident pupil. Once admitted and unless expelled, open enrollment school pupils need not reapply for admission for subsequent years.]~~

VII. A school district may deny a transfer application only for the following reasons:

- (a) The student was expelled by the student's previous district;***
- (b) The student has a documented history of significant disciplinary issues;***
- (c) The student has a documented history of chronic absenteeism;***
- (d) The receiving district does not have available capacity pursuant to this section.***

VIII. No receiving school or district shall accept or reject an applicant based upon grade or age levels, pupil needs, areas of academic focus, aptitude, academic or athletic achievement.

IX. Attendance at ~~[an open enrollment]~~ **a public** school for the purposes of transportation shall not constitute assignment under the provisions of RSA 189:6 and RSA 189:8. Pupils who reside in the school district in which the ~~[open enrollment]~~ school is located shall be provided transportation to that school by the district on the same terms and conditions as provided for in RSA 189:6 and RSA 189:8 and that transportation is provided to pupils attending other public schools within that district. However, any added costs for such transportation services shall be borne by the ~~[open enrollment]~~ school. For the purposes of open enrollment, neither the sending nor the receiving school district shall be obligated to provide transportation services for pupils attending ~~[an open enrollment]~~ **a** school outside the pupil's resident district. ***The parent may provide transportation to a specific bus stop on an existing route of the receiving school or district. The district shall provide the parents with information regarding transportation options.***

X. Upon approval by each of the district's legislative bodies and after a public hearing, 2 or more school districts may consolidate otherwise eligible resident pupils into one applicant pool for the purposes of an admissions lottery for designated open enrollment schools.

~~[XI. Military-connected students as defined in RSA 110-E:1 who are the dependent children of a member of the active uniformed military services of the United States on full-time active duty status and students who are the dependent children of a member of the military reserve on active duty orders shall be eligible for admission to the school district of their choice. Students shall be eligible if:~~

- ~~(a) At least one parent of the student has a Department of Defense-issued identification card; and~~
- ~~(b) At least one parent can provide evidence that he or she will be on active duty status or active duty orders, meaning the parent will be temporarily transferred in compliance with official orders to another location in support of combat, contingency operation or a natural disaster requiring the use of orders for more than 30 consecutive days.~~

~~XII. A school district of residence shall not prohibit the transfer of a pupil who is a child of an active military duty parent to a school in any school district, if the school district to which the parent of the pupil applies approves the application for transfer.]~~

12 Open Enrollment Schools; Funding. Amend RSA 194-D:5 to read as follows:

194-D:5 Funding.

I. There shall be no tuition charge for any pupil attending an open enrollment school located in that pupil's resident district. For an open enrollment school authorized by a receiving school district, the pupil's sending district shall pay the receiving district an amount equal to not less than 80 percent **and not greater than 100 percent** of the sending district's average cost per pupil as determined by the department of education using the most recent available data as reported by the sending district to the department, **pursuant to RSA 189:75, I(c), in addition to special education expenses. Sending districts may pay less than 100 percent of the sending district's average cost per pupil provided that the sending district demonstrates the need for a lower tuition rate relative to fixed costs. If the transferring student's resident district average cost per pupil is less than the receiving district's average cost per pupil, such difference shall be charged as tuition and paid by the pupil's parents or guardians to the receiving district prior to the start of each semester.**

II. In accordance with current department of education standards, the funding and educational decision-making process for children with disabilities [attending] **transferring to** a [chartered public or open enrollment] school shall be the responsibility of the **resident** school district and shall retain all current options available to the parent and to the school district.

III. [~~Any federal or other funding available in any year to a sending district shall, to the extent and in a manner acceptable to the funding source, be directed to an open enrollment school in a receiving district on an eligible per pupil basis.~~] **Students transferring from their resident district pursuant to this chapter shall be calculated in the ADMR of their resident school district under RSA 189:1-d, IV.**

IV. The commissioner of the department of education shall apply for all federal funding available to open enrollment schools under [the No Child Left Behind Act, Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, or other] **any** federal source of funds. The commissioner shall expend any such funds received in a manner acceptable to the funding source.

V. A sending district may provide funds, services, equipment, materials, or personnel to [an open enrollment] **a** school, in addition to the amounts specified in this section in accordance with the policies of the sending school district.

VI. [~~An open enrollment~~] **A** school may accept pupils at tuition rates at less than the amounts established by this chapter.

VII. [~~An open enrollment~~] **A** school may receive financial aid, private gifts, grants, or revenue as if it were a school district.

13 Open Enrollment Schools; State Board; Duties. Amend RSA 194-D:7 to read as follows:

194-D:7 State Board; Duties.

I. The state board shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, consistent with the provisions of this chapter relative to the administration of open enrollment **in public schools across the state.**

II. The state board [shall] **may** convene one or more working committees to study and make recommendations regarding the implementation and effectiveness of open enrollment [schools] **policies.** The recommendations shall be provided to the legislative oversight committee in RSA [~~194-B:21~~] **193-C:8-a.**

14 New Paragraph; Parental Bill of Rights; Definitions Added. Amend RSA 189-B:2 by inserting after paragraph VI the following new paragraphs:

VII. "Open to the general public" means an event that is generally open to parents, guardians, family, and members of the community, including events for which attendance may require registration, ticketing, or invitation for admission due to space, security, or other concerns.

VIII. "Required assessment" means any standardized assessment that is required by state or federal statute or regulation.

15 Parental Rights; Consent to Recording; Limited Exemption for Required Assessments and Events Open to the General Public. Amend RSA 189-B:4, I(p) to read as follows:

(p) To consent in writing before the state or any of its political subdivisions, including, without limitation, any school pursuant also to the provisions of RSA 189:68, III-V, makes a video or voice recording, unless such recording is made during or as part of a court proceeding or part of a forensic interview in a criminal or other investigation by the bureau of child protective services or it is to be used solely for the purpose of a

safety demonstration, including the maintenance of order and discipline in the common areas of a school or on student transportation vehicles, ***or such recording is made as a component of the administration of a required assessment or is made during a school-sponsored event that is open to the general public.***

16 Repeal. The following are repealed:

I. RSA 194-D:3, relative to limitations on procedure for adoption and rescission.

II. RSA 194-D:4, relative to pupil selection and enrollment.

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

2026-0297s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Establishes a committee to study licensure of outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities.

II. Allows parents to send their children to public schools outside of their resident district.

III. Creates a limited exemption from the consent requirement under the parental bill of rights for required assessments and school-sponsored events open to the general public.

Senator Perkins Kwoka moved to divide the question on Floor Amendment #2026-0297s: 1. Sections 14-15 & Effective Date. 2. The Remainder of the Floor Amendment.

The Chair ruled the question divisible.

Recess. Out of recess.

The question is on the adoption of the Floor Amendment #2026-0297s, Sections 14-15 & Effective Date.

A roll call was requested by Senator Perkins Kwoka, seconded by Senator Fenton.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Watters, Prentiss, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, Fenton, McGough, Avard, Rosenwald, Reardon, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Abbas, Gannon, Altschiller, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: (None)

Roll Call, Yeas: 24 - Nays: 0. Adopted.

The question is on the adoption of the Floor Amendment #2026-0297s: the Remainder of the Floor Amendment & Effective Date.

A roll call was requested by Senator Altschiller, seconded by Senator Fenton.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, McGough, Avard, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: Watters, Prentiss, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller.

Roll Call, Yeas: 16 - Nays: 8. Adopted.

Senator Perkins Kwoka moved to divide the question on Ought to Pass with Amendment: 1. Sections 14-15 & Effective date. 2. The remainder of the bill

The Chair ruled the question divisible.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment, Sections 14-15 & Effective Date.

A roll call was requested by Senator Altschiller, seconded by Senator Fenton.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Watters, Prentiss, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, Fenton, McGough, Avard, Rosenwald, Reardon, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Abbas, Gannon, Altschiller, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: (None)

Roll Call, Yeas: 24 - Nays: 0. Adopted.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment, the Remainder of the bill & Effective Date.

A roll call was requested by Senator Fenton, seconded by Senator Altschiller.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, McGough, Avard, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: Watters, Prentiss, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller.

Roll Call, Yeas: 16 - Nays: 8. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

COMMERCE

SB 418, prohibiting municipalities from requiring licenses for the production and sale of homestead food products.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2. Senator McGough for the committee.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

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.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Inexpedient to Legislate. Failed.

Senator Sullivan moved Ought to Pass.

Senator Sullivan offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Sullivan, Dist 18

January 21, 2026

2026-0189s

07/09

Floor Amendment to SB 223-FN

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

AN ACT prohibiting student identification cards from being used as photo identification for purposes of obtaining a ballot.

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

1 Repeal. RSA 659:13, II(a)(5), relative to student identification cards being used to satisfy ballot identification requirements, is repealed.

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

2026-0189s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits student identification cards from being used as photo identification for purposes of obtaining a ballot.

The question is on the adoption of the Floor Amendment. Adopted.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment. Adopted.

Without objection, Senator Gray rescinded order to the Committee on Finance. Adopted

Bill ordered to Third Reading.

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.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Inexpedient to Legislate. Failed.

Senator Gray moved Ought to Pass.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass. Adopted.

Senator Gray moved to Lay on the Table. Adopted.

SB 406-FN-A, making an appropriation to the city of Nashua for the purpose of purchasing the former Daniel Webster College property.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 4-2. Senator Birdsell for the committee.

Senator Birdsell moved to Lay on the Table.

A roll call was requested by Senator Rosenwald, seconded by Senator Fenton.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, McGough, Avar, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: Watters, Prentiss, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller.

Roll Call, Yeas: 16 - Nays: 8. Adopted.

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.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-1. Senator Gray for the committee.

Senate Finance

January 21, 2026

2026-0200s

05/09

Amendment to SB 481-FN-A

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

AN ACT relative to the sale of the Sununu youth services center property.

Amend the bill by deleting section 1 and renumbering the original sections 2-4 to read as 1-3, respectively.

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

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

2026-0200s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

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

II. Provides that if the sale of the SYSC property is finalized prior to June 30, 2027, proceeds of the sale shall be deposited in the general fund and if the sale is finalized after June 30, 2027, proceeds from the sale shall be deposited in the youth development center settlement fund.

The question is on the adoption of the Committee Amendment. Adopted.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

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

Ought to Pass, Vote 6-1. Senator Pearl for the committee.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

JUDICIARY

SB 553-FN, relative to penalties for attempting to elude pursuit by law enforcement.

Interim Study, Vote 4-0. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senator Abbas moved to Lay on the Table. Adopted.

WAYS AND MEANS

SB 634, enabling municipalities to adopt a municipal occupancy fee.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 3-2. Senator Lang for the committee.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Inexpedient to Legislate.

A roll call was requested by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Avarad.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, McGough, Avarad, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: McConkey, Watters, Prentiss, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller.

Roll Call, Yeas: 15 - Nays: 9. Adopted.

SB 636-FN, establishing tax credits for qualifying small businesses against documented tariff-related costs.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 3-2. Senator Lang for the committee.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Inexpedient to Legislate.

A roll call was requested by Senator Birdsell, seconded by Senator Avarad.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, McGough, Avarad, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: Watters, Prentiss, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller.

Roll Call, Yeas: 16 - Nays: 8. Adopted.

CONSENT CALENDAR REPORTS REMOVED

PRESIDENT CARSON: We are at the conclusion of the Regular Calendar and will take up the bills that were removed from the Consent Calendar.

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

SB 439, relative to municipal data center zoning.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Lang for the committee.

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs

January 21, 2026

2026-0176s

04/09

Amendment to SB 439

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

1 New Subdivision; Data Centers. Amend RSA 674 by inserting after section 80 the following new subdivision:

Data Centers

674:81 Definition. In this subdivision, “data center” means a facility used primarily for the storage, processing, management, and transmission of digital data. “Data center” does not include a facility that does not exceed 25 percent of the gross floor area of all on-site buildings, is used to serve the enterprise functions of the on-site property owner, and is not used to lease data services to third parties.

674:82 Zoning Authority to Permit Data Centers.

I. Data centers are allowed within zoning districts designated for commercial or industrial use and subject to the provisions of local land use regulations.

674:83 Rulemaking.

The planning board, with the approval of the local legislative body, may adopt regulations as necessary.

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

The question is on the adoption of the Committee Amendment.

A roll call was requested by Senator Altschiller, seconded by Senator Fenton.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, McGough, Avar, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: Watters, Prentiss, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller.

Roll Call, Yeas: 16 - Nays: 8. Adopted.

Senator Perkins Kwoka offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21

January 27, 2026

2026-0352s

04/09

Floor Amendment to SB 439

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

AN ACT relative to energy and environmental review requirements for data centers.

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

1 New Section; Statutory Construction; Data Centers. Amend RSA 21 by inserting after section 55 the following new section:

21:56 Data Centers. "Data center" means a facility use primarily for the storage, processing, management, and transmission of digital data. "Data center" does not include a facility that does not exceed 10 percent of the gross floor area of all on-site buildings, is used to serve the enterprise functions of the on-site property owner, and is not used to lease data services to third parties.

2 New Section; Data Center Review. Amend RSA 162-H by inserting after section 24 the following new section:

162-H:25 Data Center Review Process. Any facility that meets the definition of "data center" under RSA 21:56 shall submit an application to the department of energy for an analysis of potential effects on energy prices and the department of environmental services for an analysis of environmental impacts.

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

2026-0352s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes energy and environmental review requirements for data centers.

The question is on the adoption of the Floor Amendment. Failed.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

A roll call was requested by Senator Perkins Kwoka, seconded by Senator Fenton.

The following Senators voted Yes: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, Ricciardi, McGough, Avar, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators voted No: Watters, Prentiss, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller.

Roll Call, Yeas: 16 - Nays: 8. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 400, relative to duties and reporting requirements of the therapeutic cannabis medical oversight board. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration

January 22, 2026

2026-0221s

12/08

Amendment to SB 400

Amend RSA 126-X:12, IV(a) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(a) **Biannually** reviewing medical and scientific evidence pertaining to currently approved and additional qualifying conditions.

The question is on the adoption of the Committee Amendment. Adopted.

Senator Gannon offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Gannon, Dist 23

January 23, 2026

2026-0258s

05/07

Floor Amendment to SB 400

Amend RSA 126-X:12, IV(a) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(a) **Biennially** reviewing medical and scientific evidence pertaining to currently approved and additional qualifying conditions.

2026-0258s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the therapeutic cannabis medical oversight board to biennially review medical and scientific evidence relative to currently approved and additional qualifying conditions. The bill also requires the board's annual report to include citations to such medical and scientific evidence.

The question is on the adoption of the Floor Amendment. Adopted.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

LIST OF IN FAVOR/OPPOSITION FORMS FOR THE DAY

Senator Abbas: SB 223: In Favor of the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Senator Abbas: SB 542: In Opposition to the Motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

Senator Altschiller: SB 471-FN: In Opposition to the Motion of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Senator Altschiller: SB 638: In Opposition to the Motion of Inexpedient to Legislate.

Senator Prentiss: SB 418: In Opposition to the Motion of Ought to Pass.

MOTION TO ADJOURN FROM EARLY SESSION

Senator Birdsell moved that the Senate adjourn from the Early Session, that the business of the Late Session be in order at the present time, that all bills and resolutions ordered to Third Reading be, by this resolution, read a third time, all titles be the same as adopted, and that they be passed at the present time.

Adopted. Adjournment from the Early Session.

LATE SESSION

Third Reading and Final Passage

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

HB 751-FN, establishing a committee to study licensure of outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities, authorizing parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state, and creating a limited exemption from parental consent required for certain recordings under the parental bill of rights.

SB 101-FN, authorizing parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state and creating a limited exemption from parental consent required for certain recordings under the parental bill of rights.

SB 223-FN, prohibiting student identification cards from being used as photo identification for purposes of obtaining a ballot.

SB 400, relative to duties and reporting requirements of the therapeutic cannabis medical oversight board.

SB 401-FN, relative to removing an obsolete annual reporting requirement by municipal overseers of public welfare to the department of health and human services and repealing the department of health and human services reporting requirement on 10-year demographic cost projections.

SB 402-FN, eliminating certain non-compete agreements for physician associates.

SB 409-FN, relative to the penalties for the offense of disobeying an officer.

SB 410, relative to possession of human remains for law enforcement training purposes.

SB 411, relative to the procedure concerning search warrant inventories.

SB 412, relative to the conditional release of delinquent minors and children in need of services.

SB 413, relative to the detention of a minor attaining the age of 18 during the pendency of a delinquency action.

SB 418, prohibiting municipalities from requiring licenses for the production and sale of homestead food products.

SB 422, relative to membership of the governor's commission on addiction, treatment, and prevention.

SB 426, repealing the permissible fireworks advisory committee.

SB 427-FN, relative to the joint committee on employee classification.

SB 428, relative to the maximum amount of terms an individual can serve on the electricians' board.

SB 439, relative to municipal data center zoning.

SB 450-FN, relative to a state parks pass pilot program for recovery centers and community mental health centers.

SB 451, amending the title of the position of senior deputy secretary of state.

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

SB 469, allowing the director of the division of motor vehicles to adopt administrative rules regarding the use of electronic signatures and relative to signature requirements where ownership of a vehicle is transferred to an insurer after payment of damages.

SB 472, removing the maximum age on the tenure of office for the position of deputy adjutant general.

SB 473, defining the term "field officers" within the national guard.

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

SB 486, relative to the administrative procedure act.

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

SB 492-FN, authorizing the department of military affairs and veterans services to license and lease property in which the department holds a property interest.

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

SB 502-FN, removing references to the department of business and economic affairs and the office of planning and development, and makes various changes to how certain committees and commissions participate or operate.

SB 505-FN, relative to applications for guide licenses and repealing the fee for temporary registration of nonresidents relative to OHRVs.

SB 510, ensuring state-operated, publicly accessible spaces have designated smoking areas undetectable to visitors.

SB 515-FN, relative to judicial determinations related to children placed in a qualified residential treatment program in certain juvenile matters and appointment of counsel in certain circumstances.

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

SB 521-FN, relative to unauthorized camping on private property.

SB 529-FN, giving preference to lumber sourced in the United States on all state-funded building projects.

SB 530-FN, relative to fetal death reporting to the Centers for Disease Control.

SB 542, limiting the game dates available to charities at gaming facilities.

SB 543-FN, relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor.

SB 569, relative to the qualifications for hearings officers within the department of labor.

SB 571, relative to the requirements to be issued a certificate as a certified public accountant.

SB 572, relative to New Hampshire hospital real estate.

SB 590-FN, relative to electric aggregation plans.

SB 620-FN, relative to refusal of consent to testing to determine alcohol concentration and penalties for aggravated driving while intoxicated.

SB 622-FN, relative to the offense of identity fraud.

SB 629, renaming the new roundabout on Route 302 at the East Conway Road intersection to "Oliveira Circle."

SB 632-FN, relative to a certain highway sign in Concord.

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.

SB 641-FN, relative to examination requirements for licensure as a chiropractor.

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

SB 649-FN, increasing fines for using a hand-held mobile electronic device while driving a motor vehicle.

MOTION TO RECESS TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

Senator Birdsell moved that the business of the day being completed, that the Senate recess to the Call of the Chair for the purposes of introducing legislation, referring bills to committee, scheduling hearings, sending and receiving messages, vacating bills, processing enrolled bill reports and amendments, and forming committees of conference and when we recess, we recess to the Call of the Chair.

Adopted. The Senate is in recess to the Call of the Chair.