May 14, 2026
Nos. 11-12

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

Legislative Proceedings

SENATE JOURNAL

ADJOURNMENT – MAY 7, 2026 SESSION

COMMENCEMENT – MAY 14, 2026 SESSION

SENATE JOURNAL 11 *(continued)* *May 7, 2026*

HOUSE MESSAGE

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

HB 131, (New Title) relative to bullying and cyberbullying prevention.
HB 524-FN, (Second New Title) relative to disbursement of funds by the New Hampshire vaccine association.
HB 564, relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.
HB 1013-FN, relative to games wherein the object is to capture a pig.
HB 1031, enabling candidates for state office to use campaign funds to pay for security measures.
HB 1153-FN-LOCAL, (New Title) establishing a committee to study New Hampshire statutes relative to cats and dogs.
HB 1199-FN, (New Title) enabling the fish and game department to create a permit and fee for the use of fish and game staff by other state agencies and departments.
HB 1228, (New Title) relative to the enforcement of alimony orders and relative to waivers of alimony.
HB 1253, (New Title) exempting dogs guarding livestock or crops from nuisance dog statutes when engaged in such work.
HB 1266, allowing election moderators access to the area designated for counting votes during the performance of their duties.
HB 1298, relative to the disposal of electronic ballot counting device external memory devices.
HB 1308-FN, relative to increasing the penalty for passing a stopped school bus.
HB 1318, renewing the committee to study non-pharmacological treatment options for patients with chronic pain.
HB 1363, relative to employee candidate background checks.
HB 1369, (New Title) relative to the manner of posting the warrant for town meetings.
HB 1460-FN, (New Title) prohibiting the sale of a child's personal data.
HB 1468, (New Title) relative to a flood resilience section in municipal master plans.
HB 1514, (New Title) requiring the department of education and the department of revenue administration to send school monitoring and financial reports to relevant school and school board authorities.
HB 1535, relative to clarifying eligible renewable energy classes under the renewable portfolio standard.
HB 1726-FN, (Second New Title) relative to the sale of surplus state-owned land and establishing a commission to study the sale of state-owned property.
HB 1733, (New Title) relative to the reconciliation of default electric service rates.
HB 1742, (New Title) relative to customer-generators inadvertently enrolled in a municipal or county aggregation program.
HB 1758, relative to school bus drivers' certificates.
HB 1763-FN, (New Title) establishing a committee to study siting and maintenance rules regarding certain intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) and acquired brain disorder (ABD) community residences.
HB 1766-FN, relative to cruelty to livestock.
HB 1780, (New Title) relative to seed laws.

HOUSE MESSAGE

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

SB 421, (New Title) relative to the membership and duties of the trauma medical review committee and establishing a study committee to review the membership and duties of other boards and an appointment related to emergency medical services.
SB 453, authorizing advanced practice registered nurses and physician associates to make certain certifications.
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 468, relative to enabling alternative treatment centers to operate a greenhouse cultivation location.

SB 470-FN, relative to the expungement of certain disciplinary matters.
SB 482-FN, establishing consumer protections for digital access transaction kiosks.
SB 499, (New Title) relative to the membership, duties, and reporting requirements of the traffic safety commission.
SB 500, relative to restroom access for certain commercial motor vehicle operators.
SB 516, relative to certain unclassified positions in the department of health and human services.
SB 600-FN, requiring the governor to submit and present a quarterly fiscal year budget report about the general and education trust funds to the general court fiscal committee.
SB 615-FN, (New Title) establishing a commission to study the use and regulation of SNAP in New Hampshire.
SB 644-FN, requiring background checks for solid waste and hazardous waste facility owners.
SB 655, (New Title) relative to employee leasing companies, workers' compensation coverage options, and a minimum wage exemption for minor league baseball players.

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 422, relative to membership of the governor's commission on addiction, treatment, and prevention.
SB 572, relative to New Hampshire hospital real estate.
SB 603-FN, relative to the funding of the SNAP program by the department of health and human services.

HOUSE MESSAGE

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

SB 669-FN, relative to on-premises licenses for licensed barbershops and salons.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives has voted to Lay On The Table the following entitled Bill(s) sent down from the Senate:

SB 501, relative to authorization of seclusion or restraint during a personal safety emergency by a physician, physician associate, or advanced practice registered nurse.
SB 520, relative to breast surgeries for minors.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives accedes to the request of the Senate for a Committee of Conference on the following entitled Bill:

SB 564, prohibiting certain municipal development restrictions.

and the Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Alexander Jr., Dumont, Reinfurt and Howland

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives accedes to the request of the Senate for a Committee of Conference on the following entitled Bill:

SB 599-FN, relative to the renewable energy fund.

and the Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Vose, D. Thomas, Bernardy and McGhee

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

HB 158, (New Title) requiring the secretary of state to review absentee ballot data biennially, forward certain requests to the election law unit for review, and make a report to the general court.

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Berry, Qualey, Burnham and Wood

Senator Gray moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gray, Lang and Long.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

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

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Layon, Slottje, Grote and DeRoy

Senator Gray moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gray, Lang and Reardon.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

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

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Berry, Wherry, Lane and See

Senator Gray moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gray, Lang and Long.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

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

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Berry, Qualey, Wherry and Burnham

Senator Gray moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gray, Lang and Perkins Kwoka.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

HB 1042, (New Title) raising the unified contingent credit limit and relative to the cap on outstanding obligations for which the housing finance authority is allowed.

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Sweeney, D. McGuire, Alexander Jr. and Leishman

Senator Gray moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gray, Innis and Rosenwald.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

HB 1091, (New Title) relative to unauthorized camping on private property.

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Roy, Proulx, A. Murray and Paquette

Senator Gannon moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gannon, Abbas and Reardon.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

HB 1215, (New Title) relative to supporting the preferred method of communication of an individual with a communication disability.

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: DeSimone, W. MacDonald, Korzen and Rice

Senator Rochefort moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Rochefort, Birdsell and Prentiss.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

HB 1260-FN, (New Title) relative to marriage registration forms and delayed certificates of marriage and relative to the confidentiality of divorce records.

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Lynn, Berch, Kuttab and Manos

Senator Gannon moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gannon, Abbas and Reardon.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

HB 1541-FN, requiring the secretary of state to provide all voting precincts with secure containers for storing ballots.

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Berry, Qualey, Lane and Muirhead

Senator Gray moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gray, Lang and Perkins Kwoka.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

HB 1807-FN, (New Title) relative to mandatory reports to voters.

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: Ladd, Erf, Spilsbury and D. McGuire

Senator Gray moved to Accede to House request. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gray, Lang and Perkins Kwoka.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives concurs with the Senate in the passage of the following entitled Bill, with amendment, in the passage of which amendment the House asks the concurrence of the Senate:

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

Senator Gray moved Nonconcurrence and requested a Committee of Conference. Adopted in recess.

The President appointed Senators Gray, Innis and Rosenwald.

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 365-FN, relative to proof of United States citizenship for indigent voters.
HB 649-FN, relative to the maintenance obligations of motor vehicle operators.
HB 1113, enabling towns to establish a 3-year term for town moderators.
HB 1118, increasing the limit for moneys remitted to municipal treasurers.
HB 1151, relative to conservation commission appropriations.
HB 1175-FN, relative to the offense of use of scanning device or reencoder to defraud.
HB 1190-FN, enabling the division of motor vehicles to create a temporary traditional driver's license for youth operators about to turn 21 and relative to fleet vehicle registration requirements.
HB 1696-FN, relative to the issuance of a summons instead of arrest.
HB 1795-FN, requiring criminal history record checks for the renewal of teaching licenses.
SB 503, relative to the use of spruce-pine-fir lumber.

Senator Avard moved adoption of the Report of Committee on Enrolled Bills. 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 59-FN, relative to the assault of a firefighter, emergency medical care provider, or law enforcement officer.
HB 126, relative to prescriptions for certain controlled drugs.
HB 348, relative to eligibility for local assistance.
HB 1157-FN, relative to licensure as a pet vendor.
HB 1161, removing the requirement for municipalities to have an advisory board for development districts.

HB 1274-FN-LOCAL, relative to dog licenses.
HB 1366-FN, relative to military orders of protection.
HB 1515-FN, repealing the requirement that the department of health and human services' biennial budget request include funding for certain child care workforce programs.

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

May 13, 2026
2026-1795-EBA
09/07

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 1771-FN

The Committee on Enrolled Bills to which was referred HB 1771-FN

AN ACT removing prospective repeal of child care staffing ratios and the associated waiver system and requiring the department of health and human services to provide certain notice regarding availability of the waiver.

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 1771-FN

This enrolled bill amendment makes a grammatical correction to the bill.

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 1771-FN

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

AN ACT removing the prospective repeal of child care staffing ratios and the associated waiver system and requiring the department of health and human services to provide certain notice regarding availability of the waiver.

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

May 13, 2026
2026-1880-EBA
09/05

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 1837-FN

The Committee on Enrolled Bills to which was referred HB 1837-FN

AN ACT relative to the New Hampshire marine patrol.

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 1837-FN

This enrolled bill amendment makes a technical correction to the bill.

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 1837-FN

Amend RSA 270:67, I(c) as inserted by section 3 of the bill by replacing line 1 with the following:

(c) Each public mooring field applicant shall be assessed [~~a~~] ***an annual mooring*** fee [~~of~~

Senator Avard moved adoption of the Enrolled Bill Amendment. 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 12

May 14, 2026

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

The Reverend Mark Warren, Chaplain to the Senate, offered the following prayer:

Good morning, Senators. Good morning, Madam President.

Let's pray. Lord, today we sense in this room that we see the finish line, and yet the work still has to be done today. Today is a day that would have to be marked with patience and endurance, as there's so much to get through.

We thank you for Madam Clerk and her staff to really pull all these things together for days like today, and they do it with excellence and grace. We pray for our senators who not only put so much time into this, but they carry weights outside of their work here in this chamber, from family health issues to jobs to careers to spouses.

Lord, I pray that you would just give them the grace to endure. We're grateful for our senators. I pray a special blessing over them today. In your holy name, I pray. Amen.

Senator Gray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Senator Ricciardi is excused.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(The Chair recognized Senator Reardon.)

SENATOR REARDON: Thank you, Madam President. Last week, Concord lost a giant with the passing of Dave Bonner. He was known as the Mayor of Main Street, not because of any title, but because of the way he connected with people. As a mail carrier, Dave didn't just deliver letters, and it's a wonder the mail ever actually got there at all, but he did deliver conversation, laughter, and that unmistakable smile that made everyone feel like they mattered. If you knew Dave, you were on the receiving end of it.

Dave was a generous six-foot-plus, and he leaves behind his wife Paula, a retired Concord school teacher who he met on a blind date in the 70s and described her as a six-foot-plus Farrah Fawcett.

He also leaves their three children, Matt, Becky, and Luke, and it's no surprise that all played professional basketball. But Dave would want you to know first that they were all wicked smart. When he was interviewed by the University of Florida where Matt attended college, he stood with the New Hampshire State House in the background, and in response to a question about a family's success, Dave's response was, "I married smart, and I married tall".

What defined Dave most was simply the way he made people feel. Any room he walked into, a spotlight turned on. People didn't just like Dave Bonner. They loved him.

Anyone who ever met him never forgot him. He lived a full and generous life as a veteran, a husband, a father, a grandfather of seven, and a friend to just about everyone. But more than anything, Dave will be remembered for how he made people feel. He had a gift for turning ordinary moments into something meaningful, and no one who met him ever forgot him. He leaves behind countless memories, the kindness he passed on, and the stories that will be told again and again.

Dave Bonner made life better simply by being in it. I, along with our clerk Tammy Wright, were lucky to be lifelong friends of Dave. He will be deeply missed and never forgotten. Thank you.

(The Chair recognized Senator Prentiss.)

SENATOR PRENTISS: Thank you, Madam President. I would like to take this moment to share with my colleagues the passing of a friend, a public educator and a first responder from the town of Enfield by the name of Pauline Laughlin.

We all affectionately called her Polly. She was a public educator for over 30 years at the Enfield Village School. She was a first responder on the Enfield Fast Squad for over 20 years. And probably her most important and cherished role was she was a mother.

And I actually worked in an emergency department with her daughter, Ellen. One of the things I wanted to share with you about Polly, besides her dedication to public service through public education and being an EMT, is that she never had a driver's license.

But she lived right downtown. She walked to school every day. And when there was an ambulance call, those of us that were volunteers coming in from all parts of the town would be driving to the station, and who would be running to the station or walking, depending, was Polly Laughlin.

She got there first. She got everything started. And she never drove the ambulance. She never drove a car. But the compassion, the kindness, and the dedication that she showed to the residents and visitors of the town of Enfield will live on forever.

So I wanted to honor Polly, who I considered a friend, and she was, again, a fellow first responder with me. I wanted to honor her today and tell her story as it is unique for many, the unique stories of many of our Granite Staters.

God bless you, Polly Laughlin. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CARSON: I'm not sure if all of you know that this is National Police Week, and so this week, during National Police Week, we recognize the brave men and women of law enforcement who serve our communities and work every day to keep the people of New Hampshire safe. We especially honor the officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty, and we continue to keep their families, loved ones, and fellow officers in our thoughts and prayers.

Tomorrow, flags across our state and our nation will be lowered to half-staff in their memory, a solemn reminder of the courage, sacrifice, and dedication these heroes demonstrated in service to others.

On behalf of the New Hampshire Senate, I want to express our deepest gratitude to our law enforcement community for their unwavering service, professionalism, and commitment to protecting Granite Staters.

MOTION OF RECONSIDERATION

Senator Birdsell, having voted on the prevailing side, moved to reconsider the following action taken by the body on HB 1275, relative to the effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on agriculture, exempting certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl products from use restrictions, and relative to the definition of "drinking water standard". 1. Reconsider Third Reading and Final Passage. 2. Rescind order to Third Reading. 3. Reconsider the vote on Ought to Pass with Amendment. Adopted.

HB 1275, relative to the effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on agriculture.
Ought to Passell offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Birds with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Avard for the committee.

Senator Birdsell, Dist 19
May 8, 2026
2026-1879s
07/05

Floor Amendment to HB 1275

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

AN ACT relative to the effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on agriculture, exempting certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl products from use restrictions, and relative to the definition of "drinking water standard".

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

1 New Subdivision; PFAS in Agriculture. Amend RSA 431 by inserting after section 36 the following new subdivision:

PFAS in Agriculture

431:37 Per- and Polyfluorinatedalkyl Substances; Civil Immunity. Any person engaged in the practice of farming shall be immune from suit and civil liability for any damages resulting from claims based on harms caused by per and poly fluorinated alkyl substances present in soil, water, or agricultural products as a result of standard agricultural practices, including the land application of sludge or biosolids.

2 Water Pollution and Waste Disposal; Land Application of Sludge. Amend RSA 485-A:5-d to read as follows:

485-A:5-d Land Application of Sludge.

I. Sludge or biosolids which are to be land applied in New Hampshire shall not exceed the maximum concentrations for specific chemical contaminants contained in the rules of the department, or the rules or regulations of the state in which the sludge was generated, whichever are more stringent.

II. By June 30, 2027, the department shall initiate rulemaking under RSA 541-A to develop concentration-based standards for PFAS in biosolids at land-application sites. Such standards shall be set for those PFAS compounds for which an ambient groundwater quality standard has been established under RSA 485-C. Such rulemaking shall include requirements for PFAS soil testing at land-application sites. Beginning January 1, 2028, land application shall not occur if biosolid or soil PFAS concentrations exceed the applicable standards.

3 New Subparagraph; Solid Waste Management; Regulation of Advanced Recycling; Consumer Products; Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Use Restricted. Amend RSA 149-M:64, II(a) by inserting after subparagraph (5) the following new subparagraph:

(6) Products authorized by or under contract with the United States Department of Defense that are or may be covered by the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), 22 C.F.R. parts 120-130, or the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), 15 C.F.R. part 730, et seq.

4 Per And Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Fund And Programs; Definitions. Amend RSA 485-H:2, III to read as follows:

III. "Drinking water standard" means the ***(PFAS)*** maximum contaminant levels established pursuant to RSA 485:16-e ***or, at the discretion of the commissioner, an analogous federal standard***.

5 Effective Date.

I. Section 4 of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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

2026-1879s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Grants immunity from civil liability to farmers for damages resulting from claims based on harms caused by certain per and poly fluorinated alkyl substances present in soil, water, or agricultural products.

II. Requires the department of environmental services to develop concentration-based standards for PFAS in biosolids at land-application sites.

III. Exempts certain per and polyfluoroalkyl products from use restrictions.

IV. Amends the definition of "drinking water standard" as it pertains to maximum contaminant levels in certain water management and protection funds and programs.

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.

COMMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE REPORTS

April 30, 2026
2026-1774-CofC
09/08

Committee of Conference Report on HB 221, relative to assessment of cost effectiveness of the systems benefit charge.

Recommendation:

That the House recede from its position of nonconcurrence with the Senate amendment, and concur with the Senate amendment, and

That the Senate and House adopt the following new amendment to the bill as passed by the Senate, and pass the bill as so amended:

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

2 Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy; Coordination of Studies and Development Activities. Amend RSA 162-B:4, III to read as follows:

III. The coordinator of nuclear development and regulatory activities shall have the duty to coordinate and produce the reports required by RSA 162-B:3, as well as coordinate the studies conducted, and the recommendations and proposals made, in this state with like activities in New England and other states and with the policies and regulations of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. ***These activities may include the management of funding and oversight of nuclear incentive programs, such as those described by RSA 374-F:11, as well as outreach programs to inform and educate the public, particularly regarding safety.***

3 New Paragraph; Net Metering. Amend RSA 362-A:9 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

II-a. Each electric distribution utility shall make available alternative tariffs for net metering to eligible customer-generators in accordance with order no. 26,029 dated June 23, 2017, and the net metering rules adopted by the commission. Any eligible customer-generator that has submitted an interconnection application to a distribution utility on or before the effective date of this act and that is either a low-moderate income community solar project designated for the Electric Assistance Program under RSA 362-A:9, XIV(e) in 2026 or earlier or is used to offset the electricity requirements of a group consisting exclusively of one or more customers who are political subdivisions that first receives compensation under an order no. 26,029 alternative tariff shall remain eligible to receive that tariff for 20 years from the first day on which compensation is received.

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

III. Metering shall be done in accordance with normal metering practices. A single net meter that shows the customer's net energy usage by measuring both the inflow and outflow of electricity internally shall be the extent of metering that is required at facilities with a total peak generating capacity of not more than [~~100~~] ***250*** kilowatts. A bidirectional metering system that records the total amount of electricity that flows in each direction from the customer premises, either instantaneously or over intervals of an hour or less, shall be required at facilities with a total peak generating capacity of more than [~~100~~] ***250*** kilowatts. The bidirectional system may consist of one or more meters, as long as it can be used to appropriately meter and bill in compliance with utility tariffs and rules. Customer-generators shall not be required to pay for the installation of net meters, but shall pay for the installation of, or procure at their own cost if approved by the interconnecting utility, all bidirectional metering systems as outlined in utility interconnection tariffs or rules.

IV.(a) For facilities with a total peak generating capacity of not more than [~~100~~] ***250*** kilowatts, when billing a customer-generator under a net energy metering tariff that is not time-based, the utility shall apply the customer's net energy usage when calculating all charges that are based on kilowatt hour usage. Customer net energy usage shall equal the kilowatt hours supplied to the customer over the electric distribution system minus the kilowatt hours generated by the customer-generator and fed into the electric distribution system over a billing period.

(b) For facilities with a total peak generating capacity of more than [~~100~~] ***250*** kilowatts, the customer-generator shall pay all applicable charges on all kilowatt hours supplied to the customer over the electric distribution system, less a credit on default service charges equal to the metered energy generated by the customer-generator and fed into the electric distribution system over a billing period.

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

II-a. "Advanced nuclear reactor" has the same meaning as that provided in 42 U.S.C. section 16271(b)(1), as amended from time to time.

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

I. Investor-owned electric distribution utilities may elect to develop and, no later than June 30, [~~2025~~] ***2040***, issue a request for proposals for multi-year agreements for energy, in conjunction with or independent of any attendant environmental attributes from electric energy sources.

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

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

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

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

(4) Upon the petition of one or more electric distribution utilities, and after notice and hearing, the public utilities commission may authorize such utility or utilities to enter into multi-year agreements with existing, new, or incremental electric energy sources up to a total of 3 million megawatt hours statewide, on an annual basis, if it finds such agreements to be just and reasonable and in the public interest.

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

9 Purchased Power Agreements. Amend the introductory paragraph for RSA 374-F:11, II through RSA 374-F:11, II(a) to read as follows:

II. Any investor-owned electric distribution utility electing to enter into an agreement pursuant to this section shall petition the public utilities commission for authorization to enter the agreement no later than June 30, [~~2026~~] ***2041***.

(a) Upon the petition of one or more electric distribution utilities, and after notice and hearing, the public utilities commission may authorize such utility or utilities to enter into multi-year agreements with new or incremental electric energy sources up to a total of 2 million megawatt hours statewide, on an annual basis, if it finds such agreements to be just and reasonable and in the public interest***, provided that if at least 1 million megawatt hours are procured from advanced nuclear reactors as defined in RSA 374-F:2, II-a, an additional 1 million megawatt hours may be procured from existing, new, or incremental electric energy sources for a total of up to 3 million megawatt hours statewide annually***.

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

The signatures below attest to the authenticity of this Report on HB 221, relative to assessment of cost effectiveness of the systems benefit charge.

Conferees on the Part of the Senate	Conferees on the Part of the House
Sen. Avard, Dist. 12	Rep. Vose, Rock. 5
Sen. Pearl, Dist. 17	Rep. D. Thomas, Rock. 16
Sen. Watters, Dist. 4	Rep. Bernardy, Rock. 36
	Rep. Notter, Hills. 12

2026-1774-CofC

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Modifies the coordinator of nuclear development and regulatory activities' duties.

II. Amends certain net metering applicable total peak generating capacities and establishes long-term eligibility for certain customer-generators to receive net energy metering compensation under alternative tariffs approved by the public utilities commission.

III. Defines "advanced nuclear reactor."

IV. Extends the deadline for electric distribution utilities to issue requests for proposals for multi-year agreements for energy, in conjunction with or independent of any attendant environmental attributes from electric energy sources, and modifies the requirements for the agreements.

The question is on the adoption of the Committee of Conference Report. Adopted.

CONSENT CALENDAR REPORTS REMOVED

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION
HB 1332, by Senator Altschiller and Senator Perkins Kwoka

FINANCE
HB 155-FN, by Senator Lang and Senator Carson
HB 1323-FN, by Senator Gray and Senator Birdsell

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HB 1735-FN, by Senator Sullivan and Senator Murphy

JUDICIARY
HB 1279, by Senator Gannon and Senator Birdsell

SPECIAL ORDER

Without objection, the Combined Calendar 18 is Special Ordered to match the order set in the floor schedule provided here today, and without objection, HB 1554-FN is special ordered to be the first bill after the lunch recess. Adopted.

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 to Third Reading.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION
HB 1469-FN-A, relative to the licensing requirements for massage therapy establishments.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

HB 1469-FN-A requires massage establishments to be licensed and regulated by the office of professional licensure and certification (OPLC). This legislation provides towns and law enforcement with additional tools to address unlawful massage businesses statewide. The amendment makes technical changes, including granting proper rulemaking authority, providing a clear directive to develop procedures to notify law enforcement of suspected unlawful activity, and updating board member term limits from two terms to three terms.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
May 6, 2026
2026-1865s
09/05

Amendment to HB 1469-FN-A

Amend the bill by replacing sections 5 and 6 with the following:

5 New Paragraph; Massage Therapists and Massage Establishments; Rulemaking. Amend RSA 328-B:4 by inserting after paragraph VII the following new paragraph:

VIII. Pursuant to 541-A, adopt rules to regulate massage establishments, including:

(a) Standards for licensing massage establishments.

(b) Conditions, requirements, and standards for operation under an establishment

license, including health and safety standards.

(c) Standards for inspections of establishments.

(d) Requirements to open, close, relocate, or renew an establishment.

(e) Requiring public display of licensure and secure recordkeeping procedures.

(f) Qualifications for exemption of schools, health facilities, or others from massage establishment license requirements in RSA 328-B:14.

(g) Required documentation to verify sole proprietor or independent contractor designation.

(h) Procedures for notifying law enforcement of suspected unlawful activity.

6 Massage Therapists and Massage Establishments; Advisory Board. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 328-B:5 to read as follows:

328-B:5 Advisory Board of Massage Therapists.

The executive director shall establish the advisory board of massage therapists. The board shall consist of 3 massage therapists who are licensees in the state of New Hampshire. The members shall be appointed for 3 years, staggered so that the term of one member expires each year, and they shall hold office until successors are appointed[~~, and shall serve on the board without any compensation~~]. In no event shall a member serve more than [~~2~~] ***3*** full consecutive terms. The board shall:

FINANCE
HB 661-FN, relative to the department of health and human services management of social security payments, supplemental security income payments, and veterans benefits for children in foster care.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0. Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

This bill establishes requirements for the management of federal benefits received by dependent children in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services. It provides for appointment of a representative payee, which may be the Department if no other suitable candidate is available. HB 661-FN directs the Department to adopt procedures regarding the establishment of Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) savings accounts for dependent children for whom the Department is representative payee. The Senate Finance Committee amended the bill to establish a phase-in schedule for the percentage of benefits conserved on behalf of the child beginning July 1, 2028. As amended by Senate Finance, HB 661-FN also authorizes the Department to request additional funds from the Joint Legislative Fiscal Committee in establishing the ABLE accounts.

Senate Finance
May 5, 2026
2026-1854s
05/09

Amendment to HB 661-FN

Amend RSA 126-A:6-a, III as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

III. If the department is determined by the court to serve as the representative payee:

(a) The department shall not use the child's federal benefits, other benefits, savings, or assets to pay for or reimburse the department or this state for any of the costs of the child's care in accordance with the phase-in schedule under subparagraph (b).

(b) In addition to any amount required to be set aside by the department under federal law and the division for children, youth and families policy, the department shall conserve the following amounts on behalf of the child:

(1) Beginning July 1, 2028, the department shall conserve 25 percent of the child's federal benefits.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2030, the department shall conserve 50 percent of the child's federal benefits.

(3) Beginning July 1, 2032, the department shall conserve 75 percent of the child's federal benefits.

(4) Beginning July 1, 2034, the department shall conserve 100 percent of the child's federal benefits.

(c) The department may use the child's federal benefits for the child's unmet needs beyond what the department is obligated or required to pay.

(d) The department shall establish an appropriate account to use and conserve the child's benefits in the child's best interest for current unmet needs and future needs in a manner consistent with federal and state asset and resource limits. The account may include any of the following:

(1) A special needs trust.

(2) A pooled special needs trust.

(3) An Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) savings account, established pursuant to RSA 195-K and section 529A of the Internal Revenue Code.

(4) Any other trust account determined not to interfere with social security or asset limitations for any other benefit program.

(e) The department shall provide an annual accounting as to the use, application, or conservation of the child's federal benefits to the child, the child's representative, and the child's parents or guardians.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 6 with the following:

7 Fiscal Committee Approval. The department of health and human services may request additional general funds from the fiscal committee of the general court to implement section 3 of this act, relative to establishing ABLE accounts for children in the department's custody for whom it serves as representative payee. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for sums approved out of any funds in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

8 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2027.

II. Section 2 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2028.

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

2026-1854s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Establishes requirements for the management of federal benefits received by dependent children in the custody of the department of health and human services.

II. Provides for appointment of a representative payee, which may be the department if no other suitable candidate is available.

III. Directs the department to adopt procedures regarding establishment of ABLE accounts for dependent children for whom the department is representative payee and authorizes the department to request additional funds from the fiscal committee for this purpose.

IV. Establishes a phase-in schedule for the percentage of benefits conserved on behalf of the child beginning July 1, 2028.

HB 1102-FN, increasing the research and development tax credit cap and relative to state park fees for state residents.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0. Senator Lang for the committee.

This bill raises the aggregate value and the hard cap of all Research and Development Tax credits that businesses can claim. HB 1102-FN also requires the Commissioner of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to set fees to state parks for residents at no more than 50 percent of what they are for out-of-state residents. Veterans and school or student groups will not be eligible for discounted or waived rates as this legislation allows for separate fee schedules for specific uses at all state parks. The Senate Finance Committee amended the bill to change the effective date of Section 3, pertaining to the state park fees, to July 1, 2027.

Senate Finance
May 12, 2026
2026-1919s
07/05

Amendment to HB 1102-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 4 with the following:

4 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

II. Section 3 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2027.

III. The remainder of this act shall take effect January 1, 2028.

HB 1415-FN, establishing a special veterans license plate and creating a fund and administrative programs from the proceeds of the sale of such plates and establishing the New Hampshire first for veterans program and authority.
Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0. Senator Birdsell for the committee.

This bill, as amended by the Senate Finance Committee, authorizes a special veterans license plate and establishes a fund and administrative programs from the proceeds of the sale of these plates. HB 1415-FN also establishes the First for Veterans program, designed to attract, retain and support veterans in the state.

HB 1491, relative to pooled risk management programs.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0. Senator Gray for the committee.

This bill provides an insurance alternative to the RSA 5-B risk pool program. HB 1491 provides for a non-assessable program using Risk Based Capital (RBC) to determine the member rates.

Senate Finance
May 12, 2026
2026-1924s
08/05

Amendment to HB 1491

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

1 New Chapter; Political Subdivision Risk Management Programs. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 420-Q the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 420-R
POLITICAL SUBDIVISION RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

420-R:1 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the establishment of political subdivision risk management programs and to affirm the status of such programs established for the benefit of political subdivisions of the state. The legislature finds and determines that insurance and risk management are essential to the proper functioning of political subdivisions; that risk management can be achieved through the purchase of traditional insurance or by participation in pooled risk management programs established for the benefit of political subdivisions; that pooled risk management is an essential governmental function by providing focused public sector loss prevention programs, accrual of interest and dividend earnings, which may be returned to the public benefit, and establishment of costs predicated solely on the actual experience of political subdivisions within the state; that the resources of political subdivisions are presently burdened by the securing of insurance protection through standard carriers; and that risk management programs that meet the standards established by this chapter should not be subject to taxation by the state and, except as specifically set forth in this chapter, should not be subject to insurance regulation.

420-R:2 Definitions; Scope of Chapter. In this chapter:

I. “Authorized control level event” means any of the following events:

(a) The filing of a Risk-Based Capital “RBC” report by the program indicating that the program’s total adjusted capital is greater than or equal to its mandatory control level RBC but less than its authorized control level RBC;

(b) The notification by the commissioner to the program of an adjusted RBC report that indicates the event in subparagraph (a); or

(c) The failure of the program to respond to a corrective order in a manner satisfactory to the commissioner.

II. “Commissioner” means the commissioner of the department of insurance.

III. “Company action level event” means the filing of an RBC report by a program indicating that:

(a) The program’s total adjusted capital is greater than or equal to its regulatory action level RBC but less than its company action level RBC;

(b) For life and/or ancillary health coverages, the political subdivision risk management program has total adjusted capital that is greater than or equal to its company action level RBC but less than the product of its authorized control level RBC and 3.0 and has a negative trend; or

(c) For property and casualty or employee health plan coverages, the program has total adjusted capital that is greater than or equal to its company action level RBC but less than the product of its authorized control level RBC and 3.0 and triggers the trend test determined in accordance with the trend test calculation included in the property and casualty RBC instructions.

IV. “Department” means the department of insurance.

V. “Excess insurance” means stop-loss insurance for health insurance claims and high-dollar value coverage above a primary layer for property and casualty insurance claims.

VI. “Mandatory control level event” means any of the following events:

(a) The filing of an RBC report that indicates that the program’s total adjusted capital is less than its mandatory control level RBC; or

(b) Notification by the commissioner to the program of an adjusted RBC report that indicates the event in subparagraph (a).

VII. “Member” means any political subdivision that participates in a risk management program under this chapter.

VIII. “NAIC” means the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

IX. “Nonprofit organization” means any entity that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(6), or 501(c)(12) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding Internal Revenue Code of the United States, as amended.

X. “Political subdivision” means any city, town, county, school district, chartered public school, village district, school administrative unit, or any district or entity created for a special purpose administered or funded by any of the above-named governmental units.

XI. “Political Subdivision Risk Management Program” or “program” means any formal arrangement established or maintained by 2 or more political subdivisions for the purpose of jointly covering risk that is not organized and operated as an assessable risk pool regulated in accordance with the requirements of RSA 5-B.

XII. “RBC instructions” means the RBC report including risk-based capital instructions adopted by the NAIC, as such RBC instructions may be amended by the NAIC from time to time in accordance with the procedures adopted by the NAIC.

XIII. “RBC level” means a program’s company action level RBC, regulatory action level RBC, authorized control level RBC, or mandatory control level RBC where:

(a) “Company action level RBC” means the product of 2.0 and its authorized control level RBC.

(b) “Regulatory action level RBC” means the product of 1.5 and its authorized control level RBC.

(c) “Authorized control level RBC” means the number determined under the risk-based capital formula in accordance with the RBC instructions.

(d) “Mandatory control level RBC” means the product of .70 and the authorized control level RBC.

XIV. “RBC plan” means a comprehensive financial plan containing the following elements:

(a) Conditions that contribute to the company action level event;

(b) Proposals of corrective actions that the program intends to take and would be expected to result in the elimination of the company action level event;

(c) Projections of the program’s financial results in the current year and at least the 4 succeeding years, both in the absence of proposed corrective actions and giving effect to the proposed corrective actions, including projections of statutory operating income, net income, capital, and/or surplus. The projections for both new and renewal business might include separate projections for each major line of business and separately identify each significant income, expense, and benefit component;

(d) Key assumptions impacting the program’s projections and the sensitivity of the projections to the assumptions; and

(e) The quality of, and problems associated with, the program’s business, including but not limited to its assets, anticipated business growth and associated surplus strain, extraordinary exposure to risk, mix of business, and use of reinsurance, if any, in each case. If the commissioner rejects the RBC plan, and it is revised by the political subdivision risk management program, with or without the commissioner’s recommendation, the plan shall be called the “revised RBC plan.”

XV. “Regulatory action level event” means any of the following events:

(a) The filing of an RBC report by the program that indicates that the program’s total adjusted capital is greater than or equal to its authorized control level RBC but less than its regulatory action level RBC;

(b) The failure of the program to file an RBC report by the filing date, unless the program has provided an explanation for such failure which is satisfactory to the commissioner and has cured the failure within 10 days after the filing date;

(c) Notification by the commissioner to the program that the RBC plan or revised RBC plan submitted by the program is, in the judgment of the commissioner, unsatisfactory; or

(d) Notification by the commissioner to the program that the program has failed to adhere to its RBC plan or revised RBC plan, but only if such failure has a substantial adverse effect on the ability of the program to eliminate the company action level event in accordance with its RBC plan or revised RBC plan and the commissioner has so stated in the notification.

420-R:3 Declaration of Status; Tax Exemption.

I. Any arrangement authorized and meeting the standards required under this chapter is not an insurance company, reciprocal insurer, or insurer under the laws of this state, and administration of any activities of the arrangement shall not constitute doing an insurance business for purposes of regulation or taxation. Such self-insurance arrangements shall not be subject to the premium tax under RSA 400-A:32 and shall not be subject to assessment with respect to the administration fund under RSA 400-A:39.

II. Any such arrangement operating under this chapter, whether or not a body corporate, trust, or charter, may sue or be sued, make contracts, hold and dispose of real property, borrow money, contract debts, and pledge assets in its name.

III. Political subdivision risk management programs shall be governed by this chapter and shall be exempt from this title, except for the provisions of:

(a) RSA 400-A:16, relative to investigations;

(b) RSA 400-A:17 through RSA 400-A:24, relative to hearings and appeals;

(c) RSA 400-A:37, relative to examinations;

(d) RSA 402-B, relative to insurance claims adjusters;

(e) RSA 402-J, relative to producer licensing;

(f) RSA 417:1 through 417:31, relative to unfair trade practices and fraud investigations; and

(g) RSA 420-G:11, II, II-a, and IV, relative to the submission of claims data to the department.

IV. This section does not apply to or provide exemptions for insurance companies issuing policies to cover the arrangement, third-party administrators, insurance producers, or other licensees subject to RSA Title XXXVII servicing the political subdivision risk management program.

V. RSA 5-B shall not apply to political subdivision risk management programs.

420-R:4 Agreement to Form; Authorized Activities.

I. To accomplish the purposes of this chapter, any 2 or more political subdivisions of this state may, by resolution of their governing bodies, establish and enter into agreements to form a nonprofit organization, association, or trust under the laws of this state to carry out the activities of a political subdivision risk management program.

II. RSA 53-A shall not apply to an association formed or affirmed under this chapter, nor to the participation in such an association by a political subdivision.

III. Political subdivision risk management programs established for the benefit of political subdivisions may provide any or all of the following coverages:

(a) Casualty, including general and professional liability; errors and omissions; workers' compensation and employer's liability; medical payments; or unemployment compensation as authorized under federal law.

(b) Property, including marine and inland navigation; transportation; boiler and machinery; fire; theft; or natural hazards.

(c) Vehicle, including any liability or loss arising from the ownership or operation of vehicles.

(d) Surety and fidelity.

(e) Environmental impairment.

(f) Hospital, medical, surgical, or dental benefits for employees and retirees and their dependents.

(g) Life, income maintenance, accidental death and dismemberment, vision loss or impairment, or legal benefits for employees and their dependents.

IV. Any political subdivision risk management program that provides coverage described in subparagraphs III (a) through (e) shall not also provide coverages described in subparagraphs (f) or (g).

V. If provided for in the organizational documents, a political subdivision risk management program may, in conformance with this chapter:

(a) Contract or otherwise provide for risk management and loss control services;

(b) Contract or otherwise provide legal counsel for the defense of claims and other legal services;

(c) Jointly purchase insurance and reinsurance coverage in a form and amount as provided for in the organizational documents;

(d) Obligate the participants to pledge funds or revenues to secure the obligations or pay the expenses of the arrangement, including the establishment of a reserve fund for coverage and any other financial arrangements if the reserve fund or the arrangement's revenue or assets are insufficient to cover the liabilities; and

(e) Possess any other powers and perform all other functions reasonably necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

VI. Any program operating under this chapter, whether or not body corporate, may sue or be sued; make contracts; hold and dispose of real property; and borrow money, contract debts, and pledge assets in its name.

VII. Participation by a political subdivision in a political subdivision risk management program formed and affirmed under this chapter shall not subject any such political subdivision to any liability to any third party for the acts or omissions of the political subdivision risk management program or any other political subdivision participating in the program.

420-R:5 Formation.

I. Before the establishment of a political subdivision risk management program, the program shall obtain the approval of the commissioner. The political subdivisions proposing the creation of the program shall submit a plan of management and operation to the commissioner that provides, at a minimum, the following information:

(a) The risk or risks to be covered, including any coverage definitions, terms, conditions, and limitations;

(b) The amount and method of funding the covered risks, including the initial capital and proposed rates and projected premiums. The commissioner shall require deposits, surplus requirements, or other financial security reasonably necessary to ensure the solvency and financial integrity of the program, including deposits of not less than $300,000 for property and casualty lines and $500,000 for health-related coverages, in cash, securities authorized for savings banks, or such other investments as approved by the commissioner;

(c) The proposed claim reserving practices;

(d) The proposed purchase and maintenance of insurance, or excess insurance in excess of the amounts retained by the joint self-insurance arrangement;

(e) The legal form of the program, including, but not limited to, any constitution, articles of incorporation, bylaws, charter, trust, or other agreement among the participating entities;

(f) The agreements with participants in the arrangement defining the responsibilities and benefits of each participant and management;

(g) The proposed accounting, depositing, and investment practices of the arrangement;

(h) Evidence satisfactory to the commissioner showing that the arrangement will be operated in accordance with sound actuarial principles;

(i) A designation of the individual to whom service of process must be forwarded by the commissioner on behalf of the arrangement, including that individual's name and address;

(j) All contracts between the program and private persons providing risk management, claims, or other administrative services;

(k) A professional analysis of the feasibility of the creation and maintenance of the program;

(l) A legal analysis or an Internal Revenue Service opinion on the federal income tax exposure or liability of the program;

(m) The names and addresses of the directors of the arrangement, who are subject to approval by the commissioner upon the presentation of sufficient evidence to:

(1) Be competent;

(2) Have not been found to be guilty of, or to have pled guilty or no contest to, a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude;

(3) Have not had any type of professional license revoked in this or any other state; and

(4) Have not improperly manipulated assets, accounts, or specific excess insurance or otherwise acted in bad faith;

(n) A copy of a fidelity bond in an amount equal to not less than 12 percent of the funds handled annually and issued in the name of the arrangement covering its officers, trustees, employees, administrator, or other individuals managing or handling the funds or assets of the arrangement. In no case may such bond be less than $1,000,000 or more than $5,000,000, except that the commissioner may prescribe an amount more than $5,000,000 following a hearing. In lieu of a surety bond, the posting of the requisite surety in cash in an account where investment or interest earnings on the surety funds may be swept by the pool and allocated to operations, reserves, or surplus, as the case may be;

(o) A statement from legal counsel attesting that there are no pending regulatory enforcement actions against the entity; and

(p) Such additional information as the commissioner may reasonably require to determine compliance with this chapter.

II. The commissioner shall not approve the arrangement unless the commissioner determines the following:

(a) The plan is designed to provide sufficient revenues to pay current and future liabilities, as determined in accordance with sound actuarial principles; and

(b) The program meets the requirements of RSA 420-R:6.

III. Any pooled risk entity operating in accordance with RSA 5-B as of July 1, 2026, may seek conditional approval. The commissioner may authorize such a program that does not currently meet the requirements of this chapter to operate as a political subdivision risk management program under a conditional approval for a period not to exceed 2 years while the organization works to meet all the requirements of this chapter.

IV. Any entity that does not meet the requirements of RSA 5-B and has been found to be operating without the commissioner's approval shall be subject to an administrative fine not to exceed $10,000 for each day it has operated without the commissioner's approval.

420-R:6 Requirements of Organization and Operation.

I. A political subdivision risk management program shall meet the following minimum eligibility requirements and any additional requirements that the commissioner may require:

(a) The arrangement shall qualify as a non-profit entity or not-for-profit trust;

(b) Operated pursuant to an agreement by a board of directors, which shall have complete fiscal control over the arrangement and which shall be responsible for all operations of the arrangement. The directors shall be elected officials or employees of one or more political subdivisions in the arrangement. A director may not be an owner, officer, or employee of the administrator or service company of the arrangement. The directors shall have the authority to approve applications of association members for participation in the arrangement and to contract with an authorized administrator or service company to administer the day-to-day affairs of the arrangement.

(c) Neither offered nor advertised to the public generally.

(d) Operated in accordance with sound actuarial principles.

II. The following activities shall be prohibited:

(a) An employee or official of a participating political subdivision shall not directly or indirectly receive anything of value for services rendered in connection with the operation and management of the arrangement other than the salary and benefits provided by his or her employer or the reimbursement of expenses reasonably incurred in furtherance of the operation or management of the arrangement.

(b) An employee or official of a participating political subdivision shall not accept or solicit anything of value for personal benefit or for the benefit of others under circumstances in which it can be reasonably inferred that the employee's or official's independence of judgment is impaired with respect to the management and operation of the arrangement.

III. The commissioner shall not grant or continue approval of a program until such time as the program replaces any director found by the commissioner, upon the presentation of sufficient evidence:

(a) To be incompetent;

(b) To be guilty of, or to have pleaded guilty or no contest to, a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude;

(c) To have had any type of insurance license revoked in this or any other state;

(d) To have improperly manipulated assets, accounts, or specific excess insurance or to have otherwise acted in bad faith.

IV. Directors shall comply with the provisions of RSA 15-A. Directors shall have a fiduciary responsibility to act in the best interest of the political subdivision risk management program, which shall include a duty of care to ensure prudent investment and use of assets, a duty of loyalty to act to further the purposes and mission of the program, and a duty of obedience to comply with organizational bylaws and applicable law.

420-R:7 Termination of Arrangement. If an arrangement is terminated for any reason, it shall pay all outstanding claims, debts, and obligations. The arrangement may retain sufficient funds to provide coverage for such additional period as the board of the arrangement considers prudent. In addition, the program may purchase such additional insurance as they consider necessary for protection against potential future claims. Any funds remaining in the arrangement after satisfaction of all obligations upon termination shall be paid to participating entities as of the termination date in some equitable manner meeting with the approval of the commissioner, including, without ruling out other alternatives, equally on a per capita basis to each participating entity that is covered under the arrangement as of the effective date of termination.

420-R:8 Approval of Rates.

I. Each political subdivision risk management program shall file with the insurance commissioner a full schedule of the rates to be paid by participating members and shall obtain the commissioner's approval prior to implementing any rate changes. Rates, rating factors, and all rules necessary for the calculation of members' contributions shall be filed with the commissioner at least 60 days prior to implementation along with all relevant actuarial support that justifies the selection of rates. The commissioner may refuse such approval if he or she finds the rates are excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory.

II. All underlying information submitted to justify the rates to the extent the information therein is not otherwise required to be publicly available, which is filed with the commissioner, constitutes information that might be damaging to the risk pool management program if made available to competitors and therefore shall be kept confidential by the commissioner. This information shall not be made public or be subject to subpoena, other than by the commissioner and then only for the purpose of enforcement actions taken by the commissioner pursuant to this chapter or the applicable provisions of Title XXXVII.

III. All approved rates and rating manuals shall be publicly available.

420-R:9 Financial Reporting.

I. Each political subdivision risk management program shall prepare and file or transmit to the commissioner an annual statement and subsequent quarterly statements under oath, in accordance with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Annual Statement Blank following the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Annual Statement Instructions and those accounting procedures and practices prescribed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Accounting Practices and Procedure Manual or allowed as a permitted accounting practice as provided in the manual.

II. The annual statement shall be due on or before March 1 each year. The commissioner may extend the time for filing or transmitting such statement for cause shown and may approve an alternative submission date. The commissioner may refuse to continue, or may suspend or revoke, the approval for any political subdivision risk management program that fails to file or transmit its annual statement when due.

III. In addition to the above, the commissioner may require from any person or entity subject to this title:

(a) Statements, reports, including reports audited by independent public accountants, answers to questionnaires, and other information and evidence thereof, in whatever reasonable form the commissioner designates and at such reasonable intervals as the commissioner may choose, or from time to time;

(b) Full explanation of the programming of any data storage or communications systems in use; and

(c) That information from any books, records, electronic data processing systems, computers, or any other information storage system be made available to him at any reasonable time and in any reasonable manner.

IV. Any officer, manager, or general agent; any person with executive authority over or in charge of any segment of such political subdivision risk management program's affairs; and any insurance agent or other person licensed under the insurance code shall reply promptly in writing or in other designated form to any written inquiry from the commissioner requesting a reply.

V. The commissioner may require that any communication made to him under this section be verified.

VI. In the absence of actual malice, no communication required by the commissioner under this section shall subject the person making it to an action for damages for defamation.

VII. The information obtained pursuant to this section shall be privileged.

VIII. Any director, officer, agent, or employee of a political subdivision risk management program who subscribes to, makes, or concurs in making or publishing any annual or other statement required by law, having actual knowledge that the same contains any material statement that is false, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor if a natural person or guilty of a felony if any other person.

IX. The commissioner may retain, without appropriation under RSA 9 and without qualifying as a department expenditure under RSA 4:15, attorneys, independent actuaries, independent certified public accountants, or other professionals or specialists to review financial statements, the cost of which shall be borne by the company that is the subject of the financial analysis. The political subdivision risk management program shall pay the retained professionals or specialists directly for their costs. The commissioner shall conduct oversight of such independent reviewers in a manner that is consistent with standards for the use of independent reviewers established by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners in its Financial Condition Examiners Handbook and shall ensure that costs are reasonable for the work performed.

420-R:10 Risk-Based Capital.

I. Every political subdivision risk management program shall, on or prior to each March 1, prepare and submit to the commissioner a report of its RBC levels as of the end of the calendar year just ended, in a form and containing such information as is required by the RBC instructions for programs.

II. For life and/or ancillary health coverages, RBC shall be determined in accordance with the formula set forth in the RBC instructions. The formula shall take into account, and may adjust for, the covariance between:

(a) The risk with respect to the program's assets;

(b) The risk of adverse insurance experience with respect to the program's liabilities and obligations;

(c) The interest rate risk with respect to the program's business; and

(d) All other business risks and such other relevant risks as are set forth in the RBC instructions.

III. For property and casualty coverages, RBC shall be determined in accordance with the formula set forth in the RBC instructions. The formula shall take into account and may adjust for the covariance between:

(a) Asset risk;

(b) Credit risk;

(c) Underwriting risk; and

(d) All other business risks and such other relevant risks as are set forth in the RBC instructions, determined in each case by applying the factors in the manner set forth in the RBC instructions.

IV. For employee health plan coverages, RBC shall be determined in accordance with the formula set forth in the RBC instructions. The formula shall take into account and may adjust for the covariance between:

(a) Asset risk;

(b) Credit risk;

(c) Underwriting risk; and

(d) All other business risks and such other relevant risks as are set forth in the RBC instructions.

V.(a) In the event of a company action level event, the program shall, within 45 days of the event, prepare and submit to the commissioner an RBC plan. Within 60 days after the submission of an RBC plan to the commissioner, the commissioner shall notify the program whether the RBC plan shall be implemented or is, in the judgment of the commissioner, unsatisfactory. If the commissioner determines the RBC plan is unsatisfactory, the notification to the program shall set forth the reasons for the determination and may set forth proposed revisions that will render the RBC plan satisfactory, in the judgment of the commissioner. Upon notification from the commissioner, the program shall prepare a revised RBC plan, which may incorporate by reference any revisions proposed by the commissioner.

(b) In the event of a regulatory action level event, the commissioner shall:

(1) Require the program to prepare and submit an RBC plan or, if applicable, a revised RBC plan;

(2) Perform such examination or analysis as the commissioner deems necessary of the assets, liabilities, and operations of the program, including a review of its RBC plan or revised RBC plan; and

(3) Subsequent to the examination or analysis, issue an order specifying such corrective actions as the commissioner shall determine are required.

(c) In the event of an authorized control level event, the commissioner shall:

(1) Take such actions as are required with respect to which a regulatory action level event has occurred; or

(2) If the commissioner deems it to be in the best interests of the policyholders and creditors of the political subdivision risk management program and of the public, take such actions as are necessary to cause the political subdivision risk management program to be placed under regulatory control.

(d) In the event of a mandatory control level event, the commissioner shall take such actions as are necessary to place the political subdivision risk management program under regulatory control. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing, the commissioner may forego action for up to 90 days after the mandatory control level event if the commissioner finds there is a reasonable expectation that the mandatory control level event may be eliminated within the 90-day period.

VI. Any action by the commissioner related to RBC shall be a basis for requesting a hearing pursuant to RSA 400-A:17, II (b). The program shall have the right to request a confidential departmental hearing, on the record, at which the program may challenge any determination or action by the commissioner. The program shall notify the commissioner of its request for a hearing within 5 days after the notification by the commissioner. Upon receipt of the program's request for a hearing, the commissioner shall set a date for the hearing, which date shall be no less than 10 and no more than 30 days after the date of the program's request.

VII.(a) The commissioner may apply by verified petition to the superior court for Merrimack county or for the county in which the principal office of the program is located for an order directing him or her to take control of the program on any one or more of the following grounds:

(1) The program has encountered an authorized or mandatory control event;

(2) The commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that there has been embezzlement from the program, wrongful sequestration or diversion of the program's assets, forgery or fraud affecting the program, or other illegal conduct in, by, or with respect to the program that, if established, would endanger assets in an amount threatening the solvency of the program;

(3) That information coming into the commissioner's possession has disclosed substantial and not adequately explained discrepancies between the program's records and the most recent annual report or other official program reports;

(4) That the program has failed to remove any person who in fact has executive authority in the political subdivision risk management program, whether an officer, manager, general agent, employee, or other person, if the person has been found by the commissioner after notice and hearing to be dishonest or untrustworthy in a way affecting the program's business;

(5) That any person who in fact has executive authority in the program, whether an officer, manager, general agent, employee, or other person, has refused to be examined under oath by the commissioner concerning its affairs, whether in this state or elsewhere, and after reasonable notice of the fact the program has failed promptly and effectively to terminate the employment and status of the person and all his influence on management;

(6) That after demand by the commissioner the program has failed to submit promptly any of its own property, books, accounts, documents, or other records, or those of any company contracted to provide services to the program, or those of any person having executive authority in the program so far as they pertain to the program, to reasonable inspection or examination by the commissioner or an authorized representative. If the program is unable to submit the property, books, accounts, documents, or other records of a person having executive authority in the program, it shall be excused from doing so if it promptly and effectively terminates the relationship of the person to the program;

(7) That without first obtaining the written consent of the commissioner, the political subdivision risk management program has transferred, or attempted to transfer, substantially its entire property or business, or has entered into any transaction the effect of which is to merge, consolidate, or reinsure substantially its entire property or business in or with the property or business of any other person;

(8) That the directors of the program are deadlocked in the management of the political subdivision risk management program's affairs and that the members or shareholders are unable to break the deadlock and that irreparable injury to the political subdivision risk management program, its creditors, its policyholders, or the public is threatened by reason thereof;

(9) That the program has failed to pay for 60 days after the due date any obligation to this state or any political subdivision thereof or any judgment entered in this state, except that such nonpayment shall not be a ground until 60 days after any good faith effort by the program to contest the obligation has been terminated, whether it is before the commissioner or in the courts;

(10) That the program has failed to file its annual report or other report within the time allowed by law and, after written demand by the commissioner, has failed to give an adequate explanation immediately;

(11) That 2/3 of the board of directors consent to regulatory control under this chapter.

(b) An order for regulatory control shall appoint the commissioner and successors in office as the controlling authority and shall direct the controlling authority forthwith to take possession of the assets of the program and to administer them under the orders of the court. The filing or recording of the order with any register of deeds in the state imparts the same notice as a deed, bill of sale, or other evidence of title duly filed or recorded with that register of deeds. Any order issued under this section shall require accountings to the court by the controlling authority. Accountings shall be at such intervals as the court specifies in its order, but no less frequently than semi-annually.

(c) The commissioner as the controlling authority shall make every reasonable effort to employ a qualified expert to serve as special deputy commissioner to correct the issue that led to regulatory control. The special deputy shall have all of the powers of the controlling authority granted under this section. Subject to court approval, the commissioner shall make such arrangements for compensation as are necessary to obtain a special deputy of proven ability. The special deputy shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.

(d) Subject to court approval, the controlling authority may take such action as is deemed necessary or expedient to reform and revitalize the program. The controlling authority shall have all the powers of the directors, whose authority shall be suspended, except as they are redelegated by the controlling authority. The controlling authority shall have full power to direct and manage, hire and discharge employees subject to any contract rights they may have, require the collection of funds from political subdivisions comprising the program, and deal with the property and business of the program.

(e) If the controlling authority finds that there has been criminal or tortious conduct or breach of any contractual or fiduciary obligation detrimental to the controlling authority by any officer, manager, agent, broker, employee, or other person, they may pursue all appropriate legal remedies on behalf of the program.

(f) The controlling authority may at any time petition the court for an order terminating the regulatory control of the program. If the court finds that grounds for regulatory control no longer exist, it shall order that the program be restored to possession of its property and the control of its business. The court may also make that finding and issue that order at any time upon its own motion.

VIII. Regardless of its RBC level, any dividend, return of capital, or return of premium proposed by the board of a program shall be reviewed and approved prior to distribution by the commissioner under such terms as outlined in RSA 401-B:5, II, as are applicable to political subdivision risk management programs as determined by the commissioner.

420-R:11 Investments.

I. The assets of any political subdivision risk management program shall invest and keep invested all its funds only in the following U.S. dollar-denominated, high-quality instruments, except such cash as may be required in the transaction of its business:

(a) Cash and Cash Equivalents. Cash on deposit; FDIC-insured deposits pursuant to the criteria set forth in RSA 6:8; high-quality certificates of deposit; SEC Rule 2a7 compliant money market funds; and short-dated U.S. Treasury bills and notes.

(b) U.S. Government Obligations. Obligations issued or fully guaranteed by the United States, including full-faith-and-credit agencies such as GNMA (Ginnie Mae – Government National Mortgage Association).

(c) U.S. Agency Obligations. Obligations issued by U.S. Government Sponsored Enterprises including FHLB (Federal Home Loan Bank), FNMA Fannie Mae – Federal National Mortgage Association), and FHLMC (Freddie Mac – Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation), rated NAIC 1 or NAIC 2 (or A/A3 or better).

(d) Municipal Obligations. General obligation or essential service revenue bonds of U.S. states and political subdivisions rated NAIC 1 or NAIC 2 (or A/A3 or better), including pre-refunded obligations backed by U.S. Treasury or agency collateral.

(e) Corporate Bonds. Senior unsecured or secured corporate debt, nonconvertible and without payment-in-kind features, rated NAIC 1 or NAIC 2 (or A/A3 or better).

(f) Mortgage-Backed Securities.

(1) Agency mortgage-backed securities issued or guaranteed by FNMA (Fannie Mae – Federal National Mortgage Association), FHLMC (Freddie Mac – Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation), or GNMA (Ginnie Mae – Government National Mortgage Association), including passthroughs and CMOs (Collateralized Mortgage Obligations), limited to senior tranches rated NAIC 1.

(2) Private label mortgage-backed securities limited to senior tranches rated NAIC 1, with no synthetic, reREMIC, or complex structures.

(g) Asset-Backed Securities ("ABS"). Prime auto, credit card, and equipment ABS backed by granular collateral and limited to senior NAIC 1 tranches. CLOs, CDOs, resecuritizations, and synthetic structures are prohibited.

(h) Bank Obligations. Bankers' acceptances and certificates of deposit issued by U.S. institutions rated A/A3 or better, nonstructured, U.S. dollar denominated, and with a maturity not exceeding 5 years.

(i) Repurchase Agreements. Triparty or centrally cleared repurchase agreements collateralized solely by U.S. Treasury or U.S. agency securities, with daily margining and customary haircuts. Counterparties must be rated A/A3 or better.

(j) Real Estate for the Accommodation of Business. Real estate used for the political subdivision risk management program's operational accommodation, subject to RSA 402:29d, V. Excess rentable space must meet investment-grade tenancy standards. Exposure to real estate shall not exceed 5 percent of admitted assets.

(k) Securities Lending. Permitted only if: collateral is cash or U.S. Treasury or agency securities; collateral is maintained at a minimum of 102 percent and marked to market daily; aggregate exposure does not exceed 10 percent of admitted assets; per counterparty exposure does not exceed 2 percent; and collateral securities may not be reused other than to acquire equivalent securities.

(l) Mutual Funds. Shares of open-ended investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, limited to SEC Rule 2a7 money market funds or funds investing only in U.S. Treasury and U.S. agency securities.

(m) Supranational Obligations. U.S. dollar-denominated obligations of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, InterAmerican Development Bank, African Development Bank, or Asian Development Bank, rated NAIC 1.

(n) Basket Provision. Up to 2 percent of admitted assets may be invested in instruments not otherwise listed, provided such instruments are NAIC 1 and U.S. dollar denominated.

II. Common or preferred stock; equity rights or warrants; convertible securities; private equity; hedge funds; commodities; cryptocurrencies or digital assets; below-investment-grade fixed income; structured credit, including CLOs and CDOs; synthetic securities; foreign-currency-denominated assets; and all derivative instruments of any type are prohibited.

III. At least 20 percent of admitted assets shall be held in cash and cash equivalents as defined in subsection I(a).

IV. “Highly rated” means Securities Valuation Office of the NAIC designation 1 or 2, or NRSRO (Nationally Recognized Statistical Ratings Organization) rating of A/A3 or better. NAIC designations govern statutory purposes.

V. The political subdivision risk management program shall maintain procedures to monitor credit quality and shall implement documented remediation actions for any security that falls below NAIC 2/A-.

VI.(a) The political subdivision risk management program’s portfolio of fixed-income investments, excluding cash and cash equivalents, shall maintain a weighted average life not to exceed 3 years.

(b) No individual fixed-income instrument shall have a final contractual maturity greater than 12 years.

(c) For amortizing securities, weighted average life shall be calculated using reasonable, supportable expectations of prepayment and default.

(d) The political subdivision risk management program shall not acquire securities whose stated maturity exceeds 12 years, securities whose weighted average life cannot be reasonably estimated, or instruments designed to produce extension risk inconsistent with these limits.

(e) Securities held as admitted assets on the effective date of this subsection that exceed these limits may be retained but not added to or replaced with instruments of similar structure or maturity.

420-R:12 Examinations and Investigations.

I. The commissioner shall make an examination of each political subdivision risk management program under the terms of RSA 400-A:37 as often as deemed necessary, but not less frequently than once in every 5 years. All examinations shall be conducted at the expense of the program.

II. Each program shall submit its books and records relating to its operations to such examinations and in every way facilitate them. For the purpose of examinations, the commissioner may issue subpoenas, administer oaths to, and examine the officers and agents of the program.

III. The commissioner may investigate the acts of a political subdivision risk management program pursuant to RSA 400-A:16.

420-R:13 Enforcement Authority.

I. The commissioner may suspend or revoke the approval, issue an order requiring a specific action, or assess an administrative fine for any program for any of the following causes:

(a) The approval of the arrangement was obtained by fraud;

(b) There were one or more material misrepresentations in the materials submitted to gain the approval;

(c) The program has shown itself untrustworthy or incompetent relative to the management or operation of the arrangement;

(d) The program has failed to meet the financial requirements of this chapter or has violated any lawful order or rules;

(e) The program has refused to be examined or to produce its accounts, records, and files for examination or has refused to give information with respect to its affairs or to perform any other legal obligation as to such examination when so required by the commissioner;

(f) The program has failed to pay any final judgment rendered against it in this state within 60 days after the judgment became final;

(g) The program no longer meets the requirements for the authority originally granted;

(h) The program has violated any lawful order or rule of the commissioner, provision of this chapter, or other applicable law;

(i) The program is not fulfilling its contracts in good faith;

(j) The program is conducting business fraudulently or in a manner hazardous to its covered persons, members, creditors, the public, or the business; or

(k) The program is acting outside its authority.

II. Prior to suspending or revoking the program's approval, the commissioner shall provide written notification to the program specifying the basis of the noncompliance and requiring that the deficiency or deficiencies which exist be corrected.

III. After such notice, the program shall have a 30-day period in which to comply with the commissioner's request for correction or the submission of a corrective action plan. If the program fails to comply, the commissioner shall issue a notice of hearing pursuant to RSA 400-A:18.

420-R:14 Appeals. All orders and decisions of the commissioner concerning matters within the commissioner's jurisdiction under this chapter shall be subject to hearing and appeal as provided in RSA 400-A:15 through 24 and RSA 541. RSA 541:18 shall apply to orders and decisions of the commissioner affecting the rates of the program.

420-R:15 Rulemaking Authority. The commissioner may adopt rules in accordance with RSA 541-A, which are reasonable and necessary to administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

420-R:16 Confidentiality and Transparency.

I. Notwithstanding any provision of the law to the contrary, any information of any political subdivision risk management program formed or affirmed under this chapter pertaining to claims analysis or claims management shall be privileged and confidential and not subject to disclosure to any third party.

II. Except as provided in paragraph I, political subdivision risk management programs formed or affirmed under this chapter are subject to the requirements of RSA 91-A.

III. Political subdivision risk management programs' annual financial statements shall be made public.

420-R:17 Severability. If any provision of this chapter, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, such determination shall not affect the provisions or applications of this chapter, which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end, the provisions of this chapter are severable.

2 Repeal. RSA 420-R:5, III, relative to the formation of political subdivision risk management programs, 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.

2026-1924s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes and regulates political subdivision risk management programs, sets eligibility and reporting requirements, defines oversight and enforcement authority, outlines financial, investment, and solvency standards, and affirms tax exemptions and confidentiality provisions for such programs.

HB 1555-FN, relative to the administration and enforcement of the state fire code.

Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

HB 1555-FN allows the state fire marshal to hear de novo appeals of local fire chief decisions within set timelines and grants them statewide authority to approve, deny, or allow project-specific alternatives and code modifications under the state building code. The Senate Finance Committee amended the effective date of the bill.

HB 1563-FN-L, relative to the special education aid formula and the administration and monitoring of state special education aid.
Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0. Senator Lang for the committee.

This bill, effective July 1, 2028 (FY 2029 payment based upon 2027-2028 school year costs), revises the aid formula for higher cost special education students by lowering the eligibility threshold and restructuring cost sharing between the state and school districts. HB 1563-FN-LOCAL also establishes a new certified reporting and risk-based monitoring system to improve oversight of reimbursements."

HB 1569-FN, repealing the directive that the state sell the Anna Philbrook Center for Children property in Concord.
Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0. Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

HB 1569-FN repeals the requirement that the state sell the Anna Philbrook Center property located in Concord, New Hampshire. The Department of Health and Human Services has made it clear they still require the beds and space the Philbrook Center makes available to accommodate the needs of the state. The revenue which would have come from the sale will be partially offset by income from third party contracts as the Center continues to be used.

HB 1598-FN, relative to notice and proceedings for tenants and landlords engaged in eviction processes.
Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0. Senator Innis for the committee.

This bill would amend various landlord-tenant laws. HB 1598-FN would also address misconduct by tenants, and allow landlords to access areas commonly associated with the ownership of the rental property for repairs and other lawful functions. The Judicial Branch assumed they would take on additional administrative and case processing responsibilities, which could cost between $50,000 and $250,000 beginning in FY 2028.

HB 1705-FN, establishing an employee assistance program for small town and volunteer first responders.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0. Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

This bill helps address a lack of access to existing mental health resources in communities across the state, specifically to support first responders. HB 1705-FN establishes a fund to cover the costs of enrolling and supporting first responders from small communities into the state-provided employee assistance program (EAP) and outlines eligibility, enrollment, and reporting requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services. The Senate Finance Committee made a small edit to the contingency funding portion of the legislation.

Senate Finance
May 12, 2026
2026-1926s
05/09

Amendment to HB 1705-FN

Amend RSA 281-A:17-h as inserted by section 1 of the bill by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

V. Implementation of the employee assistance program for small communities established in this section shall be contingent upon funding. The department shall indicate the availability of such funding in the report submitted pursuant to paragraph IV, provided that program implementation shall begin upon receipt of such funding, with the initial report submitted shortly thereafter.

2026-1926s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a fund to cover the costs of enrolling and supporting first responders from small communities into the state-provided employee assistance program (EAP) and outlines eligibility, enrollment, and reporting requirements for the department of health and human services. Implementation of the program is contingent upon receipt of funding.

HB 1774-FN, relative to qualifying scholarship granting organizations and federal workforce Pell grants.
Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0. Senator Innis for the committee.

This bill would direct the Department of Revenue Administration to participate in the federal income tax credit for contributions of individuals to qualified scholarship granting organizations; direct the Department of Education to create a qualifying scholarship granting organizations list; and direct the Governor to approve workforce training programs for federal Workforce Pell Grants. HB 1774-FN would not result in additional administrative costs as both the revenue and expenditure impacts were indeterminable.

HB 1775-FN, relative to utility ownership of natural gas and nuclear power generation facilities.
Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

HB 1775-FN would allow electric utilities to invest in or own natural gas and nuclear power generation facilities. The Senate Finance Committee amended the bill to make technical revisions that clarify how reliable, dispatchable, and controllable power generation is coordinated with distributed energy resources.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HB 1022, relative to religious exemption from immunization requirements.
Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0. Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill specifies the form for religious exemption from childhood immunization requirements. The Committee finds it best to not move forward with this legislation at this time.

HB 1071, repealing immunity afforded health care facilities when following directives adopted in response to the COVID-19 state of emergency.
Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0. Senator Long for the committee.

This bill repeals immunity afforded to health care facilities when following directives adopted in response to the COVID-19 state of emergency. The Committee finds it best to not move forward with this legislation at this time.

HB 1249, authorizing pharmacists to provide certain medical devices associated with prescribed medication.
Interim Study, Vote 5-0. Senator Birdsell for the committee.

This bill amends the definition of the practice of pharmacy under RSA 318 and authorizes pharmacists to prescribe certain prescription devices necessary for the appropriate delivery or administration of a prescribed drug. While the Committee appreciates the bill's intent, this issue is being addressed by other legislation.

HB 1335, requiring health care providers to disclose to patients indirect financial incentives received by the provider.
Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0. Senator Rochefort for the committee.

This bill requires a physician who receives compensation exceeding $5,000 or more as the result of a preferential promotion to disclose this information to the patient prior to prescribing any treatment associated with the source of the promotion. The Committee finds it best to not move forward with this legislation, as this subject matter is already covered extensively by federal law.

HB 1337, repealing the New Hampshire council on autism spectrum disorders.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Long for the committee.

This bill repeals the New Hampshire Council on Autism Spectrum Disorders. A committee amendment has been adopted to extend the effective date of the bill, allowing the Council more time to build on renewed efforts to complete their work before the legislature makes a decision to repeal the Council.

Senate Health and Human Services
May 6, 2026
2026-1867s
07/05

Amendment to HB 1337

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect December 31, 2027.

HB 1378, relative to parental access to a minor child's electronic medical records.
Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0. Senator Prentiss for the committee.

This bill provides parents of minor children full access to their minor children's medical record except under certain circumstances. Parents already have access to their children's medical records. Additionally, certain federal and state laws contain confidentiality protections for adolescents' health information, and passing this legislation would put NH in conflict with these existing protections. The Committee finds it best to not move forward with this legislation.

HB 1734-FN, authorizing the establishment of experimental treatment centers.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Rochefort for the committee.

As amended, this bill establishes a committee to study the feasibility of establishing experimental treatment centers in New Hampshire and the oversight thereof. The Committee believes it is important to study this topic before adopting legislation.

Senate Health and Human Services
May 6, 2026
2026-1864s
05/07

Amendment to HB 1734-FN

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

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the feasibility of establishing experimental treatment centers in New Hampshire and the oversight thereof.

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

1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the feasibility of establishing experimental treatment centers in New Hampshire and the oversight thereof.

2 Membership and Compensation.

I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

(a) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party.

(b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party.

II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the committee.

3 Duties. The committee shall:

I. Determine what would be needed for sufficient oversight of experimental treatment centers by the department of health and human services, the bureau of consumer protection at the department of justice, and the office of professional licensure and certification.

II. Solicit information and testimony from the department of health and human services, the bureau of consumer protection, and the office of profession licensure and certification on what they would require in terms of legislation, rules, appropriation, and any potential federal waivers to properly oversee these centers.

III. Solicit information and testimony from the current operator of an experimental treatment center or a trade group representing experimental treatment centers.

IV. Solicit information and testimony from a governmental oversight body from another state that currently allows experimental treatment centers.

V. Solicit information and testimony from an individual or entity with expertise in the FDA drug and device approval process.

VI. Solicit information and testimony from an individual or entity with expertise in current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) for drug manufacturing.

VII. Research experimental treatment centers in other states, including all benefits and consequences of those centers in those states, including patient outcomes and costs to the state's health care system.

VIII. Research the feasibility of proper oversight of these facilities, including oversight challenges in other states that have implemented these experimental treatment centers.

4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2026.

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

2026-1864s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study the feasibility of establishing experimental treatment centers in New Hampshire and the oversight thereof.

JUDICIARY
HB 1124, relative to the right to compute.
Interim Study, Vote 5-0. Senator Altschiller for the committee.

House Bill 1124 as introduced creates a statutory right to privately own and use computational resources for lawful purposes and prohibits government entities from restricting such use unless narrowly tailored to serve a compelling government interest. The bill defines computational resources to include hardware, software, networks, cryptography, machine learning, and related technologies. The Committee raised concerns about the bill's broad language of placing all aspects of computing as speech under the first amendment. The Committee felt that the standard of a "compelling government interest" could create unintended consequences for enforcement of existing laws, municipal zoning authority, consumer protection statutes, and regulation of data centers and other infrastructure-related impacts.

HB 1637, relative to the scheduling of hearings on certain motions to modify or revoke bail.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Altschiller for the committee.

House Bill 1637 as introduced requires that hearings on motions to modify or revoke bail in domestic violence, stalking, and harassment cases be scheduled within 72 hours, excluding weekends and state or federal holidays, regardless of whether the motion is filed by the state or the defense. The committee amendment expands the bill to apply the same scheduling requirements to motions for reconsideration of bail conditions in circuit court and superior court proceedings involving alleged violations of release conditions.

Senate Judiciary
May 12, 2026
2026-1920s
09/05

Amendment to HB 1637

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

1 Bail and Recognizances; Review and Appeal of Release or Detention Order. Amend RSA 597:6-e, II to read as follows:

II. Subject to RSA 597:2, XIV the person or the state may file with the superior court a motion for revocation of the order or amendment of the conditions of release set by a municipal or district court, by a justice, or by a bail commissioner. The motion shall be determined promptly. ***In domestic violence, stalking, and harassment cases, whether the motion is filed by the state or the defense, the hearing on the motion shall be scheduled within 72 hours, excluding weekends and state or federal holidays. The hearing does not have to be held within 72 hours of the filing of the motion, but it shall be scheduled within 72 hours, excluding weekends and state or federal holidays.*** However, no action shall be taken on any such motion until the moving party has provided to the superior court certified copies of the complaint, affidavit, warrant, bail slip, and any other court orders relative to each charge for which a release or detention order was issued by a justice, or a bail commissioner. In cases where a district court justice has made a finding, pursuant to RSA 597:2, IV that the person poses a danger to another, the superior court shall, after notification to both parties, the police department that brought the charges in district court, and the victim, conduct a hearing and make written findings supporting any modifications and reasons for new conditions or changes from the district court order. The reviewing court shall take into consideration the district court's written findings, orders, pleadings, or transcript when making a modification.

2 New Paragraph; Release of a Defendant Pending Trial. Amend RSA 597:2 by inserting after paragraph XIII the following new paragraph:

XIII-a. In any matter where bail has been set by the circuit court, either the state or the defendant may seek to have the circuit court reconsider the conditions of bail, including based on new information, by filing a motion with the circuit court. In domestic violence, stalking, and harassment cases, whether the motion is filed by the state or the defense, the hearing on the motion shall be scheduled within 72 hours, excluding weekends and state or federal holidays. The hearing does not have to be held within 72 hours of the filing of the motion, but it shall be scheduled within 72 hours, excluding weekends and state or federal holidays. Following the order of the circuit court, either party may seek further review from the superior court pursuant to RSA 597:6-e.

3 Detention and Sanctions for Default or Breach of Conditions. Amend the introductory paragraph of RSA 597:7-a, III to read as follows:

III. The state may initiate a proceeding for revocation of an order of release by filing a motion with the court which ordered the release and the order of which is alleged to have been violated ***In domestic violence, stalking, and harassment cases, the hearing on the motion shall be scheduled within 72 hours, excluding weekends and state or federal holidays. The hearing does not have to be held within 72 hours of the filing of the motion, but it shall be scheduled within 72 hours, excluding weekends and state or federal holidays.*** The court may issue a warrant for the arrest of a person charged with violating a condition of release, and the person shall be brought before the court for a proceeding in accordance with this section. The court shall enter an order of revocation and detention if, after a hearing, the court:

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

HB 1665, relative to the issuance of subpoenas in administrative proceedings.
Interim Study, Vote 5-0. Senator Abbas for the committee.

> House Bill 1665, as amended by the House, grants all parties to an administrative proceeding equal authority to subpoena witnesses and documents, using the same subpoena authority provided under RSA 516:2 through RSA 516:5. The Committee recommends the bill be referred to Interim Study after raising concerns regarding which administrative proceedings and municipal quasi-judicial hearings would be affected, and whether the subpoena procedures should be more clearly incorporated within RSA 541-A.

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

REGULAR CALENDAR

FINANCE
HB 1433-FN, creating a child care tax credit for qualifying businesses.
Ought to Pass, Vote 7-0. Senator Birdsell for the committee.

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

(The Chair recognized Senator Abbas.)

SENATOR ABBAS: Thank you, Madam President. I just want to welcome the fourth graders from the Pelham Elementary School. I hope everyone's having a wonderful time here at the State House, learning a lot about your state's history. This building was built in 1819, and you get to actually watch the Senate do its work today, so please give them a round of applause.

JUDICIARY
HB 1793-FN, prohibiting public colleges and universities from regulating the possession or carrying of firearms and non-lethal weapons on campus.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2. Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Judiciary
April 30, 2026
2026-1775s
07/09

Amendment to HB 1793-FN

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

AN ACT prohibiting public institutions of higher education from enacting rules or policies restricting the possession, carry, storage, or lawful use of non-lethal weapons on campus and establishing a committee to study the feasibility of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education.

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

1 New Subdivision; Prohibition on Restrictions of Weapons on College Campuses. Amend RSA 159 by inserting after section 27 the following new subdivision:

Prohibition on Restrictions of Weapons on College Campuses

159:28 Definitions. In this subdivision:

I. "Non-lethal weapons" means pepper spray, mace, stun guns, tasers, and other similar devices designed to incapacitate without causing fatal injury.

II. "Campus" refers to all land, buildings, facilities, and vehicles owned, leased, or controlled by a public institution of higher education in this state.

III. "Public institutions of higher education" means any public technical institute, public junior college, public senior college or university, law school, medical or dental school.

159:29 Prohibition on Restrictions of Non-Lethal Weapons on College Campuses. As allowable by state and federal law, no public institution of higher education shall enact rules, policies, or similar prohibitions restricting the possession, carry, storage, or lawful use of non-lethal weapons on campus.

2 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the feasibility of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education..

3 Membership and Compensation.

I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

(a) Three members of the house of representatives, with one member being from the minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) Two members of the senate, with one member being from the minority party, appointed by the president of the senate.

II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the committee.

4 Duties. The committee shall:

I. Investigate the cost to public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, if campus carry were to pass.

II. Study the feasibility of allowing full-time employees of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, to carry weapons, and any potential costs or safety concerns related to allowing employees of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, to carry weapons.

III. Study existing policies on different types of weapons at all public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, in New Hampshire.

IV. Study policies in other states regarding weapons on campuses of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III.

V. Study policies in other states and solicit, or attempt to solicit, testimony from representatives of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, in those states for feedback as to whether their policies have had any impact on campus safety and costs to their public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III.

VI. Study the safety concerns of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, including safety assessments of campuses of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, and potential changes to such assessments, should campus carry be implemented in future years.

VII. Determine what reasonable restrictions public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, would require should such a policy be implemented.

VIII. Solicit input from the university system of New Hampshire on current policies regarding firearms and other weapons on campuses of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, and the potential impacts of changing such policies.

5 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

6 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2026.

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

2026-1775s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits public institutions of higher education from enacting rules or policies restricting the possession, carry, storage, or lawful use of non-lethal weapons on campus and establishes a committee to study the feasibility of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education.

Recess. Out of recess.

Recess. Out of recess.

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

Recess. Out of recess.

Senator Gannon offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Gannon, Dist 23
Sen. Lang, Dist 2
Sen. Abbas, Dist 22
Sen. Carson, Dist 14
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 8, 2026
2026-1882s
05/07

Floor Amendment to HB 1793-FN

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

AN ACT prohibiting public colleges and universities from regulating the possession or carrying of certain weapons on campus and establishing a committee to study the feasibility of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education.

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

1 Short Title. This act may be known and cited as the “Protecting College Students Act”.

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

I. The constitution of New Hampshire, part I, article 2-a, guarantees the natural and essential right of the people to keep and bear arms in defense of themselves, their families, their property, and the state.

II. New Hampshire law provides for constitutional carry, recognizing that law-abiding citizens have the right to carry firearms without unnecessary government restriction.

3 New Subdivision; Prohibition on Restrictions of Weapons on College Campuses. Amend RSA 159 by inserting after section 27 the following new subdivision:

Prohibition on Restrictions of Weapons on College Campuses

159:28 Definitions. In this subdivision:

I. “Non-lethal weapons” means pepper spray, mace, stun guns, Tasers, and other similar devices designed to incapacitate without causing fatal injury.

II. “Campus” refers to all land, buildings, facilities, and vehicles owned, leased, or controlled by a public institution of higher education in this state.

III. “Public institution of higher education” means any public technical institute, public junior college, public senior college or university, law school, medical or dental school, or any institution of higher education in this state supported by public funds.

159:29 Prohibition on Restrictions of Weapons on College Campuses.

I. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no public institution of higher education shall enact rules, policies, or similar prohibitions restricting the possession, carry, storage, or lawful use of non-lethal weapons on campus.

II. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no public institution of higher education shall enact rules, policies, or similar prohibitions restricting the possession, carry, or lawful use of firearms on campus by any faculty.

III. Public institutions of higher education shall develop and enact rules, policies, and procedures to implement this section.

159:30 Severability. If any provision of this subdivision or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the subdivision which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this subdivision are declared to be severable.

4 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the feasibility of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education.

5 Membership and Compensation.

I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

(a) Three members of the house of representatives, with one member being from the minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) Two members of the senate, with one member being from the minority party, appointed by the president of the senate.

II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the committee.

6 Duties. The committee shall:

I. Investigate the cost to public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, if campus carry were to pass.

II. Study the feasibility of allowing full-time employees of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, to carry weapons, and any potential costs or safety concerns related to allowing employees of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, to carry weapons.

III. Study existing policies on different types of weapons at all public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, in New Hampshire.

IV. Study policies in other states regarding weapons on campuses of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III.

V. Study policies in other states and solicit, or attempt to solicit, testimony from representatives of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, in those states for feedback as to whether their policies have had any impact on campus safety and costs to their public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III.

VI. Study the safety concerns of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, including safety assessments of campuses of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, and potential changes to such assessments, should campus carry be implemented in future years.

VII. Determine what reasonable restrictions public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, would require should such a policy be implemented.

VIII. Solicit input from the university system of New Hampshire on current policies regarding firearms and other weapons on campuses of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, and the potential impacts of changing such policies.

7 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

8 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2026.

9 Effective Date.

I. RSA 159:29, II as inserted by section 2 of the bill, shall take effect July 1, 2027.

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

2026-1882s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Prohibits public colleges and universities from regulating the possession or carrying of non-lethal weapons on campus or firearms on campus by faculty and requires such institutions to enact rules, policies, and procedures regarding the prohibition.

II. Establishes a committee to study campus carry and the possession, carrying, and storage of firearms on college campuses.

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.

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

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

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

The following Senators filed a Declaration of Intent: Innis.

The following Senators were excused: Ricciardi.

Roll Call, Yeas: 14 - Nays: 8. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

Recess. Out of recess.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

(The Chair recognized Senator Altschiller.)

SENATOR ALTSCHILLER: Thank you, Madam President. I am so pleased to introduce two colleagues and friends. First, we have Representative Gabby Grossman, who is from a constituent of mine, and we actually had the pleasure of serving together in the House for two terms. And she is a constituent from Exeter, mom of three boys, and much love to Oscar.

And I would also like to introduce the former Senate President, Senator Donna Soucy, the Honorable Donna Soucy, and thank you for joining us.

(The Chair recognized Senator Reardon.)

SENATOR REARDON: I did want to note that my husband Jim was up there too. And I missed my youngest child, Jackson.

SPECIAL ORDER

Without objection, HB 609-FN is Special Ordered to the end of the regular calendar. Adopted.

COMMERCE

HB 1554-FN, requiring insurance carriers to provide peer-to-peer review at any stage of prior authorization and mandating disclosure of reviewer credentials.
Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0. Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

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

Senator McGough moved Ought to Pass.

Senator McGough offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. McGough, Dist 11
May 14, 2026
2026-1980s
07/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1554-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 5 with the following:

5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2027.

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.

HB 1010, relative to multi-family residential development on commercially zoned land.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Murphy for the committee.

Senate Commerce
April 28, 2026
2026-1712s
04/05

Amendment to HB 1010

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

1 Multi-Family Residential Development on Commercially Zoned Land; Amendment to Zoning Regulations; Conversion of Multi-Family Dwelling Units Permitted. Amend RSA 674:80 to read as follows:

674:80 Amendment to Zoning Regulations.

I. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, municipalities shall allow ***by right*** multi-family [~~residential development~~] ***dwelling units, as defined in RSA 674:43, I*** on commercially zoned land, provided that adequate infrastructure, including roads, water, and sewage systems, shall be available [~~or provided~~] to support the development. ***Where infrastructure is not adequate it may be provided by the applicant in accordance with regulations. In determining whether infrastructure is adequate, the planning board may:***

(a) For road infrastructure, require a traffic impact study to ascertain the potential impacts to the existing traffic conditions in the vicinity of the project, including but not limited to, the ability of existing road infrastructure to accommodate increased vehicular traffic, the availability of sidewalks, and infrastructure to ensure pedestrian safety.

(b) For water infrastructure, require that the applicant receive permission from the owner of a public water system to connect to the system or, in the absence of a public water system, develop a water supply in accordance with RSA 482-B and RSA 485 as applicable.

(c) For sewage infrastructure, require that the applicant receive permission from the operator of a public sewer within the boundary prescribed by RSA 147:8 or as negotiated between the applicant and operator to connect to the system.

II. The planning board may deny an application submitted pursuant to paragraph I, if the planning board determines that:

(a) The volume of traffic is not supported by the road design at the conclusion of construction, or the developments layout and design does not ensure pedestrian safety;

(b) The applicant is unable to secure a source of water; or

(c) The applicant is unable to dispose of wastewater and sewage in accordance with regulations.

III. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit municipalities from restricting residential development in zones where industrial and manufacturing uses are permitted which may result in impacts that are incompatible with residential use, such as air, noise, ***dust, glare, vibration,*** odor, or transportation impacts.

[~~III.~~] ***IV.*** A municipality may require all available ground floor space or a percentage thereof to be dedicated to retail or similar uses.

[~~IV.~~] ***V.*** A municipality shall provide an exemption to any requirements regarding setbacks, height, or frontage of a building being converted to multi-family or mixed-use through adaptive reuse, provided that the building's floor area, height, and setbacks do not change.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026 at 12:01 a.m.

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

Senator Perkins Kwoka offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21
May 12, 2026
2026-1907s
04/05

Floor Amendment to HB 1010

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

AN ACT relative to multi-family residential development on commercially zoned land and relative to the housing champion designation and grant program and making an appropriation therefor.

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

2 Appropriation; Housing Champion Designation and Grant Program Fund. The sum of $2,468,138 for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, is hereby appropriated to the New Hampshire housing champion designation and grant program fund. The appropriation shall be nonlapsing. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

2026-1907s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Permits municipalities to allow multi-family dwelling units on commercially zoned land, subject to the local planning board confirming the infrastructure is adequate.

II. Authorizes the local planning board to deny applications to build multi-family dwelling units on commercially zoned land in certain circumstances.

III. Makes an appropriation to the housing champion designation and grant program fund.

The question is on the adoption of the Floor Amendment.

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

The following Senators voted Yes: Watters, Prentiss, Fenton, Rosenwald, Reardon, Long, Perkins Kwoka, Altschiller.

The following Senators voted No: Rochefort, Lang, McConkey, Gray, Innis, Ward, McGough, Avard, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Birdsell, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

The following Senators were excused: Ricciardi.

Roll Call, Yeas: 8 - Nays: 15. Failed.

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

EDUCATION
HB 1792-FN, prohibiting school districts and personnel from the instruction of critical race theory and LGBTQ+ ideologies in schools as well as establishing a private right of action for violations.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Education
April 29, 2026
2026-1744s
12/09

Amendment to HB 1792-FN

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

AN ACT relative to the prohibition on teaching discrimination.

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

1 Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination; Purposeful Mental State Added; Civil Remedy Removed. RSA 193:40 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

193:40 Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination.

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

(a) That one's age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion or national origin is inherently superior to people of another age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin;

(b) That an individual, by virtue of his or her age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;

(c) That an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin; or

(d) That people of one age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without regard to age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin.

II. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit discussing, as part of a larger course of academic instruction, the historical existence of ideas and subjects identified in this section.

III. Purposeful violation of this section by an educator shall be considered a violation of the educator code of conduct that justifies disciplinary sanction by the state board of education.

IV. For the purposes of this section, "educator" means a professional employee of any school district whose position requires certification by the state board pursuant to RSA 189:39. Administrators, specialists, and teachers are included within the definition of this term.

2 New Section; Educator Requirements and Prohibitions. Amend RSA 193 by inserting after section 40 the following new section:

193:40-a Educator Requirements and Prohibitions.

I. Educators, as defined in RSA 193:40, V, shall:

(a) Act as the moderators of classroom discussion;

(b) Allow ideas to be discussed openly when there is disagreement by means of the Socratic method of debate;

(c) Only provide instruction on the academic theories, pedagogies and frameworks:

(1) Without endorsement; and

(2) Through a factual, objective, and age-appropriate lens that includes counterpoints and multiple viewpoints about the topic;

(d) Consider ideological discrimination and the attribution of opinions and beliefs to an individual's identity group membership as a form of bullying or harassment; and

(e) Teach civic education in a manner that cultivates a neutral or patriotic disposition, emphasizing shared national values and constitutional principles.

II. Educators, as defined in RSA 193:40, V, shall not:

(a) Mandate or encourage use of educator or student chosen names that are inconsistent with those on their birth records by students or other educators without consent of a parent or guardian;

(b) Factor their agreement with a student's position on a topic into the student's grade; and

(c) Detract points from a student's grade based on the position they take for an assignment.

III. The state board of education shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to educator requirements and prohibitions stated in this section, within 180 days of the effective date of this act.

IV. If any provision of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

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

2026-1744s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Requires that educators must act purposefully in academic instruction in order for their actions to constitute teaching discrimination.

II. Removes the ability for aggrieved parties to both initiate a civil action against a school or school district and to pursue a remedy through the New Hampshire commission for human rights.

III. Requires educators to only provide instruction without endorsement and to consider ideological discrimination a form of bullying or harassment.

IV. Prohibits educators from using names for students which are inconsistent with the name as listed on a student's birth record without the consent of a parent or guardian.

V. Prohibits educators from factoring their agreement with a student's position on a topic in grading or in assessment of a student's academic performance.

VI. Requires the state board of education to adopt rules relative to such requirements and prohibited activities for educators.

Recess. Out of recess.

Without objection, Senator Avard moved to call the question.

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

Senator Abbas offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Abbas, Dist 22
April 30, 2026
2026-1779s
12/07

Floor Amendment to HB 1792-FN

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

AN ACT relative to the prohibition on teaching discrimination.

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

1 Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination; Purposeful Mental State Added; Civil Remedy Removed. RSA 193:40 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

193:40 Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination.

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

(a) That one's age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion or national origin is inherently superior to people of another age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin;

(b) That an individual, by virtue of his or her age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;

(c) That an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin; or

(d) That people of one age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without regard to age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin.

II. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit discussing, as part of a larger course of academic instruction, the historical existence of ideas and subjects identified in this section.

III. Purposeful violation of this section by an educator shall be considered a violation of the educator code of conduct that justifies disciplinary sanction by the state board of education.

IV. For the purposes of this section, "educator" means a professional employee of any school district whose position requires certification by the state board pursuant to RSA 189:39. Administrators, specialists, and teachers are included within the definition of this term.

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

2026-1779s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires that educators must act purposefully in academic instruction in order for their actions to constitute teaching discrimination. This bill also removes the ability for aggrieved parties to both initiate a civil action against a school or school district and to pursue a remedy through the New Hampshire commission for human rights.

The question is on the adoption of the Floor Amendment.

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

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

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

The following Senators were excused: Ricciardi.

Roll Call, Yeas: 15 - Nays: 8. Adopted.

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

FINANCE
HB 707-FN, establishing a solid waste site evaluation committee.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-1. Senator Pearl for the committee.

Senate Finance
May 12, 2026
2026-1932s
08/09

Amendment to HB 707-FN

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

AN ACT establishing a solid waste site evaluation committee.

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

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

Solid Waste Site Evaluation Committee

149-M:65 Declaration of Purpose.

I. The legislature and the executive branch recognize that the selection of sites for major solid waste disposal facilities may have significant statewide, regional, and local impacts that are not fully evaluated through existing regulatory review.

II. Accordingly, the general court finds that it is in the public interest to establish a procedure to evaluate the local, regional, and statewide benefits and burdens of a new major solid waste facility that are not captured by existing regulatory reviews, including public health and safety, noise, odor, aesthetics, local and regional economic impacts, property value impacts, nature and source of waste, need, impacts on tourism, recreation and traffic, and other similar impacts.

III. Furthermore, the general court recognizes there is a compelling state interest in maintaining adequate, reasonably priced, and environmentally protective disposal capacity for solid waste generated in New Hampshire.

IV. The general court prefers that new landfill capacity be developed in expansions of existing permitted landfills or brownfield sites instead of on greenfield sites.

149-M:66 Definitions. In this subdivision:

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

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

III. "Affected municipality" means any municipality or unincorporated place in which any part of a major solid waste disposal facility is proposed to be located and any municipality or unincorporated place from which any part of the proposed major solid waste disposal facility will be visible or audible, including off-site traffic impacts.

IV. "Certificate" means the document issued by the committee, containing such terms and conditions as the committee deems appropriate, that authorizes the applicant to proceed with the proposed site and facility.

V. "Commence construction" means any clearing of the land, excavation or other substantial action that would result in long-term impacts to the site of the proposed facility, but does not include land surveying, optioning or acquiring land or rights in land, changes desirable for temporary use of the land for public recreational uses, necessary subsurface explorations to determine hydrogeologic and soil conditions, work required as part of an application to any federal, state, or local authority, or other preconstruction monitoring or testing to establish background information related to the suitability of the site for the proposed use.

VI. "Committee" means the solid waste evaluation committee established by this subdivision.

VII. "Department" means the department of environmental services.

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

IX. "Human health" is defined to be consistent with "public health and safety" as that term is utilized in RSA 162-H.

X. "Landfill expansion" means an addition to the permitted capacity of an existing facility as defined in RSA 149-M:4, IX.

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

XII. "Person" means any individual, group, firm, partnership, corporation, cooperative, municipality, political subdivision, government agency, or other organization.

149-M:67 Solid Waste Evaluation Committee Established.

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

(a) The chairperson of the waste management council established under RSA 21-O:9. who shall serve as chairperson of the committee. If there is an appeal pending before the waste management council related to the major solid waste disposal facility, then the chairperson of the wetlands council, water council, or air resources council established under RSA 21-O, selected by the commissioner of the department, shall serve on the committee and as chairperson of the committee.

(b) The commissioner of the department of business and economic affairs, or designee.

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

(d) Four members and, when required by RSA 149-M:68, an alternate member, appointed by the governor with the consent of the executive council, including a member who serves on a local conservation commission, a member who has expertise in the private waste management industry, a member with expertise in municipal planning, and one member with expertise or experience in environmental protection, environmental health, or environmental science.

(e) At any given time, there shall not be more than 2 members of the committee with current or past employment, contract work, or consulting services in the private waste management industry.

(f) No member of the committee may be an employee or contractor of an entity that owns or operates an existing or planned major solid waste disposal facility or an entity that has applied to own or operate a major solid waste disposal facility.

II. All members, including those who sit for a member recused under RSA 149-M:68, shall refrain from ex parte communications regarding any matter pending before the committee. A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting the committee's business.

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

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

(a) Serve as presiding officer.

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

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

(d) Engage personnel in accordance with this chapter.

V. The presiding officer may appoint a hearing officer to perform the functions described in RSA 149-M:70, V.

149-M:68 Members Appointed By The Governor With The Consent Of Council.

I. Members and alternate members appointed under RSA 149-M:67, I(c) and (d) shall serve 4-year terms and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Any member chosen to fill a vacancy occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be appointed for the unexpired term of the member who is succeeded.

II. If at any time the member appointed by the governor with the consent of the executive council must recuse himself or herself from a matter before the committee or is not otherwise available for good reason, the alternate member shall replace such member.

III. No member nor any member of his or her family shall receive income from entities that own or operate, or have applied to own or operate, major solid waste disposal facilities in New Hampshire. The members appointed by the governor with the consent of the executive council and their alternates shall comply with RSA 15-A and RSA 15-B.

IV. Any member appointed by the governor with the consent of the executive council may be removed from office in accordance with RSA 4:1.

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

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

I. The committee shall:

(a) Evaluate and issue any certificate under this chapter for a major solid waste

disposal facility.

(b) Determine the terms and conditions of any certificate issued under this chapter.

(c) Adjudicate enforcement matters.

(d) Assist the public in understanding the requirements of this chapter.

(e) Deny applications for a certificate based on such findings and rulings as may be

necessary to support its decision to deny.

(f) Execute the general court's stated preference that new landfill capacity shall be based on need and shall only be developed in accordance with RSA 149-M:65, IV.

II. The committee shall hold hearings as required by this chapter and such additional hearings as it deems necessary and appropriate and, in addition to the requirements under RSA 91-A, ensure adequate and timely public notice of no less than 7 calendar days.

III. The committee may delegate to the administrator or such state agency or official as it deems appropriate the authority to specify the use of any technique, methodology, practice, or procedure approved by the committee within a certificate issued under this chapter, or the authority to specify minor changes in the major solid waste disposal facility configuration to the extent that such changes are authorized by the certificate for those portions of a proposed major solid waste disposal facility project.

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

V. In any matter before the committee, the presiding officer, or a hearing officer designated by the presiding officer, may hear and decide procedural matters that are before the committee, including procedural schedules, consolidation of parties with substantially similar interests, discovery schedules and motions, and identification of significant disputed issues for hearing and decision by the committee. Undisputed petitions for intervention may be decided by the hearing officer and disputed petitions shall be decided by the presiding officer. Any party aggrieved by a decision on a petition to intervene may within 10 calendar days request that the committee review such decision. Other procedural decisions may be reviewed by the committee at its discretion.

VI. The committee shall issue such rules to administer this chapter, pursuant to RSA 541-A, after public notice and hearing, as may from time to time be required.

149-M:71 Prohibitions and Restrictions.

I. No person shall commence construction of any major solid waste disposal facility within the state unless it has obtained a certificate pursuant to this chapter. Such facilities shall be constructed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the terms of the certificate. Such certificates are not required for changes or additions to existing facilities unless they propose an increase in the average permitted annual capacity over the lifespan of the existing facility greater than or equal to 50,000 tons or 100,000 cubic yards per year. Such a certificate shall not be transferred or assigned without approval of the committee. Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, any approved major solid waste facility shall not be constructed, operated, or closed in a manner materially different than the manner in which it was presented in the application for a certificate as modified and conditioned by such certificate.

II. Notwithstanding RSA 541-A:29 or any other law to the contrary, an application for a certificate from the committee shall be approved or denied by the committee prior to final decisions on all other state agency permit applications, except for the department's determination in accordance with RSA 149-M:11, III. Applications for certificates may be filed and evaluated by the committee concurrently with other state approvals and public hearings may be scheduled concurrently with hearings held by other state agencies as part of their permitting process for the same facility.

III. Notwithstanding paragraph II, for facilities under review by the department for a permit on or prior to July 1, 2026, an application for a certificate from the committee shall be approved or denied after other state agency approvals have been obtained. The committee need not assess technical questions already considered by other states or federal agencies, but shall take into account the conclusions of these analyses, including permit terms and conditions, in its approval or denial of the certificate. The committee may also take into account independent analyses in its process of approval or denial of the certificate.

149-M:72 Application for Certificate.

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

II. Upon filing of an application, the chairperson or designated presiding officer shall expeditiously conduct a preliminary review to ascertain if the application contains sufficient information to carry out the purposes of this chapter. If the application does not contain such sufficient information, the chairperson or designated presiding officer shall, in writing, expeditiously notify the applicant of that fact and specify what information the applicant must supply.

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

(a) Describe in reasonable detail the types and quantities of waste and their characteristics proposed to be accepted and size of each major part of the proposed facility.

(b) Describe in reasonable detail the source of waste to be accepted and if there is a preference for waste originating within the state of New Hampshire.

(c) Describe how the proposed facility satisfies the criteria listed under RSA 149-M:11, III.

(d) Identify both the applicant's preferred choice and other alternatives it considers available for the site and configuration of each major part of the proposed facility and the reasons for the applicant's preferred choice.

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

(f) Document that written notification of the proposed project, including appropriate copies of the application, has been given to the appropriate governing body of each affected municipality, as defined in RSA 149-M:66, III. The application shall include a list of the affected municipalities.

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

(h) Provide information in reasonable detail about the impacts on local, regional and state property values, human health, tourism, outdoor recreation, wildlife, traffic, noise, and odor by the proposed facility. These analyses shall be conducted in accordance with professional standards by an expert in these fields.

(i) Provide a reasonable amount of information relative to how new contaminants of concern not regulated by a permit issued by the department will be monitored, evaluated, and managed over the proposed life of the facility.

(j) Provide a reasonable amount of information relative to the potential economic harms of the proposed project on the local area, affected municipalities, the region, the state, and potential infrastructure deterioration.

(k) Provide a reasonable amount of information relative to the potential economic benefits of the proposed project on the local area, affected municipalities, the region, the state, and potential infrastructure improvements.

(l) Provide such additional information as the committee may require or request to carry out the purpose of this chapter.

IV. To the extent any information provided in the application was submitted and considered by a state agency as part of its permitting evaluation and decision under RSA 149-M:71, III, the applicant shall specify what information was so considered and the statutory and regulatory authority for that agency's consideration of the information.

V. For all information submitted with the application that was prepared by an outside consultant or expert, the applicant shall submit the qualifications of such consultants or experts to prepare such information.

VI. The committee shall require the applicant to hire an independent third party at the expense of the applicant and agreed upon by the committee in consultation with the municipality where the facility is proposed to be located, to peer review any assessments provided under this section.

VII. The chairperson or designated presiding officer shall decide whether to accept the application as administratively complete within 60 days of filing. If the chairperson or designated presiding officer rejects an application because it determines it to be administratively incomplete, the applicant may choose to file a new and more complete application or cure the defects in the rejected application within 30 days of receipt of notification of rejection. Such deadlines may be extended by agreement of the applicant and the committee.

VIII. Public information sessions shall be held in accordance with RSA 149-M:76.

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

X. The applicant shall immediately inform the committee of any substantive modification to its application.

XI. The committee may request that state agencies with relevant technical expertise

participate in committee proceedings.

XII. The department shall conduct a review of the application information submitted pursuant to RSA 149-M:72, III(c) to determine whether the facility has demonstrated that it satisfies the criteria in RSA 149-M:11, III. Such review shall be conducted in accordance with RSA 149-M:11. The department shall report its findings to the committee in order to inform the committee's decision on the application.

XIII. The committee may deny a certificate based upon the department's findings in relation to RSA 149-M:11, III.

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

XV. A state agency may intervene as a party in any committee proceeding in the same manner as other persons under RSA 541-A.

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

I. Full name and address of the person, association, or corporation.

II. If an association or limited liability company, the name of the state under which it was formed and the names and residences of the members of the association or limited liability company.

III. If a corporation, the name of the state under which it is incorporated with its principal place of business and the names and addresses of its directors, officers, and stockholders.

IV. If doing business in a form other than as an association, limited liability company, or corporation, the form of the business, the name of the state under which it was formed, and the names and residences of anyone with a financial, ownership, or control interest in the organization.

V. The location or locations where an applicant is to conduct its business.

VI. A statement of assets and liabilities of the applicant and other relevant financial information of such applicant.

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

149-M:74 Application and Filing Fees.

I. A person filing with the committee an application for a certificate for a major solid waste disposal facility shall pay to the committee at the time of filing a fee determined in accordance with the fee schedule described in paragraph II. If an application for a certificate for a major solid waste disposal facility is deemed incomplete pursuant to RSA 149-M:72, VII, and a new application is submitted thereunder, the unused portion of the initial application fee shall be refunded to the applicant or credited to the filing of the new application. The committee may in its discretion provide for a credit or refund in other circumstances that are unforeseen by the applicant.

II. The fees under paragraph I shall be determined in accordance with a fee schedule posted by the committee on its website, which shall include the following amounts:

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

(b) Filing fees for administrative proceedings:

(1) Petition for committee jurisdiction: $500.

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

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

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

IV. The committee shall review and evaluate the application fees and filing fees in the fee schedule in subparagraphs II(a) and (b) at least once each year. The committee may increase any amount in the fee schedule by no more than the increase in the consumer price index from the prior year, provided that any such increase shall occur not more frequently than once during any 12-month period. Modifications to the fee schedule shall be posted on the committee website, with a

link prominently displayed on the home page.

V. If the committee determines the cost of committee proceedings for an application significantly exceed the filing fees paid by the applicant for that application, the additional cost shall be borne by the applicant or certificate holder in such amount as may be approved by the committee.

149-M:75 Counsel for the Public.

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

II. This section shall not be construed to prevent any person from being heard or represented by counsel; provided, however, the committee may compel consolidation of representation for such persons as have, in the committee's reasonable judgment, substantially identical interests.

149-M:76 Public Hearing; Studies.

I. Notice of any project for which an application for a certificate has been submitted shall be issued pursuant to RSA 36:56, III.

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

III. The committee may order the applicant to provide such additional public information sessions in affected municipalities as are reasonable to inform the public of the proposed project.

IV. Within 90 days after acceptance of an application for a certificate, the committee shall hold at least one public information session in each municipality where the proposed facility is proposed to be located.

V. Subsequent public hearings shall be in the nature of adjudicative proceedings under RSA 541-A and shall be held in the municipality in which the proposed facility is to be located or in Concord, New Hampshire, as determined by the committee. The committee shall give adequate public notice of the time and place of each subsequent hearing.

VI. The committee shall adopt rules regarding the timing and method of notices for public information sessions and public hearings, and any other requirements regarding such sessions and hearings.

VII. The committee shall consider and weigh all evidence presented at public hearings and shall consider and weigh written information and reports submitted to it by members of the public prior to the closing of the record of the proceeding. The committee shall provide an opportunity at one or more public hearings for comments from the governing body of each affected municipality and residents of each affected municipality. The committee shall consider, as appropriate, prior committee findings and rulings on the same or similar subject matters, but shall not be bound thereby.

VIII. The solid waste evaluation committee shall require from the applicant whatever information it deems necessary to assist in the conduct of the hearings, and any investigation or studies it may undertake, and in the determination of the terms and conditions of any certificate under consideration.

IX. The committee and counsel for the public shall conduct such reasonable studies and investigations as they deem necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this chapter and may employ a consultant or consultants, legal counsel, and other staff in furtherance of the duties imposed by this chapter, the cost of which shall be borne by the applicant or certificate holder in such amount as may be approved by the committee. The committee and counsel for the public are further authorized to assess the applicant or certificate holder for all travel and related expenses associated with the processing of an application or other proceedings under this chapter.

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

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

149-M:78 Monitoring and Enforcement.

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

II. Whenever the department administratively determines, on its own or in response to a complaint, that any term or condition of any certificate issued under this chapter or prior law is being violated, it shall, in writing, notify the certificate holder of the specific violation and order the person to immediately terminate the violation. If, 60 days after receipt of the order, the person has failed or neglected to terminate the violation or be compliant in addressing the violation consistent with direction from the department, the department shall notify the committee, which may suspend the person's certificate. In addition to suspension, if, after 60 days of receipt of the order, the person has failed or neglected to terminate the violation, the committee may impose a fine not to exceed $5,000 per day until the violation is corrected. Except for emergencies, prior to any suspension or imposition of a fine, the committee shall give written notice of its consideration of suspension or imposition of a fine and of its reasons therefor and shall provide opportunity for a prompt hearing.

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

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

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

VI. The full amount of costs and expenses incurred by the department and committee in connection with any enforcement action against a person holding a certificate, in which the person is determined to have violated any provision of this chapter, any rule adopted by the department or committee, or any of the terms and conditions of the issued certificate, shall be assessed to the person and shall be paid by the person to the committee. Any amounts paid by a person to the committee pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited in the solid waste evaluation committee fund established in RSA 149-M:84.

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

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

149-M:80 Temporary Suspension of Deliberations. If the committee, at any time while an application for a certificate is before it, deems it to be in the public interest, it may temporarily suspend its deliberations and time frames established under this chapter.

149-M:81 Findings and Certificate Issuance.

I. Any certificate issued by the committee shall be based on the record. The decision to issue a certificate in its final form or to deny an application once it has been accepted shall be made by a majority of the committee.

II. The committee may consult with interested regional agencies and agencies of border states in the consideration of certificates.

III. After due consideration of all relevant information regarding the potential siting, including potential significant impacts and benefits, the committee shall determine if issuance of a certificate will serve the objectives of this chapter. In order to issue a certificate, the committee shall find that:

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

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

(c) The facility satisfies the criteria in RSA 149-M:11, III, as determined by the department.

(d) The public benefit of the facility shall outweigh any adverse impact of the facility on human health, aesthetics, historic preservation, economic impacts to the region, tourism, outdoor recreation, regional and statewide business development, wildlife, noise, odor, traffic and transportation impacts, existing land uses, including property values, characteristics and source of waste, and any other impacts assessed as part of the application pursuant to RSA 149-M:72, III.

(e) Issuance of a certificate will serve the public interest of the citizens of New Hampshire.

IV. The committee shall issue an order granting or denying a certificate. Such order shall summarize and address issues of concern expressed during public information sessions and hearings to ensure that the public's voice has been heard and recorded.

V. A certificate of site and facility may contain such reasonable terms and conditions, including, but not limited to the authority to require bonding, as the committee deems necessary. Such certificates, when issued, shall be final and subject only to judicial review.

VI. The committee shall condition the certificate upon the results of applicable federal and state approvals or appeal processes and required federal and state agency studies whose study period exceeds the application period.

VII. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that applications for landfill expansions shall satisfy the criteria in subparagraphs III(a), III(b), and III(d). The burden of producing evidence to rebut this presumption rests with the party challenging the action. This presumption may be rebutted by a preponderance of the evidence.

149-M:82 Penalties.

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

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

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

149-M:84 Fund Established; Funding Plan. There is hereby established in the office of the state treasurer a nonlapsing, special fund to be known as the solid waste evaluation committee fund. All application and other filing fees received by the committee under this chapter shall be deposited in the fund. All moneys in the fund shall be continually appropriated to the committee and shall be used to pay for operating costs of the committee and the partial salary of the administrator. If the administrator position is vacant, the fund may be used to pay an independent contractor to perform those duties. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the committee may engage the department for additional technical, legal, or administrative support to fulfill the requirements of this chapter, the cost of which shall be charged directly to the applicant or major solid waste disposal facility owner.

149-M:85 Compensation and Reimbursement.

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

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

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

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

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

149-M:86 Solid Waste Permit Applications Suspended. The department shall not issue any permit approvals that authorize new capacity for major solid waste disposal facilities until rules are adopted by the committee or until July 1, 2027, whichever is later.

2 New Subparagraph; Solid Waste Evaluation Committee Fund. Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (410) the following new subparagraph:

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

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

2026-1932s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a solid waste site evaluation committee.

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 1064-FN, relative to liability of governmental units.
Ought to Pass, Vote 5-3. Senator Birdsell for the committee.

Senator Gray moved to Lay on the Table. Adopted.

HB 1574-FN, relative to the extension of free and reduced price breakfast and lunch for students under the age of 22 and making an appropriation therefor.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0. Senator Gray for the committee.

Senate Finance
April 22, 2026
2026-1607s
12/09

Amendment to HB 1574-FN

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

AN ACT relative to the extension of the free and reduced price breakfast and lunch programs and supporting administrative costs for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and making appropriations therefor.

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

3 Appropriation; Department of Education. There is hereby appropriated the sum of $80,000 for fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 to the department of education for the purpose of implementing and administering the extended school meal eligibility and reimbursement program established under this act. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant from the education trust fund to satisfy the state's obligation under this act the amount not otherwise appropriated.

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

5 Appropriation; Department of Health and Human Services.

I. The general court recognizes the importance of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and its vital role in the state to reduce food insecurity. On July 4, 2025, Pub. L. 119-21 was signed into law, which changed the federal cost share contribution for administrative costs to support state operations from 50 percent to 25 percent. New Hampshire's operating budget for the biennium ending June 30, 2027 is projected to experience a $4,400,000 general fund impact as a result of the change in policy at the federal level. Due to the timing of the federal legislation, the legislature did not have an opportunity to address budgetary impacts.

II. There is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services the sum of $4,400,000 for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 for the purpose of supporting the administrative cost impacts resulting from federal legislative cost-share changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

2026-1607s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Authorizes school boards to extend free and reduced meal program eligibility for students with an individualized education program (IEP) that are already age 21 but attending school until the age of 22.

II. Directs the state to reimburse school boards from the general fund for free and reduced price meals for such eligible students.

III. Makes an appropriation to the department of health and human services for the purpose of supporting administrative cost impacts resulting from federal legislative cost-share changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

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 1718-FN, relative to authorizing energy storage in connection with net metering.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

Senate Finance
May 12, 2026
2026-1909s
04/09

Amendment to HB 1718-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 7 with the following:

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

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

Deputy President Pro Tempore Murphy Presiding

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

HB 1723-FN, requiring utilities and electric grid operators to assess and report the vulnerability of high-voltage transformers to geomagnetic and electromagnetic disturbances, and to recommend mitigation measures to protect the state electric infrastructure.
Interim Study, Vote 7-0. Senator Pearl for the committee.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Interim Study. Failed.

Senator Watters moved Ought to Pass.

Senator Watters offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Watters, Dist 4
Sen. Avard, Dist 12
May 5, 2026
2026-1811s
04/08

Floor Amendment to HB 1723-FN

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

3 Geomagnetic and Electromagnetic Disturbance Electric Transmission; Department of Energy; Vulnerability Investigation.

I. The department of energy shall investigate the vulnerability of electric transmission transformers and other system components to geomagnetically induced currents. The investigation shall answer the following questions:

(a) What studies and assessments have previously been performed that reviewed transmission system vulnerabilities to geomagnetic and electromagnetic disturbances?

(b) How were those studies conducted and what were the transmission system grid vulnerabilities identified?

(c) Given the current NERC GMD standard of 3 V/km and the IEC international standard of 85 V/km, did the magnetic field standard utilized adequately assess the vulnerability of the transmission system in New Hampshire to geomagnetic and electromagnetic disturbances?

(d) If the magnetic field standard utilized in previous studies did not adequately assess transmission infrastructure vulnerability, what standard should be used?

(e) What would be the cost to conduct a transmission infrastructure assessment at a higher standard than has previously been used?

(f) How long would an additional assessment at a higher standard take to complete?

(g) What mitigation strategies and response methods are currently utilized to protect transmission system infrastructure from geomagnetic and electromagnetic disturbances and are those strategies and methods adequate?

(h) What role can the state of New Hampshire play in assessing transmission system vulnerabilities that fall under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and in directing transmission-owning utilities to implement infrastructure and non-infrastructure solutions?

(i) What funding sources are available to conduct additional assessments or support the installation of equipment to further protect vulnerable transmission system infrastructure from geomagnetic and electromagnetic disturbances?

II. The department shall commence the investigation within 120 days of the effective date of this subsection and complete the investigation within a time period not to exceed 12 months of its commencement. At the conclusion of the investigation, the department shall issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the house science, technology and energy committee, the senate energy and natural resources committee, and the division of homeland security and emergency management and the department shall also send the report to the United States Secretary of Energy, the Federal Energy Regulatory Agency, and ISO-New England.

III. Notwithstanding any other law, rule, or order to the contrary, and contingent upon sufficient funding for the biennium ending June 30, 2029, the department shall have the authority necessary to conduct this investigation and implement this subdivision, including, but not limited to, the authority to request information from public utilities, including transmission utilities, regarding transmission infrastructure located within the state of New Hampshire.

IV. All data submitted under this subsection shall be handled in accordance with critical energy infrastructure information protocols and location and purpose data shall be redacted from public reports. “Critical energy infrastructure information protocols” means specific engineering, vulnerability, or detailed design protocols and procedures related to proposed or existing critical infrastructure, whether physical or virtual, that relate to the production, generation, transmission, transportation, or distribution of energy, the unauthorized disclosure of which could pose a risk to the security, reliability, or integrity of the infrastructure; such protocols are designated as confidential and exempt from public disclosure, as their release could be useful to a person planning an attack or otherwise causing harm to the infrastructure.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect on September 1, 2027.

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.

TRANSPORTATION
HB 113, relative to OHRV operation on certain highways within the town of Windsor.
Interim Study, Vote 5-0. Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

The question is on the adoption of the motion of Interim Study. Failed.

Senator Ward moved Ought to Pass.

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

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW
HB 194-FN, relative to the crime of interference with custody.
Ought to Pass, Vote 2-1. Senator Sullivan for the committee.

Senator Rochefort offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Rochefort, Dist 1
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 13, 2026
2026-1973s
09/08

Floor Amendment to HB 194-FN

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

AN ACT relative to the crime of interference with custody and relative to the practice of pharmacy and the dispensing of certain medications by pharmacists.

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

2 New Paragraph; Controlled Drug Act; Dealing In or Possessing Prescription Drugs. Amend RSA 318:42 by inserting after paragraph VII-b the following new paragraph:

VII-c. The dispensing of up to a 30-day supply of noncontrolled oral anti-cancer medication by a licensed health care professional legally authorized to prescribe and administer medications to a patient under a provider's care or supervision so long as the following criteria are met:

(a) The dispensing clinic maintains on staff a full-time licensed pharmacist who is available for consultation with the prescribing provider and the patient.

(b) In-office dispensing is conducted in a way consistent with United States Pharmacopeia standards as well as all relevant state and federal laws or rules.

3 Pharmacists and Pharmacies; Display of Licenses. Amend RSA 318:28 to read as follows:

318:28 [~~Display~~] ***Availability*** of Licenses. All licenses as pharmacists shall [~~at all times be conspicuously displayed~~] ***be readily retrievable*** in the pharmacy where the licensee is engaged as such.

4 Pharmacists and Pharmacies; Licensure of Pharmacies. Amend RSA 318:39 to read as follows:

318:39 Application; Display. Application for a permit shall be made in such manner and in such form as the board may determine. The permit shall at all times be [~~exposed in a conspicuous place~~] ***posted*** in the pharmacy for which it is issued.

5 Pharmacists and Pharmacies; Licensed Pharmacists; Remote Processing. Amend RSA 318:15-d, I to read as follows:

I. New Hampshire licensed pharmacists, ***licensed advanced pharmacy technicians,*** certified New Hampshire pharmacy technicians, or registered New Hampshire pharmacy interns may engage in remote processing, provided that all work requiring pharmacist supervision is supervised by a licensed pharmacist through electronic or other remote means.

6 Controlled Drug Act; Labels. Amend RSA 318-B:13, II to read as follows:

II. Whenever a pharmacist dispenses any controlled drug on prescription issued by a practitioner, he or she shall affix to the container in which such drug is dispensed a label showing the name, address, and registry number of the pharmacy [~~and name or the initials of the pharmacist~~]; the name of the prescribing practitioner; the prescription identification number; the name of the patient; the date dispensed; any directions as may be stated on the prescription; and the name and strength and quantity of the drug dispensed. All drugs dispensed to a patient that have been filled using a centralized prescription processing system shall bear a label containing an identifiable code that provides a complete audit trail of the dispensing of the drug and pharmaceutical care activities. No person shall alter, deface, or remove any label so affixed.

7 Pharmacists and Pharmacies; Definitions; Practice of Pharmacy. RSA 318:1, XIV is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

XIV.(a) "Practice of pharmacy" means the scope of practice for the provision of patient care services by a pharmacist shall be based on their education, training, and experience, and determined by practice setting and in accordance with generally accepted standards of care, including but not limited to:

(1) The interpretation and evaluation of prescription orders;

(2) The compounding, dispensing, labeling, administering, and distribution of drugs and devices;

(3) The selection, evaluation, and monitoring of drug and drug-related therapies;

(4) The performance of drug utilization reviews and medication therapy management;

(5) The participation in collaborative pharmacy practice and collaborative pharmacy practice agreements as defined in RSA 318:1, XXVI - XXVII, and RSA 318:16-a;

(6) The prescribing, ordering, administering, and interpretation of laboratory tests, controlled and noncontrolled drugs, and devices;

(7) The education and counseling of patients and health care professionals on the therapeutic use, potential hazards, and outcomes of drugs and devices;

(8) The maintenance of appropriate records and the safe storage and handling of drugs and devices;

(9) The interprofessional communication with appropriate health care providers to ensure continuity of care;

(10) Any other professional acts, services, operations, or transactions necessary to the operation and management of pharmacy practice.

(b) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit or restrict the provision of patient care services by pharmacists otherwise authorized under federal or state law or regulations, including those performed pursuant to protocol, collaborative practice agreements, or standing orders.

(c) Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to permit an alteration of a prescribing clinician's diagnosis.

8 Pharmacy Board; Rulemaking Authority. Amend RSA 318:5-a, XVII to read as follows:

XVII. The education and training standards and other requirements for pharmacists who, pursuant to prescriber-approved protocol***,*** [~~:~~

~~(a)~~] administer prescription medications ***outside the parameters of a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement***, including influenza immunizations.

[~~(b) Engage in collaborative pharmacy practices.~~]

9 Licensed Pharmacists; Standards for Collaborative Pharmacy Practice. Amend RSA 318:16-a, I(c) to read as follows:

(c) Have the knowledge base necessary for proper monitoring, including, but not limited to, associated disease states, relevant laboratory tests, adverse events, drug and food interactions, safety, and efficacy. [~~Depending upon the complexity of the services being provided, the pharmacist may be required to have additional credentials or training and shall demonstrate the receipt of approval by the board of pharmacy.~~]

10 Pharmacy Board; Rulemaking; Examinations. Amend RSA 318:5-a, IV(a) to read as follows:

(a) The subjects to be tested ***pursuant to RSA 318:19***;

11 Pharmacy Board; Rulemaking; Licensed Advanced Pharmacy Technicians. Amend RSA 318:5-a, XI-c(a) to read as follows:

(a) Requirements for licensure, including experience and education requirements***, except that there shall not be any examination requirement for licensure***.

12 Pharmacists and Pharmacies; Examinations. Amend RSA 318:19 to read as follows:

318:19 Examinations. – Applicants for licensure as pharmacists shall, to prove their respective requisite knowledge, be examined to a properly varying degree in pharmacy-related subject areas which may include chemistry, math, pharmacology, pharmacy theory, the practice of pharmacy [~~and pharmacy law~~], and any other areas as the board may prescribe***, except that the board shall not require any applicant to be examined on pharmacy state-specific or universal state level jurisprudence or law***.

13 Pharmacy Board; Enforcement of Law. Amend RSA 318:8 to read as follows:

318:8 Enforcement of Law.

I. It shall be the duty of the board, through officials and employees appointed by it or under its supervision for that purpose, and of all peace officers within the state, and of all county attorneys, to enforce all the provisions of this chapter. When so requested, the department of health and human services and its officials and employees shall cooperate with the board in collecting and analyzing samples of drugs and medicines sold, or suspected of being sold, in violation of this chapter. The members of the board, its inspectors and investigators shall have free access during business hours to all places where drugs, medicines, poisons or hypodermic devices are held, stored, or offered for sale and to all records of sale and disposition of drugs.

II. It shall also be the duty of the board, through officials and employees appointed by it or under its supervision for that purpose, to evaluate whether a specific act is within the practice of pharmacy, or whether an act can be delegated to other individuals under pharmacist supervision. A licensee or registrant of the board of pharmacy shall independently determine whether:

(a) The act is expressly prohibited by:

(1) This chapter;

(2) The controlled drug act, RSA 318-B;

(3) The rules of the board of pharmacy; or

(4) Any other applicable state or federal laws or regulations;

(b) The act is consistent with the individual's education, training, and experience; and

(c) Performance of the act is within the accepted standard of care that would be provided in a similar setting by a reasonable and prudent individual with similar education, training, and experience.

14 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

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

2026-1973s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Modifies the crime of interference with custody to add certain actions with an intent to interfere with lawful custody.

II. Authorizes the dispensing of up to a 30-day supply of noncontrolled oral anti-cancer medication by a licensed health care professional legally authorized to prescribe and administer medications to a patient under a provider's care or supervision subject to certain conditions.

III. Amends the display requirements for certain licenses and permits.

IV. Authorizes licensed advanced pharmacy technicians to engage in remote processing.

V. Removes the requirement that a pharmacist's name or initials be on a label affixed to any controlled drug or prescription issued.

VI. Amends the definition of the "practice of pharmacy."

VII. Removes certain authority of the board of pharmacy with respect to the regulation of collaborative pharmacy practice agreements.

VIII. Eliminates any examination requirement for licensure as an advanced pharmacy technician.

IX. Prohibits the pharmacy board from testing applicants on pharmacy jurisprudence or law.

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.

President Carson presiding.

Recess. Out of recess.

Without objection, the Clerk shall read the first complete House Message and thereafter only the title of each bill shall be read, and the Clerk is instructed to enter all House Messages into the Senate Journal. Adopted.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives concurs with the Senate in the passage of the following entitled Bill, with amendment, in the passage of which amendment the House asks the concurrence of the Senate:

SB 56, (New Title) relative to consolidating the New Hampshire health and education facilities authority within the business finance authority and establishing a surplus land revitalization program.

Senator Pearl moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 415, relative to a certain exemption in interest in condominium units and abbreviated registrations.
Senator Innis moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 423, reestablishing the commission to study the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder in first responders.
Senator Pearl moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 445, relative to adjudicative proceedings where there is a council or board with jurisdiction.
Senator Avard moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 486, relative to the administrative procedure act.
Senator Pearl moved Concurrence. Adopted.

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.
Senator Pearl moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 491-FN, enabling students to utilize education freedom account funds to pay for certain career and technical education funding and removing references to “curriculum frameworks” as they relate to the substantive educational content of an adequate education.
Senator Murphy moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 523-FN, establishing a committee to study the implementation of a residential builder registration system.
Senator Innis moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 531-FN, establishing a task force to study the feasibility of the creation of cosmetology related programming in Coos County and requiring the reporting of student meal debt by school districts and public chartered schools to the department of education.
Senator Ward moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 535, defining residential breeder and imported animal for the purposes of animal transfers and removing references to commercial kennels.
Senator Avard moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 592-FN, enabling regional, conservation, and energy resource planning for habitat strongholds and wildlife corridors and creating a commission to study transferring ownership of the Winnipesaukee River Basin program to an alternative authority.
Senator Avard moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 663-FN-A, creating a Medicaid methodology working group within the department of health and human services.
Senator Gray moved Concurrence. Adopted.

SB 670-FN-A, establishing a developmental services oversight commission; relative to reporting requirements regarding the death of a child in residential care; and relative to the registry of founded reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults.
Senator Rochefort moved Concurrence. Adopted.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives concurs with the Senate in the passage of the following entitled Bill, with amendment, in the passage of which amendment the House asks the concurrence of the Senate:

SB 513-FN, (New Title) relative to the hiring of an owner's project manager (OPM) for construction or renovation projects which utilize school building aid.

Senator Murphy moved Nonconcurrence. Adopted.

HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives refuses to concur with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment(s) to the following entitled Bill sent down from Senate:

HB 1685, (Second New Title) establishing a committee to study aiding the growth of assistive technology businesses and adoption of assistive technologies in New Hampshire.

and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Speaker, on the part of the House of Representatives, has appointed as members of said Committee of Conference:

REPRESENTATIVES: D. Thomas, Caplan, Parshall and Vose

Senator Rochefort moved to Refuse to Accede to House request. Adopted.

HB 1376, relative to a parent's ability to raise their child in a manner consistent with the child's biological sex. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 2-1. Senator Sullivan for the committee.

Senate Children and Family Law
April 16, 2026
2026-1542s
12/09

Amendment to HB 1376

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Definitions; Parenting Based on Biological Sex Excluded. Amend RSA 169-C:3, II to read as follows:

II.***(a)*** "Abused child" means any child who has been:

[~~(a)~~] ***(1)*** Sexually abused; or

[~~(b)~~] ***(2)*** Intentionally physically injured; or

[~~(c)~~] ***(3)*** Psychologically injured so that said child exhibits symptoms of emotional problems generally recognized to result from consistent mistreatment or neglect; or

[~~(d)~~] ***(4)*** Physically injured by other than accidental means; or

[~~(e)~~] ***(5)*** Subjected, by any person, to human trafficking as defined in RSA 633:7; or

[~~(f)~~] ***(6)*** Subjected to an act prohibited by RSA 632-A:10-d.

(b) No child shall be considered an "abused child" under this chapter for the reason that they have been raised by their parent or guardian consistent with their biological sex, including but not limited to referring to a child consistent with their biological sex and making mental health or medical decisions based on the child's biological sex. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to authorize any other acts or omissions that meet the definition of "abused child" in subparagraph II(a).

Amend RSA 169-C:6-c as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

169-C:6-c Basis for Findings of Child Abuse; Exclusion.

I. Parents or guardians raising a child consistent with their biological sex, referring to a child consistent with their biological sex, or making mental health or medical decisions based on the child's biological sex shall not constitute a basis for:

(a) A court order relative to removing a child from the home, as described in RSA 169-C:6-b;

(b) Grounds for filing a petition alleging neglect or abuse of a child, as described in RSA 169-C:7;

(c) Evidence of conduct establishing the rebuttable presumption of harm defined in RSA 169-C:12-f;

(d) Grounds for filing a petition for the termination of the parent-child relationship, as described in RSA 170-C:4; or

(e) Conditions for termination of the parent-child relationship as described in RSA 170-C:5.

II. Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude consideration of any other acts or omissions that meet the definition of abuse or neglect of a child, or that are contrary to the child's welfare, as defined or provided for under this chapter.

Amend RSA 170-B:18, I-b as inserted by section 4 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I-b. Nothing in paragraph I-a shall be construed to relieve the department of its duty to make each placement consistent with the best interests of the child as otherwise required by law. Nothing in paragraph I-a shall preclude the department from taking into account the religious or moral beliefs of a particular child, considered in relation to the religious or moral beliefs of a prospective adoptive parent when determining which placement is in the best interests of the child.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(The Chair recognized Senator Perkins Kwoka.)

SENATOR PERKINS KWOKA: Thank you, everyone. I just wanted to make sure you had all received an invitation to join us for Senator Rosenwald's retirement party next Wednesday at 4:30 PM at Arts Alley.

We hope to see you all there to honor our friend and colleague. Thank you.

Recess. Out of recess.

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

Senator Reardon offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Reardon, Dist 15
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 13, 2026
2026-1938s
12/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1376

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

AN ACT relative to a parent's ability to raise their child in a manner consistent with the child's biological sex and relative to breast surgeries for minors.

Amend the bill by inserting after section 6 the following and renumbering the original section 7 to read as 8:

7 Limitations on Breast Surgeries for Minors; Exceptions to Prohibition. Amend RSA 329:53, II(d) and (e) to read as follows:

(d) The procedure is needed to correct gynecomastia and symptomatic macromastia; [~~or~~]

(e) Treatment of congenital deformities of the breast and/or chest wall[~~.~~]***; or***

(f) At the election of the minor in consultation with her primary care physician when the primary reason for the breast reduction surgery is, but not limited to, musculoskeletal pain, postural changes, or physical discomfort of the individual that restricts exercise and activity.

2026-1938s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Exempts child rearing consistent with the child's biological sex from being considered within the definitions of abused child and endangering child welfare.

II. Removes child rearing consistent with the child's biological sex from being a basis for findings relative to family law determinations, including: adoptions, child-placing agency licensing, and best interests of the child determinations.

III. Permits a physician to perform breast surgery on a minor in certain instances if the procedure is at the election of the minor in consultation with her primary care physician.

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.

HB 1565-FN, relative to the penalty for false reports of suspected abuse and neglect made to the division for children, youth, and families.
Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0. Senator Sullivan for the committee.

Senator Abbas offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Abbas, Dist 22
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 13, 2026
2026-1972s
12/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1565-FN

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

AN ACT relative to the penalty for false reports of suspected abuse and neglect made to the division for children, youth, and families, relative to owner's project manager services for school building aid projects, and relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor.

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

3 School Building Aid; Approval of Plans; Specifications, and Costs of Construction or Purchase. Amend RSA 198:15-c, III to read as follows:

III. A school district or chartered public school that [~~accepts~~] ***applies for*** school building aid for construction shall ***have*** [~~engage~~] ***engaged*** the services of an owner's project manager for construction or reconstruction/renovation projects of $1,250,000 or more, unless the commissioner waives such requirement as unnecessary. The owner's project manager shall have his or her own comprehensive liability and auto insurance, workers' compensation coverage, and professional liability coverage. The state board of education shall adopt rules pursuant to RSA 541-A relative to the required services, responsibilities, and qualifications for the owner's project manager to ensure the project owner's best interests are carried out.

4 New Paragraphs; Application for Assistance. Amend RSA 167:8 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraphs:

III. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, within 90 calendar days of the receipt of a long-term care medical assistance application by the department of health and human services, the department shall grant provisional eligibility on his or her application for Medicaid nursing facility services if the facility agrees through contract to comply with the terms of the contract and the provisions of this chapter. Such provisional eligibility shall be made without regard to whether the application is deemed complete.

IV. The department shall maintain the applicant's provisional eligibility and make payments for care at the same nursing facility rate as a fully eligible individual, until a determination is made on the individual's application for nursing facility services. Provisional eligibility shall terminate 18 months from the application date unless otherwise terminated as a result of a final determination approving or denying the application or as otherwise provided for in this section. In the event that final approval of the application is not entered within 12 months of the application, the provider of care may, within 45 days, commence an action pursuant to RSA 151-I:2 for the appointment of a special Medicaid representative. If an action is not commenced timely, or if the facility otherwise requests at any time, then provisional eligibility shall terminate.

V. The department shall distribute state funds as payments to providers for services rendered to individuals provisionally eligible under this section upon execution of contract approved by governor and council. Once a final determination has been made on an application, any provider who received payments under this section for services rendered for a provisionally eligible individual shall reimburse the department the total amount received for services rendered for that provisionally eligible individual. Any facility who fails to reimburse the department for services rendered shall be subject to sanctions in accordance with the terms of the contract.

VI. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if expenditures for the purposes of this section are greater than the amounts appropriated, the commissioner of the department of health and human services may request, with prior approval of the joint legislative fiscal committee of the general court, that the governor and council authorize additional funding to address the provisional eligibility shortfall. Upon fiscal committee and governor and council approval, the governor is authorized to draw a warrant from any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

5 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.

6 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.

7 Department of Health and Human Services; Appropriation; Positions Created. There is hereby established in the department of health and human services 2 positions for the purpose of managing the provisional eligibility program in accordance with RSA 167:8. The sum necessary to fund such position for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury otherwise not appropriated.

8 Effective Date.

I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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

2026-1972s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Provides that reports of suspected abuse and neglect may include the name of the person making the report and that a person who makes a false report maliciously or with the intent to cause harm shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

II. Creates a private right of action for civil damages against a person who makes a false report of suspected abuse or neglect.

III. Requires schools to have engaged the services of an owner's project manager at the time they apply for school building aid.

IV. 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.

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.

ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
HB 1300, establishing a biennial school district local tax cap question and related limitations on central office administrative expenses in school districts.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2. Senator Lang for the committee.

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs
May 5, 2026
2026-1851s
12/09

Amendment to HB 1300

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

AN ACT establishing a school district local tax cap question for the state general election of 2026 and related limitations on central office administrative expenses in school districts.

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

1 New Section; Municipal Budget Law; Preparation of Budgets; School District Local Tax Cap and School Administrative Fixed Cap on Central Office Administrative Budgets. Amend RSA 32 by inserting after section 5-h the following new section:

32:5-i School District Local Tax Cap and School Administrative Fixed Cap on Central Office Administrative Budgets.

I. During the November 2026 state general election, every town and ward in a city shall conduct a vote on a local tax cap question for their school district and fixed cap on the school administrative unit central office administrative budget. The question shall appear on the ballot by operation of law and shall not require a warrant article, citizen petition, or separate local legislative approval.

II. In municipalities that have adopted an official ballot system, the town or city clerk shall cause the question to appear on a separate official ballot.

III. In towns that have not adopted an official ballot system, the town clerk shall cause the question to be printed on separate local ballots. Such ballots shall be distributed to voters at the polling place during the state general election and shall be cast, collected, and counted under the supervision of the moderator in a manner consistent with ballot voting procedures.

IV. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a municipality, school board, or school administrative unit board from holding a public hearing on the question for the local tax cap and for the school administrative fixed cap on central office administrative budgets. The question on the separate official ballot or local ballot shall not be included on the official statewide ballot administered by the secretary of state. Such ballots shall be distributed to voters at the polling place during the 2026 state general election and shall be cast, collected, and counted under the supervision of the moderator in a manner consistent with local ballot voting procedures.

V.(a) The school district local tax cap and school administrative unit fixed cap question on the ballot for towns and wards with an annual school district meeting shall read:

"Shall the [name of municipality] adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-i to establish a local tax cap on the portion of property taxes raised for the [name(s) of school district(s)] and a fixed cap on the central office administrative budget of the supporting school administrative unit (SAU)? If adopted, the amount raised by local school district taxes shall not exceed the prior fiscal year's amount, adjusted for inflation using the CPI-U Northeast Region and the percentage increase in the municipality's taxable property value attributable to new construction. Costs for bonded capital projects shall be excluded. In addition, the SAU central office administrative budget shall not exceed 6 percent of the combined appropriations of the school districts comprising the SAU, excluding bonded capital costs. These caps may be overridden as provided in RSA 32:5-i and adoption requires a three-fifths (3/5) majority vote."

(b) The school district local tax cap and school administrative unit fixed cap question on the ballot for municipalities without an annual school district meeting shall read:

"Shall the [name of municipality] adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-i to establish a local tax cap on the portion of property taxes raised for the [name(s) of school district(s)] and a fixed cap on the central office administrative budget of the supporting school administrative unit (SAU)? If adopted, the amount raised by local school district taxes shall not exceed the prior fiscal year's amount, adjusted for inflation using the CPI-U Northeast Region and the percentage increase in the municipality's taxable property value attributable to new construction. Costs for bonded capital projects shall be excluded. In addition, the SAU central office administrative budget shall not exceed 6 percent of the combined appropriations of the school districts comprising the SAU, excluding bonded capital costs. These caps may be overridden as provided in RSA 32:5-i and adoption requires a three-fifths (3/5) majority vote."

VI.(a) The moderator of each municipality or ward in the school district shall report the results on the question to the secretary of the school administrative unit board for the school district. If a 3/5 majority of the voters voting in the municipalities and wards served by the school district approve the question, then the local tax cap for the school district under RSA 32:5-b, I-b, exempting bonded capital costs pursuant to paragraph XVI, shall be binding and apply for the ensuing 2 fiscal years.

(b) The moderator of each municipality or ward in the school administrative unit shall report the results on the question to the secretary of the school administrative unit board served by the municipality or ward. If a 3/5 majority of the voters voting in the municipalities and wards served by the school administrative unit approve the question, then the SAU fixed cap question for the SAU central office administrative budget shall be binding and apply for the ensuing 2 fiscal years.

(c) The secretary of the school administrative unit board shall certify the results of the votes to the department of revenue administration. Preservation of ballots shall be pursuant to RSA 33-A:3-a, XXXVII.

VII.(a) Any 10 registered voters from any municipality served by a school district, before the expiration of 7 days from the date of the general election, may apply in writing to the school district clerk for a recount of the ballots for the question on a school district local tax cap under this section. The secretary shall schedule a recount, to be conducted by the school board, not earlier than 5 days nor later than 10 days after the date the secretary receives the petition. The applicants for such a recount shall pay to the school clerk a fee of $10 for conducting the recount.

(b) Any 10 registered voters from any municipality served by a school administrative unit, before the expiration of 7 days from the date of the general election, may apply in writing to the secretary of the school administrative unit for a recount of the ballots for the question on a school administrative unit fixed cap under this section. The secretary shall schedule a recount, to be conducted by the school administrative unit, not earlier than 5 days nor later than 10 days after the date the secretary receives the petition. The applicants for such a recount shall pay to the secretary of the school administrative unit board a fee of $10 for conducting the recount.

VIII.(a) The maximum allowable levy shall equal:

Prior fiscal year property tax levy × (1 + inflation + net new taxable property growth).

(b) "Inflation" means the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), Northeast Region.

(c)(1) "Net new taxable property growth" means the increase in assessed valuation attributable to:

(A) New construction;

(B) Physical expansion or improvement of structures;

(C) Subdivision or redevelopment of land;

(D) Conversion from exempt to taxable status; or

(E) Any physical change that increases taxable market value.

(2) "Net new taxable property growth" shall not include:

(A) Market appreciation;

(B) Revaluation or reassessment; or

(C) Changes in assessment methodology.

(d) The department of revenue administration shall certify annually the net new taxable property growth for each taxing jurisdiction.

IX. In the municipalities and wards served by a school administrative unit where the school administrative unit fixed cap question under this section is approved by the voters for the biennium, the fixed cap for school administrative unit central office administrative budgets shall be 6 percent of the sum of the total school district appropriation amounts, except costs of bonded capital projects pursuant to paragraph XVI, in the school districts comprising the SAU. "School administrative unit central office administrative budgets" means expenditures for the general management and administration of a school administrative unit. These expenditures include superintendent services; assistant or deputy superintendent services; business administration; human resources; finance; payroll; purchasing; districtlevel information technology administration; legal services; public relations; and other nonschoolbased administrative functions, regardless of physical location or building assignment. The term also includes districtlevel curriculum directors, directors of instruction, or similarly titled positions who are not employed under a collective bargaining agreement or who do not provide direct classroom instruction for more than 50 percent of their work time, as well as any personnel reported to the department of education as employed by the central office. The term does not include schoolbased administrative staff; classroom instruction; instructional support services; special education services; transportation; food services; or facilities operations and maintenance.

X. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply only to districts without an annual meeting that have adopted the school administrative unit fixed cap under this section. The legislative body, pursuant to RSA 194-C:9, shall adopt a school administrative unit budget that is not in excess of the school administrative unit fixed cap pursuant to paragraph IX, except that the legislative body may override the fixed cap on the school administrative unit budget by a supermajority vote defined in their charter pursuant to RSA 49-C:33, I(d) or RSA 49-D:3, I(e).

XI. No municipal tax rate shall be set that causes a taxing authority to exceed its certified limits under this section.

(a) For a school district that has adopted the school district local tax cap or a school administrative unit that has adopted the school administrative unit fixed cap under this section, the governing body shall forward, at a time and in a form prescribed by the department of revenue administration, documentation demonstrating compliance with the adopted caps. Such documentation shall include:

(1) The computation of the school district local tax cap or school administrative unit fixed cap for the applicable year;

(2) Proposed appropriations by the governing body and budget committee and estimated revenues going into the annual meeting, showing the estimated amount of property taxes to be raised for the school district budget or school administrative unit central office administrative budgets, or both;

(3) Appropriations voted by the annual or special meeting of the legislative body; and

(4) The count of any ballot votes taken to override the school district local tax cap or school administrative unit fixed cap.

(b) Upon review of documentation submitted under subparagraph (a), if the commissioner of the department of revenue administration determines that the certified school district budget results in estimated taxes exceeding the adopted school administrative unit fixed cap and that no valid override vote was obtained as provided in this section, the governing body shall reduce the appropriation of the certified budget by the amount that the certified budget exceeds the cap.

(c) Upon review of documentation submitted under subparagraph (a), if the commissioner of the department of revenue administration determines that the certified school administrative unit central office administrative budget results in estimated taxes exceeding the adopted school administrative unit fixed cap and that no valid override vote was obtained as provided in this section, the governing body shall reduce the appropriation of the certified budget by the amount that the certified budget exceeds the cap.

(d) The department of revenue administration shall not approve any tax rate that exceeds the certified limit and shall withhold rate approval until the municipality demonstrates compliance either by showing the certified budget is within the certified cap or by showing a valid override vote in accordance with RSA 40:13 or applicable annual meeting procedures.

(e) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the department of revenue administration from requiring additional information, documentation, or schedules reasonably necessary to determine compliance with the adopted local tax cap or fixed cap under this section.

XII. If approved by the voters, the school district local tax cap or the school administrative unit fixed cap, or both, shall apply beginning with the fiscal 2028 school district total budget or school administrative unit budget, as applicable.

XIII. Any taxpayer in a member school district or school district of the school administrative unit, as applicable, shall have standing to enforce this section in superior court.

XIV. Nothing in this section may be construed to repeal, supersede, or diminish any property tax limitation that is more restrictive under existing law, a municipal charter, or a local ordinance. When more than one property tax limitation, tax cap, local tax cap, or budget cap applies, each applicable limitation must be fully satisfied.

XV. This section shall operate solely as a local tax cap limitation on the estimated amount of local taxes to be raised for the fiscal year attributable to the school district or a fixed cap on the school administrative unit central office administrative budget, as applicable.

XVI.(a) Bonded capital costs shall include principal or interest on bonds or notes only if the bonded indebtedness is issued solely for the acquisition, construction, or major structural renovation of real property, reported pursuant to RSA 198:4-a.

(b) The department of revenue administration shall certify annually the portion of debt service that qualifies for exclusion.

(c) No exclusion shall apply unless certified by the department.

2 New Paragraph; Department of Revenue Administration; Rulemaking Authority. Amend RSA 21-J:13 by inserting after paragraph XIV the following new paragraph:

XV. The forms, promulgation of forms, and any other information necessary to implement the provisions of RSA 32:5-i.

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

2026-1851s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Establishes a school district local tax cap question for the state general election of 2026.

II. Establishes limitations on central office administrative expenses in school districts.

III. Requires that the commissioner of the department of revenue administration adopt rules relative to the school district local tax cap question and limitations on central office administrative expenses in school districts.

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

Senator Gray offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Gray, Dist 6
May 7, 2026
2026-1876s
12/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1300

Amend RSA 32:5-i, VI(a)-(b) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

VI.(a) The moderator of each municipality or ward in the school district shall report the results on the question to the secretary of the school administrative unit board for the school district. If a 3/5 majority of the voters voting in the municipalities and wards served by the school district approve the question, then the local tax cap for the school district under RSA 32:5-b, I-b, exempting bonded capital costs pursuant to paragraph XVI, shall be binding.

(b) The moderator of each municipality or ward in the school administrative unit shall report the results on the question to the secretary of the school administrative unit board served by the municipality or ward. If a 3/5 majority of the voters voting in the municipalities and wards served by the school administrative unit approve the question, then the SAU fixed cap question for the SAU central office administrative budget shall be binding.

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.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
HB 1128, restricting the use of weather modification technologies to declared emergencies.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-1. Senator Pearl for the committee.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
May 5, 2026
2026-1839s
04/07

Amendment to HB 1128

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

AN ACT restricting the use of weather modification technologies to declared emergencies and relative to cruelty to livestock.

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

2 Cruelty to Animals. Amend RSA 644:8, IV(a)(1) to read as follows:

IV.(a)(1) Any person charged with animal cruelty under paragraphs III or III-a may have his or her animals***, except for livestock,*** confiscated by the arresting officer. ***The confiscation of livestock shall be governed by paragraph IV-b.***

3 Cruelty to Animals. Amend RSA 644:8, IV-a(a) to read as follows:

IV-a.(a) Except as provided in subparagraphs (b) and (c) any appropriate law enforcement officer, animal control officer, or officer of a duly licensed humane society may take into temporary protective custody any animal***, except for livestock, which shall be governed by paragraph IV-b,*** when there is probable cause to believe that it has been or is being abused or neglected in violation of paragraphs III or III-a when there is a clear and imminent danger to the animal's health or life and there is not sufficient time to obtain a court order. Such officer shall leave a written notice indicating the type and number of animals taken into protective custody, the name of the officer, the time and date taken, the reason it was taken, the procedure to have the animal returned and any other relevant information. Such notice shall be left at the location where the animal was taken into custody. The officer shall provide for proper care and housing of any animal taken into protective custody under this paragraph. If, after 7 days, the animal has not been returned or claimed, the officer shall petition the municipal or district court seeking either permanent custody or a one-week extension of custody or shall file charges under this section. If a week's extension is granted by the court and after a period of 14 days the animal remains unclaimed, the title and custody of the animal shall rest with the officer on behalf of the officer's department or society. The department or society may dispose of the animal in any lawful and humane manner as if it were the rightful owner. If after 14 days the officer or the officer's department determines that charges should be filed under this section, the officer shall petition the court.

4 New Paragraphs; Cruelty to Animals; Livestock. Amend RSA 644:8 by inserting after paragraph IV-a the following new paragraphs:

IV-b.(a) Any person charged with cruelty to animals under RSA 644:8 paragraphs III or III-a concerning livestock may have his or her livestock confiscated by the arresting officer. No animal shall be confiscated unless a person is charged under this section, except when there is probable cause to believe the livestock's life is in imminent danger. The investigating officer for a case involving livestock as defined in RSA 427:38, III shall be accompanied by the state veterinarian or designee, to include New Hampshire department of agriculture, markets, and food staff, or a licensed veterinarian, or other qualified staff from an animal shelter facility approved by the state veterinarian, in person or by video who shall determine whether there is probable cause to believe that the livestock should be confiscated. Livestock confiscated without a warrant where a charge has not been filed shall be returned within 10 days.

(b) The department of justice shall develop a form to be distributed to any person charged with cruelty to animals under RSA 644:8, paragraphs III or III-a, concerning livestock. The form shall inform the person of their right to have the confiscated livestock examined by a veterinarian licensed under RSA 332-B, chosen by the person charged, at the person's expense.

(c) Courts shall give cases in which livestock have been confiscated by an arresting officer priority on the court calendar, as outlined in RSA 644:8, IV(a)(3).

(d) Any person with proof of sole ownership or co-ownership of the livestock confiscated by an arresting officer in a livestock cruelty case and who is not a defendant or party of interest in the criminal case may petition the court for temporary custody of the livestock. The court shall give such person priority for temporary custody of the livestock if the court determines it is in the best interest of the livestock's health, safety, and wellbeing.

(e) No custodian of the livestock confiscated under this section shall spay or neuter or otherwise permanently alter the confiscated livestock in his or her custody pending final disposition of the court case unless a treating veterinarian deems such procedure necessary to save the life of the livestock or the owner of the livestock agrees in writing to the procedure or treatment. If the treating veterinarian believes that livestock which has been confiscated is in a state of suffering and that the cost to alleviate the suffering will exceed the amount of allowable reimbursement as set by Agr 3504.01(c)(8), unless the owner pays for the care, the animal shall be euthanized.

(f) Upon a person's conviction of cruelty to animals regarding livestock, the court shall dispose of the confiscated livestock in any manner it decides except in a case in which the confiscated livestock is owned or co-owned by persons other than the defendant. If the defendant does not have an ownership interest in the confiscated livestock, the court shall give priority to restoring full ownership rights to any person with proof of ownership if the court determines that such is in the best interest of the livestock's health, safety, and wellbeing. If the confiscated livestock is co-owned by the defendant, the court shall give priority to transferring the defendant's interest in the property to the remaining owner or co-owners equitably if the court determines that such is in the best interest of the livestock's health, safety, and wellbeing.

(g) The costs to provide the confiscated livestock with humane care and adequate and necessary veterinary services, if any, incurred in boarding and treating the livestock, pending disposition of the case, and in disposing of the livestock upon a conviction of said person for cruelty to animals regarding livestock, shall be borne by the person so convicted in accordance with rules adopted by the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

(h) Any donations raised using the stories or likenesses of the animals in protective custody shall be used to offset the cost of care of such animals.

IV-c.(a) Except as provided in RSA 644:8, IV(b), any appropriate law enforcement officer or municipal animal control officer may take into temporary protective custody any livestock when the owner or caretaker is not present and there is probable cause to believe that it has been or is being abused or neglected in violation of paragraphs III or III-a when there is a clear and imminent danger to the livestock's health or life and there is not sufficient time to obtain a court order. Such officer shall leave a written notice indicating the type and number of livestock taken into protective custody, the name of the officer, the time and date taken, the reason it was taken, the procedure to have the livestock returned and any other relevant information. Such notice shall be left at the location where the livestock was taken into custody. The officer shall provide for proper care and housing of any livestock taken into protective custody under this paragraph. For any livestock confiscated without a warrant where a charge has not been filed, the confiscated livestock shall be returned within 10 days. If, after 10 days, the livestock has not been returned or claimed, the officer shall petition the municipal or district court seeking either permanent custody or a one-week extension of custody or shall file charges under this section. If a week's extension is granted by the court and after a period of 14 days the livestock remains unclaimed, the title and custody of the livestock shall rest with the officer on behalf of the officer's department. The department may dispose of the livestock in any lawful and humane manner as if it were the rightful owner. If after 14 days the officer or the officer's department determines that charges should be filed under this section, the officer shall petition the court. An owner of livestock taken into protective custody shall have the right as referenced in subparagraph IV(b).

(b) For purposes of subparagraph (a) the investigating officer for livestock, as defined RSA 427:38, III, shall be accompanied by the state veterinarian or their designee in person or by video who shall set the probable cause criteria for taking the livestock.

(c) In cases where one or more lactating livestock is confiscated, proof shall be provided by the confiscating party to the attending veterinarian and the owner or caretaker that proper care and facilities shall be provided for adults and offspring. No lactating livestock shall be separated from its non-weaned offspring unless such separation is authorized by a licensed veterinarian.

(d) No person, other than the state veterinarian or their designee, or an employee of a government agency with jurisdiction to investigate violations of this section, and which is conducting an investigation under this section, may take part during any investigation into a complaint conducted pursuant to this section. No person who may be called upon to take custody of any livestock seized as a result of a complaint under this section may participate in the decision to seize any livestock. The act of making or forwarding a complaint does not make a person part of an investigation and does not render that person ineligible to take animals into custody.

(e) In order to protect the integrity of complaint investigations an appropriate law enforcement officer shall require any person or their designated agent called upon to take custody of any livestock seized or to assist during any complaint investigation, to sign a binding nondisclosure agreement intended to protect any shared or confidential information against unauthorized use pending final adjudication or dismissal of such complaint; provided that information may be disclosed only to officials with a need to know who are subject to confidentiality obligations.

(f) No custodian of livestock in temporary protective custody under this section shall spay or neuter or otherwise permanently alter the confiscated livestock in his or her custody pending final disposition of the court case unless a treating veterinarian deems such procedure necessary to save the life of the livestock or the owner of the livestock agrees in writing to the procedure or treatment. If the treating veterinarian believes that livestock which has been confiscated is in a state of suffering and that the cost to alleviate the suffering will exceed the amount of allowable reimbursement as set by Agr 3504.01(c)(8), unless the owner pays for the care or surrenders the animal outright or for care by an animal shelter facility, the animal shall be euthanized.

5 Veterinarian Assistant. Amend RSA 644:8, V to read as follows:

V. A veterinarian licensed to practice in the state ***and the state veterinarian or their designee*** shall be held harmless from either criminal or civil liability for any decisions made for services rendered under the provisions of this section or RSA 435:11-16. Such a veterinarian ***or designee*** is, therefore, under this paragraph, protected from a lawsuit for his ***or her*** part in an investigation of cruelty to animals.

6 State Veterinarian; Powers. Amend RSA 436:8 to read as follows:

436:8 Powers. The state veterinarian, under the direction of the commissioner, shall have all of the powers of the commissioner and shall have general charge of the enforcement of this chapter. Complaints under RSA 644:8, 644:8-a, 644:8-aa and any other law pertaining to the abuse of domestic animals, as defined under RSA 436:1, shall initially be filed with the local law enforcement agency, animal control officer, state police, or sheriff which has jurisdiction over where the animal is located or kept. At the request of the local law enforcement agency, animal control officer, state police, or sheriff, the state veterinarian shall assist in a secondary capacity in enforcing the provisions of and investigating said complaints. [~~In the event the commissioner becomes incapacitated or a vacancy occurs in the office, the state veterinarian shall perform all the duties of that office during any such incapacity or until any such vacancy is filled. The commissioner may direct the state veterinarian to act for him or her in an official capacity whenever he or she may be absent from his or her duties.~~]

7 Repeal. RSA 644:8, IV-a(b), relative to livestock confiscation, is repealed.

8 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

2026-1839s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Specifies the circumstances and conditions under which cloud seeding may occur.

II. Provides procedures for the potential confiscation of livestock involved in cruelty to animal cases.

Senator Pearl moved to Lay on the Table. Adopted.

HB 1738-FN, relative to ratepayer benefits from the regional greenhouse gas initiative.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-1. Senator Avard for the committee.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources
April 28, 2026
2026-1735s
04/08

Amendment to HB 1738-FN

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

AN ACT relative to ratepayer benefits from the regional greenhouse gas initiative, extending net metering eligibility terms for municipal energy projects, enabling electric utilities to own, operate, and offer advanced nuclear resources, and purchased power agreements for electric distribution utilities and limitations on community customer generators.

Amend the bill by replacing section 4 with the following:

4 Cost Containment Allowances in Addition to the Budget. RSA 125-O:29 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

I. For the purposes of cost containment, the department shall make available for sale at one or more auctions up to the following amounts of allowances that shall be in addition to the budget allowance total for the given year under RSA 125-O:21, II, if:

(a) The CO2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds $19.50 in 2027, up to 503,667 allowances and up to 503,667 additional allowances if it equals or exceeds $29.25;

(b) The CO2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds $20.87 in 2028, up to allowances and up to 503,667 additional allowances if it equals or exceeds $31.30;

(c) The CO2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds $22.33 in 2029, up to 503,667 allowances and up to 503,667 additional allowances if it equals or exceeds $33.49;

(d) The CO2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds $23.89 in 2030, up to 503,667 allowances and up to 503,667 additional allowances if it equals or exceeds $35.83; or

(e) In any year thereafter, the CO2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds 1.07 multiplied by the auction price at which cost containment allowances were required to be made available in the previous calendar year rounded to the nearest whole cent, until further legislative action.

II. The allowances sold pursuant to paragraph I shall be replenished, such that the full 1,007,214 allowances, if needed, are available the following calendar year.

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

6 Findings and Purpose. The general court finds that:

I. Through the passage of HB 315 of the 2021 regular session of the New Hampshire general court, the state of New Hampshire intended to make the benefits of group net metering available to municipalities across the state.

II. Despite strong interest from municipalities throughout New Hampshire seeking to construct distributed energy resources for the benefit of their communities, unforeseen interconnection delays have resulted in backlog, with many projects still waiting to come online. As the commercial operation date of these projects is pushed out, the available net metering term shrinks due to the termination of net metering in 2040 under current regulation. Without legislative intervention, many municipal net metering projects will cease to be economically viable.

III. The general court finds that a net metering term of 20 years is necessary for municipal projects to be financeable. Restoring a 20-year term for municipal net metering projects simply implements the intent of HB 315 of the 2021 regular session of the New Hampshire general court and ensures that cities and towns receive the benefits promised to them through that legislation.

7 New Paragraph; Net Metering. Amend RSA 362-A:9 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

II-a. Each electric distribution utility shall make available alternative tariffs for net metering to eligible customer-generators in accordance with Order No. 26,029 dated June 23, 2017, and the net metering rules adopted by the commission. Any eligible customer-generator that has submitted an interconnection application to a distribution utility on or before the effective date of this act and that is used to offset the electricity requirements of a group consisting exclusively of one or more customers who are political subdivisions that first receives compensation under an Order No. 26,029 alternative tariff shall remain eligible to receive that tariff for 20 years from the first day on which compensation is received.

8 Findings and Purpose. The general court finds that:

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

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

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

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

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

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

III. The coordinator of nuclear development and regulatory activities shall have the duty to coordinate and produce the reports required by RSA 162-B:3, as well as coordinate the studies conducted, and the recommendations and proposals made, in this state with like activities in New England and other states and with the policies and regulations of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. ***These activities may include outreach programs to inform and educate the public, particularly regarding safety.***

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

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

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

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

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

XIV.(e) The department of energy, by rule or order, shall develop a process by which community solar developers can apply for designation as a community solar project for new solar arrays. Such projects designate their production for the benefit of households on the list required in subparagraph (d). Such projects will qualify for the low-moderate income solar addition as established in subparagraph (c) and shall specify the amount of on-bill credit they can offer to low-moderate income households. Annually, the number of projects designated as low-moderate income community solar shall not exceed a total nameplate capacity rating of [~~6~~] ***18*** megawatts in the aggregate. If more than [~~6~~] ***18*** megawatts of projects apply for designation, the department of energy shall select the projects that offer the largest on-bill credit and that demonstrates project readiness.

12 Definitions. Amend RSA 362-A:1-a, II-c to read as follows:

II-c. "Municipal host" means a customer generator with a total peak generating capacity of greater than one megawatt and less than 5 megawatts used to offset the electricity requirements of a group consisting exclusively of one or more customers who are political subdivisions, provided that all customers are located within the same utility franchise service territory. A municipal host may be owned by either a public or private entity. For this definition, "political subdivision" means the state of New Hampshire or any city, town, county, school district, chartered public school, village district, school administrative unit, [~~or any district or entity created for a special purpose administered or funded by any of the above-named governmental units~~]

nonprofit educational institution, or any district or entity created for a special purpose administered or funded by any of the above-mentioned governmental units; such districts or entities include public housing authorities.

13 New Paragraph; Definition; Nonprofit Educational Institution. Amend RSA 362-A:1-a by inserting after paragraph II-f the following new paragraph:

II-g. "Nonprofit educational institution" means a nonpublic, nonprofit elementary school, secondary school, or post-secondary institution such as a college or university, with approval to operate as a school by the state board of education or the department of education, that is exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, is organized and operated primarily for the purpose of providing direct instruction to enrolled students, and does not distribute profits to private shareholders or individuals.

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

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

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

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

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

I. Investor-owned electric distribution utilities may elect to develop and, no later than June 30, [~~2025~~] ***2040***, issue a request for proposals for multi-year agreements for energy, in conjunction with or independent of any attendant environmental attributes from electric energy sources.

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

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

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

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

(4) Upon the petition of one or more electric distribution utilities, and after notice and hearing, the public utilities commission may authorize such utility or utilities to enter into multi-year agreements with existing, new***,*** or incremental electric energy sources up to a total of 3 million megawatt hours statewide, on an annual basis, if it finds such agreements to be just and reasonable and in the public interest.

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

19 Purchased Power Agreements. Amend the introductory paragraph for RSA 374-F:11, II to read as follows:

II. Any investor-owned electric distribution utility electing to enter into an agreement pursuant to this section shall petition the public utilities commission for authorization to enter the agreement no later than June 30, [~~2026~~] ***2041***.

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

2026-1735s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Changes the carbon dioxide emissions budget allowances for 2027 through 2030 and thereafter, and creates 2 cost containment allowance levels and the trigger price at which the department releases allowances for years 2027 through 2030 and thereafter.

II. Expands the purpose of RSA 374-G to include investment in natural gas and nuclear technologies for grid reliability.

III. Establishes long-term eligibility for certain customer-generators to receive net energy metering compensation under alternative tariffs approved by the public utilities commission and outlines conditions for those projects to transition to future tariffs.

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

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

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

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

VIII. Modifies the scope and capacity limits of community solar projects, including expanding the annual cap for low-moderate income community solar projects from 6 MW to 18 MW.

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

X. Expands the definition of “political subdivision” to include public housing authorities and explains eligibility for participation in group net metering.

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

Senator Watters offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Watters, Dist 4
May 12, 2026
2026-1931s
04/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1738-FN

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

AN ACT relative to ratepayer benefits from the regional greenhouse gas initiative and relative to net metering, energy procurement, and nuclear regulatory duties.

Amend the bill by replacing section 4 with the following:

4 Cost Containment Allowances in Addition to the Budget. RSA 125-O:29 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

125-O:29 Cost Containment Allowances in Addition to the Budget.

I. For the purposes of cost containment, the department shall make available for sale at one or more auctions up to the following amounts of allowances that shall be in addition to the budget allowance total for the given year under RSA 125-O:21, II, if:

(a) The CO2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds $19.50 in 2027, up to 503,667 allowances and up to 503,667 additional allowances if it equals or exceeds $29.25;

(b) The CO2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds $20.87 in 2028, up to 503,667 allowances and up to 503,667 additional allowances if it equals or exceeds $31.30;

(c) The CO_2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds $22.33 in 2029, up to 503,667 allowances and up to 503,667 additional allowances if it equals or exceeds $33.49;

(d) The CO_2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds $23.89 in 2030, up to 503,667 allowances and up to 503,667 additional allowances if it equals or exceeds $35.83; or

(e) In any year thereafter, the CO_2 allowance auction price equals or exceeds 1.07 multiplied by the auction price at which cost containment allowances were required to be made available in the previous calendar year rounded to the nearest whole cent, until further legislative action.

II. The allowances sold pursuant to paragraph I shall be replenished, such that the full 1,007,214 allowances, if needed, are available the following calendar year.

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

6 Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy; Coordination of Studies and Development Activities. Amend RSA 162-B:4, III to read as follows:

III. The coordinator of nuclear development and regulatory activities shall have the duty to coordinate and produce the reports required by RSA 162-B:3, as well as coordinate the studies conducted, and the recommendations and proposals made, in this state with like activities in New England and other states and with the policies and regulations of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. ***These activities may include the management of funding and oversight of nuclear incentive programs, such as those described by RSA 374-F:11, as well as outreach programs to inform and educate the public, particularly regarding safety.***

7 New Paragraph; Net Metering. Amend RSA 362-A:9 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

II-a. Each electric distribution utility shall make available alternative tariffs for net metering to eligible customer-generators in accordance with order no. 26,029 dated June 23, 2017, and the net metering rules adopted by the commission. Any eligible customer-generator that has submitted an interconnection application to a distribution utility on or before the effective date of this act and that is either a low-moderate income community solar project designated for the Electric Assistance Program under RSA 362-A:9, XIV(e) in 2026 or earlier or is used to offset the electricity requirements of a group consisting exclusively of one or more customers who are political subdivisions that first receives compensation under an order no. 26,029 alternative tariff shall remain eligible to receive that tariff for 20 years from the first day on which compensation is received.

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

III. Metering shall be done in accordance with normal metering practices. A single net meter that shows the customer's net energy usage by measuring both the inflow and outflow of electricity internally shall be the extent of metering that is required at facilities with a total peak generating capacity of not more than [~~100~~] ***250*** kilowatts. A bidirectional metering system that records the total amount of electricity that flows in each direction from the customer premises, either instantaneously or over intervals of an hour or less, shall be required at facilities with a total peak generating capacity of more than [~~100~~] ***250*** kilowatts. The bidirectional system may consist of one or more meters, as long as it can be used to appropriately meter and bill in compliance with utility tariffs and rules. Customer-generators shall not be required to pay for the installation of net meters, but shall pay for the installation of, or procure at their own cost if approved by the interconnecting utility, all bidirectional metering systems as outlined in utility interconnection tariffs or rules.

IV.(a) For facilities with a total peak generating capacity of not more than [~~100~~] ***250*** kilowatts, when billing a customer-generator under a net energy metering tariff that is not time-based, the utility shall apply the customer's net energy usage when calculating all charges that are based on kilowatt hour usage. Customer net energy usage shall equal the kilowatt hours supplied to the customer over the electric distribution system minus the kilowatt hours generated by the customer-generator and fed into the electric distribution system over a billing period.

(b) For facilities with a total peak generating capacity of more than [~~100~~] ***250*** kilowatts, the customer-generator shall pay all applicable charges on all kilowatt hours supplied to the customer over the electric distribution system, less a credit on default service charges equal to the metered energy generated by the customer-generator and fed into the electric distribution system over a billing period.

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

II-a. "Advanced nuclear reactor" has the same meaning as that provided in 42 U.S.C. section 16271(b)(1), as amended from time to time.

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

I. Investor-owned electric distribution utilities may elect to develop and, no later than June 30, [~~2025~~] ***2040***, issue a request for proposals for multi-year agreements for energy, in conjunction with or independent of any attendant environmental attributes from electric energy sources.

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

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

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

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

(4) Upon the petition of one or more electric distribution utilities, and after notice and hearing, the public utilities commission may authorize such utility or utilities to enter into multi-year agreements with existing, new, or incremental electric energy sources up to a total of 3 million megawatt hours statewide, on an annual basis, if it finds such agreements to be just and reasonable and in the public interest.

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

13 Purchased Power Agreements. Amend the introductory paragraph for RSA 374-F:11, II through RSA 374-F:11, II(a) to read as follows:

II. Any investor-owned electric distribution utility electing to enter into an agreement pursuant to this section shall petition the public utilities commission for authorization to enter the agreement no later than June 30, [~~2026~~] ***2041***.

(a) Upon the petition of one or more electric distribution utilities, and after notice and hearing, the public utilities commission may authorize such utility or utilities to enter into multi-year agreements with new or incremental electric energy sources up to a total of 2 million megawatt hours statewide, on an annual basis, if it finds such agreements to be just and reasonable and in the public interest***, provided that if at least 1 million megawatt hours are procured from advanced nuclear reactors as defined in RSA 374-F:2, II-a, an additional 1 million megawatt hours may be procured from existing, new, or incremental electric energy sources for a total of up to 3 million megawatt hours statewide annually***.

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

2026-1931s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Changes the carbon dioxide emissions budget allowances for 2027 through 2030 and thereafter, and creates 2 cost containment allowance levels and the trigger price at which the department releases allowances for years 2027 through 2030 and thereafter.

II. Modifies the coordinator of nuclear development and regulatory activities' duties.

II. Amends certain net metering applicable total peak generating capacities and establishes long-term eligibility for certain customer-generators to receive net energy metering compensation under alternative tariffs approved by the public utilities commission.

III. Defines "advanced nuclear reactor."

IV. Extends the deadline for electric distribution utilities to issue requests for proposals for multi-year agreements for energy, in conjunction with or independent of any attendant environmental attributes from electric energy sources, and modifies the requirements for the agreements.

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.

FINANCE
HB 1499-FN, relative to additional grounds for eviction under the landlord and tenant statute.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0. Senator Lang for the committee.

Senate Finance
May 12, 2026
2026-1910s
07/09

Amendment to HB 1499-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 3 with the following:

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

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

Senator Fenton offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Fenton, Dist 10
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
Sen. Lang, Dist 2
May 13, 2026
2026-1952s
09/07

Floor Amendment to HB 1499-FN

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

AN ACT relative to additional grounds for eviction under the landlord and tenant statute, relative to the responsibility of local school districts to provide meals to students during school hours, and reimbursing schools for meals provided to students at no cost and making an appropriation therefor.

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

3 New Paragraphs; Food and Nutrition Programs. Amend RSA 189:11-a by inserting after paragraph VIII the following new paragraphs:

IX. Each school board may vote to raise eligibility for free meals to 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Meals served to students who meet the federal income eligibility guidelines shall continue to be reimbursed in accordance with federal law and regulations. Meals not reimbursed in accordance with federal law and regulations shall be reimbursed by the state of New Hampshire at a rate that covers 50 percent of the difference between the federal rate for a free meal and a reduced price meal, or the difference between a free meal and a paid meal. The remainder of the costs shall be covered by the local district.

X.(a) The department of education shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A requiring school districts that opt into the optional program pursuant to paragraph IX to offer both online and physical applications for free school meals.

(b) The department of education shall provide administrative or technical assistance to school districts establishing an online application for free or reduced-price school meals, and whose school meal programs are approved to operate through the United States Department of Agriculture.

(c) School districts eligible for administrative or technical assistance or funding under this section shall be those approved to operate federal school meal programs through the United States Department of Agriculture and accepted by the department of education to participate in this expansion of free and reduced lunch benefits.

4 Appropriation; Department of Education; Food and Nutrition Program.

I. The amount of $107,000 is appropriated to the department of education for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for administrative costs related to providing administrative or technical assistance to school districts establishing an online application for free or reduced-price school meals. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

II. The amount of $250,000 is appropriated to the department of education for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for disbursement to school districts to be reimbursed at a 50 percent rate pursuant to RSA 189:11-a, X(a) and to purchase software related to the establishment of an online application for free or reduced-price school meals. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

5 Effective Date.

I. Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

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

2026-1952s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Allows eviction if a tenant uses someone else's personal information to obtain the rental or if the tenant or an occupant has certain criminal convictions, including improper entry as a non-citizen or a conviction requiring registration as a sexual offender or offender against children. The landlord cannot use a conviction disclosed in writing before the start of the tenancy as grounds for eviction.

II. Authorizes school boards to raise eligibility for free meals, requires the department of education to reimburse schools who raise eligibility, and provides an appropriation therefor.

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.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HB 232-FN, relative to the rights of conscience for medical professionals.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-1. Senator Birdsell for the committee.

Senate Health and Human Services
April 22, 2026
2026-1624s
05/07

Amendment to HB 232-FN

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

1 New Subdivision; Request for Reasonable Accommodation Not to Participate in Abortion Services. Amend RSA 151 by inserting after section 53 the following new subdivision:

Request for Reasonable Accommodation Not to Participate in Abortion Services

151:54 Request for Reasonable Accommodation Not to Participate in Abortion Services; Notice and Reporting Requirements.

I. Any health care institution in New Hampshire that provides abortion services shall annually provide their employees who provide abortion services with written notification of the following:

(a) That an employee who provides abortion services may request a reasonable accommodation of a sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction that conflicts with the employee's direct participation in an abortion;

(b) That if the employee has the reasonable belief that their request for reasonable accommodation did not pose an undue hardship on their employer, and the request was denied, the employee may file a complaint with the attorney general's office; and

(c) That if the employee feels they have been discriminated against by their employer for their sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction that conflicts with the employee's direct participation in an abortion, the employee may file a complaint with the attorney general's office.

II. The attorney general's office shall annually create a report on the number of substantiated reports their office has received under this section. This report shall be provided annually to the senate president, the speaker of the house, and the governor, with the first report due on January 1, 2028.

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

2026-1624s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires health care institutions to provide employees who provide abortion services with written notification of their right to request a reasonable accommodation of a sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction that conflicts with the employee's direct participation in an abortion and the option to file a complaint with the attorney general if they believe their request for accommodation was wrongfully denied. The bill also directs the attorney general to create an annual report regarding the number of substantiated complaints it receives.

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 360, prohibiting public schools from performing surgical procedures or prescribing pharmaceutical drugs. Ought to Pass, Vote 4-1. Senator Rochefort for the committee.

Senator Rochefort offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Rochefort, Dist 1
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 12, 2026
2026-1906s
07/08

Floor Amendment to HB 360

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

AN ACT prohibiting public schools from performing surgical procedures or prescribing pharmaceutical drugs, relative to licensing requirements for health care facilities established within a 15 mile radius of a critical access hospital, and relative to the administration of prescription medication to minors by youth camp staff.

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

2 Residential Care and Health Facility Licensing; License or Registration Required. RSA 151:4-a, II(a) is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

II.(a) Any person or entity proposing to establish an ambulatory surgical center, emergency medical care center, hospital, birthing center, drop-in or walk-in care center, dialysis center, or special health care service within a radius of 15 miles of the primary physical location of a New Hampshire hospital certified as a critical access hospital pursuant to 42 C.F.R 485.610(b) and (c), shall give written notice of the intent to establish the health care facility within a 15 mile radius of the critical access hospital. The notice shall include a description of the facility and any health care services to be established and shall be sent by certified mail to the chief executive of the critical access hospital.

3 New Section; Child Day Care, Residential Care, and Child-Placing Agencies; Residential Care and Child-Placing Agency Licensing; Administration of Prescribed Medication. Amend RSA 170-E by inserting after section 30 the following new section:

170-E:30-a Administration of Prescribed Medication. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any youth camp licensed under this chapter may administer a pharmaceutical drug to a minor pursuant to a valid prescription issued by a licensed health care provider, including a provider licensed in another state, with the written authorization of a parent or legal guardian.

4 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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

2026-1906s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Prohibits public schools from performing surgical procedures or prescribing pharmaceutical drugs.

II. Requires a health care facility to provide certified, written notice to a critical access hospital if the facility will be located within a 15 mile radius of the critical access hospital.

III. Allows youth camps licensed under this chapter to administer pharmaceutical drugs to minors with the written authorization of a parent or guardian.

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.

HB 1219, relative to immunization requirements in foster family homes.
Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2. Senator Birdsell for the committee.

Senator Rosenwald offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 13, 2026
2026-1943s
07/08

Floor Amendment to HB 1219

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

AN ACT relative to immunization requirements in foster family homes and relative to financial eligibility for the Medicare savings program.

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

2 Short Title. Sections 2 and 3 of this act shall be known as "The Help for Low Income Seniors Act of 2026".

3 New Section; Financial Eligibility for Medicare Savings Program. Amend RSA 167 by inserting after section 4-f the following new section:

167:4-g Medicare Savings Program.

I. The department shall administer the Medicare savings program as described in 42 U.S.C. section 1396a(a)(10)(E) in accordance with federal law and this section.

II. Financial eligibility for the Medicare savings program shall, subject to CMS approval, make the low income subsidy for Medicare Part D available to residents to assist with prescription drug costs.

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

2026-1943s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Provides that vaccination requirements for adults residing in foster homes shall not exceed the vaccination requirements of RSA 141-C:20-a, either in type of vaccination, quality of doses, or authorization for exemption.

II. Removes the resource limit for the Medicare savings program and, subject to CMS approval, makes the low income subsidy for Medicare Part D available to residents to assist with prescription drug costs.

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.

HB 1584-FN, directing the department of health and human services to provide notice of medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements and relative to the form of such exemption.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Prentiss for the committee.

Senate Health and Human Services
April 9, 2026
2026-1427s
05/07

Amendment to HB 1584-FN

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

AN ACT directing the department of health and human services to provide notice of medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements.

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

1 New Paragraph; Notice of Medical and Religious Exemptions. Amend RSA 141-C by inserting after section 20-f the following new section:

141-C:20-g Notice of Medical and Religious Exemptions.

I. Any printed or electronic materials relative to required childhood immunizations in RSA 141-C:20-a produced by the department of health and human services and distributed in connection with school and child care enrollment on or after the effective date of this section shall include the following statement: "Medical and religious exemptions are available under New Hampshire law." The department shall include a website link on an existing webpage detailing the current immunization exemptions under New Hampshire law.

II. The department of health and human services may adopt rules under RSA 541-A to implement this section.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 90 days after its passage.

2026-1427s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill directs the department of health and human services to include in certain materials relative to childhood immunization requirements a statement indicating that medical and religious exemptions to such requirements are available under state law.

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

Senator Reardon offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Reardon, Dist 15
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 13, 2026
2026-1960s
07/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1584-FN

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

AN ACT directing the department of health and human services to provide notice of medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements, and relative to income eligibility for the New Hampshire child care scholarship program and reallocating certain revenues to fund the program.

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

2 New Subparagraph; Public Assistance To Blind, Aged, Or Disabled Persons, And To Dependent Children; New Hampshire Employment Program and Family Assistance Program; Administration; Duties; Rulemaking. Amend RSA 167:83, II(r) by inserting after subparagraph (3) the following new subparagraph:

(4) Providing eligibility for the child care scholarship program for families whose gross monthly income is less than or equal to 95 percent of state median income for their respective family size, subject to the availability of funds.

3 Taxation; Tobacco Tax; Distribution of Funds. Amend RSA 78:24, I to read as follows:

I. Tax revenue on all tobacco products sold at retail in this state imposed by RSA 78:2 shall be divided with 39 percent of that total revenue deposited in the education trust fund established by RSA 198:39 and the remaining revenue deposited in the general fund***, except that for any surplus funds over that year's planned revenue, 50 percent of the surplus shall be transferred to the department of health and human services for the purposes of administering and expanding eligibility for the child care scholarship program pursuant to RSA 167:83, II(r)(4), and the remainder shall be deposited in the general fund***.

4 Alcoholic Beverages; The Liquor Commission; Funds. Amend RSA 176:16, I to read as follows:

I. Except as provided in paragraph II, the state treasurer shall credit all gross revenue derived by the commission from the sale of liquor, or from license fees, and interest received on such moneys, to a special fund, to be known as the liquor commission fund, from which the treasurer shall pay all expenses of the commission incident to the administration of this title. Any balance left in such fund after such expenses are paid shall be deposited in the general fund on a monthly basis***, except that for any surplus funds over that month's planned revenue, 50 percent of the surplus shall be transferred to the department of health and human services for the purposes of administering and expanding eligibility for the child care scholarship program pursuant to RSA 167:83, II(r)(4), and the remainder shall be deposited in the general fund***.

5 Alcoholic Beverages; Liquor Licenses and Fees; Additional Fees. Amend RSA 178:26, I to read as follows:

I. In addition to the annual license fees provided in this chapter, a fee of $.30 for each gallon of beverage sold or transferred for retail sale or to the public shall be required for licenses issued to wholesale distributors, beverage manufacturers, brew pubs, and nano breweries; provided, however, that if beverage container mandatory deposit legislation is enacted, such fee shall be $.18 per gallon as of the effective date of such legislation. A fee of 5 percent of the wholesale price per case of any specialty beverage sold or transferred for retail sale or to the public shall be required for licenses issued to wholesale distributors or beverage manufacturers. For failure to pay any part of the fees provided or under this section when due, 10 percent of such fees shall be added and collected by the commission from the licensee. ***For any surplus funds over that month's planned revenue, 50 percent of the surplus shall be transferred to the department of health and human services for the purposes of administering and expanding eligibility for the child care scholarship program pursuant to RSA 167:83, II(r)(4), and the remainder shall be deposited in the general fund.***

6 Games, Amusements, and Athletic Exhibitions; Video Lottery Terminals; Revenue Share. Amend RSA 287-J:6, III(b)(2) to read as follows:

(2) 75 percent to the general fund***;***

(3) Except that for any surplus funds over that period's planned revenue, 50 percent of the surplus shall be transferred to the department of health and human services for the purposes of administering and expanding eligibility for the child care scholarship program pursuant to RSA 167:83, II(r)(4), and the remainder shall be deposited in the general fund.

7 New Paragraph; Horse and Dog Racing; General Provisions. Amend RSA 284:21-j by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, 2 percent of all revenues received by the lottery commission under RSA 284, 287-D, 287-E, 287-H, 287-I, 287-J, or pursuant to any other provision of law, shall be distributed to the department of health and human services for the purposes of administering and expanding eligibility for the child care scholarship program pursuant to RSA 167:83, II(r)(4).

8 Contingency. This act shall not take effect until the commissioner of the department of revenue administration certifies to the secretary of state and the director of the office of legislative services that the revenues in sections 3 through 7 of this act have each operated at a surplus for the past year. In no case shall the commissioner make such certification prior to July 1, 2027.

9 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect 90 days after its passage.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect as described in section 8 of this act.

2026-1960s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Directs the department of health and human services to include in certain materials relative to childhood immunization requirements a statement indicating that medical and religious exemptions to such requirements are available under state law.

II. Directs the department of health and human services to amend its policy to increase eligibility for the child care scholarship program and directs revenues to fund the eligibility increase.

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

Senator Birdsell offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Ricciardi, Dist 9
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 13, 2026
2026-1959s
07/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1584-FN

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

AN ACT directing the department of health and human services to provide notice of medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements and relative to notice of drug pricing options.

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

2 New Subdivision; Drug Pricing Options. Amend RSA 318 by inserting after section 47-m the following new subdivision:

Drug Pricing Options

318:47-n Notice of Drug Pricing Options.

I. Every pharmacy licensed in this state shall make reasonable efforts to notify consumers of their right to request the lowest available price for a prescription drug. Such notice may include, but is not limited to, verbal instruction from pharmacy staff, signage at check out, or printed material available for consumers to read.

II. A pharmacy shall, upon request of a consumer, inform the consumer of available pricing options for a prescription drug, including the consumer's cost under the consumer's insurance plan, the pharmacy's usual and customary cash price, and any available coupons, discounts, or rebate programs.

3 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect 90 days after its passage.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

2026-1959s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Directs the department of health and human services to include in certain materials relative to childhood immunization requirements a statement indicating that medical and religious exemptions to such requirements are available under state law.

II. Requires pharmacies to make efforts to notify consumers of their right to request the lowest available price for prescription drugs.

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.

HB 1772-FN-A, relative to prescribing ibogaine for investigational use only.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0. Senator Rochefort for the committee.

Senate Health and Human Services
April 22, 2026
2026-1623s
05/09

Amendment to HB 1772-FN-A

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Section; Ibogaine; Administered Under FDA-approved Research Protocol. Amend RSA 329 by inserting after section RSA 329:1-h the following new section:

329:1-i Ibogaine; Administered Under FDA-approved Research Protocol. To the extent allowable by federal law, licensed physicians or qualified licensed practitioners may administer ibogaine under the framework of an FDA-approved research protocol.

2026-1623s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill permits licensed health care providers to administer ibogaine under the framework of an FDA-approved research protocol.

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

Senator Rochefort offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Rochefort, Dist 1
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 12, 2026
2026-1916s
05/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1772-FN-A

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

AN ACT relative to prescribing ibogaine for investigational use only and adopting the physician associate licensure compact.

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

2 New Section; Physician Associates; Physician Associate Licensure Compact Adopted. Amend RSA 328-D by inserting after section 18 the following new section:

328-D:18-a Physician Associate Licensure Compact Adopted. The state of New Hampshire hereby adopts the provisions of the physician associate licensure compact as follows:

Section 1. Purpose.

In order to strengthen access to medical services, and in recognition of the advances in the delivery of medical services, the participating states of the PA licensure compact have allied in common purpose to develop a comprehensive process that complements the existing authority of state licensing boards to license and discipline PAs and seeks to enhance the portability of a license to practice as a PA while safeguarding the safety of patients. This compact allows medical services to be provided by PAs, via the mutual recognition of the licensee's qualifying license by other compact participating states. This compact also adopts the prevailing standard for PA licensure and affirms that the practice and delivery of medical services by the PA occurs where the patient is located at the time of the patient encounter, and therefore requires the PA to be under the jurisdiction of the state licensing board where the patient is located. State licensing boards that participate in this compact retain the jurisdiction to impose adverse action against a compact privilege in that state issued to a PA through the procedures of this compact. The PA licensure compact will alleviate burdens for military families by allowing active duty military personnel and their spouses to obtain a compact privilege based on having an unrestricted license in good standing from a participating state.

Section 2. Definitions.

In this compact:

A. "Adverse action" means any administrative, civil, equitable, or criminal action permitted by a state's laws which is imposed by a licensing board or other authority against a PA license or license application or compact privilege such as license denial, censure, revocation, suspension, probation, monitoring of the licensee, or restriction on the licensee's practice.

B. "Compact privilege" means the authorization granted by a remote state to allow a licensee from another participating state to practice as a PA to provide medical services and other licensed activity to a patient located in the remote state under the remote state's laws and regulations.

C. "Conviction" means a finding by a court that an individual is guilty of a felony or misdemeanor offense through adjudication or entry of a plea of guilt or no contest to the charge by the offender.

D. "Criminal background check" means the submission of fingerprints or other biometric based information for a license applicant for the purpose of obtaining that applicant's criminal history record information, as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(d), from the state's criminal history record repository as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(f).

E. "Data system" means the repository of information about licensees, including but not limited to license status and adverse actions, which is created and administered under the terms of this compact.

F. "Executive committee" means a group of directors and ex-officio individuals elected or appointed pursuant to Section 7.F.2.

G. "Impaired practitioner" means a PA whose practice is adversely affected by health related condition(s) that impact their ability to practice.

H. "Investigative information" means information, records, or documents received or generated by a licensing board pursuant to an investigation.

I. "Jurisprudence requirement" means the assessment of an individual's knowledge of the laws and rules governing the practice of a PA in a state.

J. "License" means current authorization by a state, other than authorization pursuant to a compact privilege, for a PA to provide medical services, which would be unlawful without current authorization.

K. "Licensee" means an individual who holds a license from a state to provide medical services as a PA.

L. "Licensing board" means any state entity authorized to license and otherwise regulate PAs.

M. "Medical services" means health care services provided for the diagnosis, prevention, treatment, cure, or relief of a health condition, injury, or disease, as defined by a state's laws and regulations.

N. "Model compact" means the model for the PA licensure compact on file with the council of state governments or other entity as designated by the commission.

O. "Participating state" means a state that has enacted this compact.

P. "PA" means an individual who is licensed as a physician associate in a state. For purposes of this compact, any other title or status adopted by a state to replace the term "physician assistant" shall be deemed synonymous with "physician associate" and shall confer the same rights and responsibilities to the licensee under the provisions of this compact at the time of its enactment.

Q. "PA licensure compact commission," "compact commission," or "commission" mean the national administrative body created pursuant to section 7.A of this compact.

R. "Qualifying license" means an unrestricted license issued by a participating state to provide medical services as a PA.

S. "Remote state" means a participating state where a licensee who is not licensed as a PA is exercising or seeking to exercise the compact privilege.

T. "Rule" means a regulation promulgated by an entity that has the force and effect of law.

U. "Significant investigative information" means investigative information that a licensing board, after an inquiry or investigation that includes notification and an opportunity for the PA to respond if required by state law, has reason to believe is not groundless and, if proven true, would indicate more than a minor infraction.

V. "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United States.

Section 3. State Participation in this Compact.

A. To participate in this compact, a participating state shall:

1. License PAs.

2. Participate in the compact commission's data system.

3. Have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints against licensees and license applicants.

4. Notify the commission, in compliance with the terms of this compact and commission rules, of any adverse action against a licensee or license applicant and the existence of significant investigative information regarding a licensee or license applicant.

5. Fully implement a criminal background check requirement, within a time frame established by commission rule, by its licensing board receiving the results of a criminal background check and reporting to the commission whether the license applicant has been granted a license.

6. Comply with the rules of the compact commission.

7. Utilize passage of a recognized national exam such as the NCCPA PANCE as a requirement for PA licensure.

8. Grant the compact privilege to a holder of a qualifying license in a participating state.

B. Nothing in this compact prohibits a participating state from charging a fee for granting the compact privilege.

Section 4. Compact Privilege.

A. To exercise the compact privilege, a licensee must:

1. Have graduated from a PA program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. or other programs authorized by commission rule.

2. Hold current NCCPA certification.

3. Have no felony or misdemeanor conviction.

4. Have never had a controlled substance license, permit, or registration suspended or revoked by a state or by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

5. Have a unique identifier as determined by commission rule.

6. Hold a qualifying license.

7. Have had no revocation of a license or limitation or restriction on any license currently held due to an adverse action.

8. If a licensee has had a limitation or restriction on a license or compact privilege due to an adverse action, 2 years must have elapsed from the date on which the license or compact privilege is no longer limited or restricted due to the adverse action.

9. If a compact privilege has been revoked or is limited or restricted in a participating state for conduct that would not be a basis for disciplinary action in a participating state in which the licensee is practicing or applying to practice under a compact privilege, that participating state shall have the discretion not to consider such action as an adverse action requiring the denial or removal of a compact privilege in that state.

10. Notify the compact commission that the licensee is seeking the compact privilege in a remote state.

11. Meet any jurisprudence requirement of a remote state in which the licensee is seeking to practice under the compact privilege and pay any fees applicable to satisfying the jurisprudence requirement.

12. Report to the commission any adverse action taken by a non-participating state within 30 days after the action is taken.

B. The compact privilege is valid until the expiration or revocation of the qualifying license unless terminated pursuant to an adverse action. The licensee must also comply with all of the requirements of subsection A above to maintain the compact privilege in a remote state. If the participating state takes adverse action against a qualifying license, the licensee shall lose the compact privilege in any remote state in which the licensee has a compact privilege until all of the following occur:

1. The license is no longer limited or restricted; and

2. Two years have elapsed from the date on which the license is no longer limited or restricted due to the adverse action.

C. Once a restricted or limited license satisfies the requirements of subsection B.1 and 2, the licensee must meet the requirements of subsection A to obtain a compact privilege in any remote state.

D. For each remote state in which a PA seeks authority to prescribe controlled substances, the PA shall satisfy all requirements imposed by such state in granting or renewing such authority.

Section 5. Designation of the State from Which Licensee is Applying for a Compact Privilege.

A. Upon a licensee's application for a compact privilege, the licensee shall identify to the commission the participating state from which the licensee is applying, in accordance with applicable rules adopted by the commission, and subject to the following requirements:

1. When applying for a compact privilege, the licensee shall provide the commission with the address of the licensee's primary residence and thereafter shall immediately report to the commission any change in the address of the licensee's primary residence.

2. When applying for a compact privilege, the licensee is required to consent to accept service of process by mail at the licensee's primary residence on file with the commission with respect to any action brought against the licensee by the commission or a participating state, including a subpoena, with respect to any action brought or investigation conducted by the commission or a participating state.

Section 6. Adverse Actions.

A. A participating state in which a licensee is licensed shall have exclusive power to impose adverse action against the qualifying license issued by that participating state.

B. In addition to the other powers conferred by state law, a remote state shall have the authority, in accordance with existing state due process law, to do all of the following:

1. Take adverse action against a PA's compact privilege within that state to remove a licensee's compact privilege or take other action necessary under applicable law to protect the health and safety of its citizens.

2. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a licensing board in a participating state for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another participating state shall be enforced in the latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of the state in which the witnesses or evidence are located.

3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, subpoenas may not be issued by a participating state to gather evidence of conduct in another state that is lawful in that other state for the purpose of taking adverse action against a licensee's compact privilege or application for a compact privilege in that participating state.

4. Nothing in this compact authorizes a participating state to impose discipline against a PA's compact privilege or to deny an application for a compact privilege in that participating state for the individual's otherwise lawful practice in another state.

C. For purposes of taking adverse action, the participating state which issued the qualifying license shall give the same priority and effect to reported conduct received from any other participating state as it would if the conduct had occurred within the participating state which issued the qualifying license. In so doing, that participating state shall apply its own state laws to determine appropriate action.

D. A participating state, if otherwise permitted by state law, may recover from the affected PA the costs of investigations and disposition of cases resulting from any adverse action taken against that PA.

E. A participating state may take adverse action based on the factual findings of a remote state, provided that the participating state follows its own procedures for taking the adverse action.

F. Joint investigations.

1. In addition to the authority granted to a participating state by its respective state PA laws and regulations or other applicable state law, any participating state may participate with other participating states in joint investigations of licensees.

2. Participating states shall share any investigative, litigation, or compliance materials in furtherance of any joint or individual investigation initiated under this compact.

G. If an adverse action is taken against a PA's qualifying license, the PA's compact privilege in all remote states shall be deactivated until 2 years have elapsed after all restrictions have been removed from the state license. All disciplinary orders by the participating state which issued the qualifying license that impose adverse action against a PA's license shall include a statement that the PA's compact privilege is deactivated in all participating states during the pendency of the order.

H. If any participating state takes adverse action, it promptly shall notify the administrator of the data system.

Section 7. Establishment of the PA Licensure Compact Commission.

A. The participating states hereby create and establish a joint government agency and national administrative body known as the PA licensure compact commission. The commission is an instrumentality of the compact states acting jointly and not an instrumentality of any one state. The commission shall come into existence on or after the effective date of the compact as set forth in section 11.A.

B. Membership, voting, and meetings.

1. Each participating state shall have and be limited to one delegate selected by that participating state's licensing board or, if the state has more than one licensing board, selected collectively by the participating state's licensing boards.

2. The delegate shall be either:

a. A current PA, physician, or public member of a licensing board or PA council/committee; or

b. An administrator of a licensing board.

3. Any delegate may be removed or suspended from office as provided by the laws of the state from which the delegate is appointed.

4. The participating state licensing board shall fill any vacancy occurring in the commission within 60 days.

5. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote on all matters voted on by the commission and shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the commission. A delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for delegates' participation in meetings by telecommunications, video conference, or other means of communication.

6. The commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in this compact and the bylaws.

7. The commission shall establish by rule a term of office for delegates.

C. The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Establish a code of ethics for the commission;

2. Establish the fiscal year of the commission;

3. Establish fees;

4. Establish bylaws;

5. Maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws;

6. Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this compact and the bylaws;

7. Promulgate rules to facilitate and coordinate implementation and administration of this compact. The rules shall have the force and effect of law and shall be binding in all participating states;

8. Bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the commission, provided that the standing of any state licensing board to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;

9. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

10. Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not limited to, employees of a participating state;

11. Hire employees and engage contractors, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of this compact, and establish the commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel matters;

12. Accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials and services, and receive, utilize, and dispose of the same; provided that at all times the commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest;

13. Lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise own, hold, improve, or use, any property, real, personal or mixed; provided that at all times the commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety;

14. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property real, personal, or mixed;

15. Establish a budget and make expenditures;

16. Borrow money;

17. Appoint committees, including standing committees composed of members, state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, and consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this compact and the bylaws;

18. Provide and receive information from, and cooperate with, law enforcement agencies;

19. Elect a chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer and such other officers of the commission as provided in the commission's bylaws.

20. Reserve for itself, in addition to those reserved exclusively to the commission under the compact, powers that the executive committee may not exercise;

21. Approve or disapprove a state's participation in the compact based upon its determination as to whether the state's compact legislation departs in a material manner from the model compact language;

22. Prepare and provide to the participating states an annual report; and

23. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact consistent with the state regulation of PA licensure and practice.

D. Meetings of the commission.

1. All meetings of the commission that are not closed pursuant to this subsection shall be open to the public. Notice of public meetings shall be posted on the commission's website at least 30 days prior to the public meeting.

2. Notwithstanding subsection D.1 of this section, the commission may convene a public meeting by providing at least 24 hours prior notice on the commission's website, and any other means as provided in the commission's rules, for any of the reasons it may dispense with notice of proposed rulemaking under section 9.L.

3. The commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting or non-public part of a public meeting to receive legal advice or to discuss:

a. Non-compliance of a participating state with its obligations under this compact;

b. The employment, compensation, discipline, or other matters, practices or procedures related to specific employees or other matters related to the commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;

c. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation;

d. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or sale of goods, services, or real estate;

e. Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;

f. Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential;

g. Disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

h. Disclosure of investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes;

i. Disclosure of information related to any investigative reports prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the commission or other committee charged with responsibility of investigation or determination of compliance issues pursuant to this compact;

j. Legal advice; or

k. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or participating states' statutes.

4. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this provision, the chair of the meeting or the chair's designee shall certify that the meeting or portion of the meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision.

5. The commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, including a description of the views expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release by a majority vote of the commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

E. Financing of the commission.

1. The commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.

2. The commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources, donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services.

3. The commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each participating state and may impose compact privilege fees on licensees of participating states to whom a compact privilege is granted to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the commission and its staff, which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved by the commission each year for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount levied on participating states shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by commission rule.

a. A compact privilege expires when the licensee's qualifying license in the participating state from which the licensee applied for the compact privilege expires.

b. If the licensee terminates the qualifying license through which the licensee applied for the compact privilege before its scheduled expiration, and the licensee has a qualifying license in another participating state, the licensee shall inform the commission that it is changing to that participating state the participating state through which it applies for a compact privilege and pay to the commission any compact privilege fee required by commission rule.

4. The commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the commission pledge the credit of any of the participating states, except by and with the authority of the participating state.

5. The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be subject to the financial review and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. All receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be subject to an annual financial review by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of the financial review shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the commission.

F. The executive committee.

1. The executive committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the commission according to the terms of this compact and commission rules.

2. The executive committee shall be composed of 9 members:

a. Seven voting members who are elected by the commission from the current membership of the commission;

b. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from a recognized national PA professional association; and

c. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from a recognized national PA certification organization.

3. The ex-officio members will be selected by their respective organizations.

4. The commission may remove any member of the executive committee as provided in its bylaws.

5. The executive committee shall meet at least annually.

6. The executive committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

a. Recommend to the commission changes to the commission's rules or bylaws, changes to this compact legislation, fees to be paid by compact participating states such as annual dues, and any commission compact fee charged to licensees for the compact privilege;

b. Ensure compact administration services are appropriately provided, contractual or otherwise;

c. Prepare and recommend the budget;

d. Maintain financial records on behalf of the commission;

e. Monitor compact compliance of participating states and provide compliance reports to the commission;

f. Establish additional committees as necessary;

g. Exercise the powers and duties of the commission during the interim between commission meetings, except for issuing proposed rulemaking or adopting commission rules or bylaws, or exercising any other powers and duties exclusively reserved to the commission by the commission's rules; and

h. Perform other duties as provided in the commission's rules or bylaws.

7. All meeting of the executive committee at which it votes or plans to vote on matters in exercising the powers and duties of the commission shall be open to the public and public notice of such meetings shall be given as public meetings of the commission are given.

8. The executive committee may convene in a closed, non-public meeting for the same reasons that the commission may convene in a non-public meeting as set forth in section 7.D 3 and shall announce the closed meeting as the commission is required to under section 7.D.4 and keep minutes of the closed meeting as the commission is required to under section 7.D.5.

G. Qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification.

1. The members, officers, executive director, employees, and representatives of the commission shall be immune from suit and liability, both personally and in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person. The procurement of insurance of any type by the commission shall not in any way compromise or limit the immunity granted hereunder.

2. The commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, employee, and representative of the commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or as determined by the commission that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining their own counsel at their own expense; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

3. The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, executive director, employee, and representative of the commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

4. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the commission is located. The commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses in any proceedings as authorized by commission rules.

5. Nothing herein shall be construed as a limitation on the liability of any licensee for professional malpractice or misconduct, which shall be governed solely by any other applicable state laws.

6. Nothing herein shall be construed to designate the venue or jurisdiction to bring actions for alleged acts of malpractice, professional misconduct, negligence, or other such civil action pertaining to the practice of a PA. All such matters shall be determined exclusively by state law other than this compact.

7. Nothing in this compact shall be interpreted to waive or otherwise abrogate a participating state's state action immunity or state action affirmative defense with respect to antitrust claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, or any other state or federal antitrust or anticompetitive law or regulation.

8. Nothing in this compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign immunity by the participating states or by the commission.

Section 8. Data System.

A. The commission shall provide for the development, maintenance, operation, and utilization of a coordinated data and reporting system containing licensure, adverse action, and the reporting of the existence of significant investigative information on all licensed PAs and applicants denied a license in participating states.

B. Notwithstanding any other state law to the contrary, a participating state shall submit a uniform data set to the data system on all PAs to whom this compact is applicable (utilizing a unique identifier) as required by the rules of the commission, including:

1. Identifying information;

2. Licensure data;

3. Adverse actions against a license or compact privilege;

4. Any denial of application for licensure, and the reason(s) for such denial (excluding the reporting of any criminal history record information where prohibited by law);

5. The existence of significant investigative information; and

6. Other information that may facilitate the administration of this compact, as determined by the rules of the commission.

C. Significant investigative information pertaining to a licensee in any participating state shall only be available to other participating states.

D. The commission shall promptly notify all participating states of any adverse action taken against a licensee or an individual applying for a license that has been reported to it. This adverse action information shall be available to any other participating state.

E. Participating states contributing information to the data system may, in accordance with state or federal law, designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the contributing state. Notwithstanding any such designation, such information shall be reported to the commission through the data system.

F. Any information submitted to the data system that is subsequently expunged pursuant to federal law or the laws of the participating state contributing the information shall be removed from the data system upon reporting of such by the participating state to the commission.

G. The records and information provided to a participating state pursuant to this compact or through the data system, when certified by the commission or an agent thereof, shall constitute the authenticated business records of the commission, and shall be entitled to any associated hearsay exception in any relevant judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative proceedings in a participating state.

Section 9. Rulemaking.

A. The commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this section and the rules adopted thereunder. Commission rules shall become binding as of the date specified by the commission for each rule.

B. The commission shall promulgate reasonable rules in order to effectively and efficiently implement and administer this compact and achieve its purposes. A commission rule shall be invalid and have not force or effect only if a court of competent jurisdiction holds that the rule is invalid because the commission exercised its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope of the purposes of this compact, or the powers granted hereunder, or based upon another applicable standard of review.

C. The rules of the commission shall have the force of law in each participating state, provided however that where the rules of the commission conflict with the laws of the participating state that establish the medical services a PA may perform in the participating state, as held by a court of competent jurisdiction, the rules of the commission shall be ineffective in that state to the extent of the conflict.

D. If a majority of the legislatures of the participating states rejects a commission rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt this compact within 4 years of the date of adoption of the rule, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any participating state or to any state applying to participate in the compact.

E. Commission rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the commission.

F. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or rules by the commission, and at least 30 days in advance of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and voted upon, the commission shall file a notice of proposed rulemaking:

1. On the website of the commission or other publicly accessible platform; and

2. To persons who have requested notice of the commission's notices of proposed rulemaking, and

3. In such other way(s) as the commission may by rule specify.

G. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

1. The time, date, and location of the public hearing on the proposed rule and the proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in which the proposed rule will be considered and voted upon;

2. The text of the proposed rule and the reason for the proposed rule;

3. A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person and the date by which written comments must be received; and

4. The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the commission of their intention to attend the public hearing or provide any written comments.

H. Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the commission shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions, and arguments, which shall be made available to the public.

I. If the hearing is to be held via electronic means, the commission shall publish the mechanism for access to the electronic hearing.

1. All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall as directed in the notice of proposed rulemaking, not less than 5 business days before the scheduled date of the hearing, notify the commission of their desire to appear and testify at the hearing.

2. Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in writing.

3. All hearings shall be recorded. A copy of the recording and the written comments, data, facts, opinions, and arguments received in response to the proposed rulemaking shall be made available to a person upon request.

4. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each proposed rule. Proposed rules may be grouped for the convenience of the commission at hearings required by this section.

J. Following the public hearing the commission shall consider all written and oral comments timely received.

K. The commission shall, by majority vote of all delegates, take final action on the proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the rule, if adopted, based on the rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

1. If adopted, the rule shall be posted on the commission's website.

2. The commission may adopt changes to the proposed rule provided the changes do not enlarge the original purpose of the proposed rule.

3. The commission shall provide on its website an explanation of the reasons for substantive changes made to the proposed rule as well as reasons for substantive changes not made that were recommended by commenters.

4. The commission shall determine a reasonable effective date for the rule. Except for an emergency as provided in subsection L, the effective date of the rule shall be no sooner than 30 days after the commission issued the notice that it adopted the rule.

L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule with 24 hours prior notice, without the opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in this compact and in this section shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than 90 days after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted immediately by the commission in order to:

1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare;

2. Prevent a loss of commission or participating state funds;

3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of a commission rule that is established by federal law or rule; or

4. Protect public health and safety.

M. The commission or an authorized committee of the commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted commission rule for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of 30 days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made as set forth in the notice of revisions and delivered to the commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the approval of the commission.

N. No participating state's rulemaking requirements shall apply under this compact.

Section 10. Oversight, Dispute Resolution, and Enforcement.

A. Oversight.

1. The executive and judicial branches of state government in each participating state shall enforce this compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to implement the compact.

2. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the commission is located. The commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Nothing herein shall affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue in any action against a licensee for professional malpractice, misconduct or any such similar matter.

3. The commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the compact or the commission's rules and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide the commission with service of process shall render a judgment or order in such proceeding void as to the commission, this compact, or commission rules.

B. Default, technical assistance, and termination.

1. If the commission determines that a participating state has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact or the commission rules, the commission shall provide written notice to the defaulting state and other participating states. The notice shall describe the default, the proposed means of curing the default and any other action that the commission may take and shall offer remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.

2. If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting state may be terminated from this compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates of the participating states, and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred by this compact upon such state may be terminated on the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.

3. Termination of participation in this compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and to the licensing board(s) of each of the participating states.

4. A state that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations that extend beyond the effective date of termination.

5. The commission shall not bear any costs related to a state that is found to be in default or that has been terminated from this compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the commission and the defaulting state.

6. The defaulting state may appeal its termination from the compact by the commission by petitioning the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the commission has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

7. Upon the termination of a state's participation in the compact, the state shall immediately provide notice to all licensees within that state of such termination:

a. Licensees who have been granted a compact privilege in that state shall retain the compact privilege for 180 days following the effective date of such termination.

b. Licensees who are licensed in that state who have been granted a compact privilege in a participating state shall retain the compact privilege for 180 days unless the licensee also has a qualifying license in a participating state or obtains a qualifying license in a participating state before the 180-day period ends, in which case the compact privilege shall continue.

C. Dispute resolution.

1. Upon request by a participating state, the commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to this compact that arise among participating states and between participating and non-participating states.

2. The commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

D. Enforcement.

1. The commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions of this compact and rules of the commission.

2. If compliance is not secured after all means to secure compliance have been exhausted, by majority vote, the commission may initiate legal action in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the commission has its principal offices, against a participating state in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of this compact and the commission's promulgated rules and bylaws. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

3. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the commission. The commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or state law.

E. Legal action against the commission.

1. A participating state may initiate legal action against the commission in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the commission has its principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact and its rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

2. No person other than a participating state shall enforce this compact against the commission.

Section 11. Date of Implementation of the PA Licensure Compact Commission.

A. This compact shall come into effect on the date on which this compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh participating state.

1. On or after the effective date of the compact, the commission shall convene and review the enactment of each of the states that enacted the compact prior to the commission convening ("charter participating states") to determine if the statute enacted by each such charter participating state is materially different than the model compact.

a. A charter participating state whose enactment is found to be materially different from the model compact shall be entitled to the default process set forth in section 10.B.

b. If any participating state later withdraws from the compact or its participation is terminated, the commission shall remain in existence and the compact shall remain in effect even if the number of participating states should be less than 7. Participating states enacting the compact subsequent to the commission convening shall be subject to the process set forth in section 7.C.21 to determine if their enactments are materially different from the model compact and whether they qualify for participation in the compact.

2. Participating states enacting the compact subsequent to the 7 initial charter participating states shall be subject to the process set forth in section 7.C.21 to determine if their enactments are materially different from the model compact and whether they qualify for participation in the compact.

3. All actions taken for the benefit of the commission or in furtherance of the purposes of the administration of the compact prior to the effective date of the compact or the commission coming into existence shall be considered to be actions of the commission unless specifically repudiated by the commission.

B. Any state that joins this compact shall be subject to the commission's rules and bylaws as they exist on the date on which this compact becomes law in that state. Any rule that has been previously adopted by the commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day this compact becomes law in that state.

C. Any participating state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the same.

1. A participating state's withdrawal shall not take effect until 180 days after enactment of the repealing statute. During this 180-day period, all compact privileges that were in effect in the withdrawing state and were granted to licensees licensed in the withdrawing state shall remain in effect. If any licensee licensed in the withdrawing state is also licensed in another participating state or obtains a license in another participating state within the 180 days, the licensee's compact privileges in other participating states shall not be affected by the passage of the 180 days.

2. Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the state licensing boards of the withdrawing state to comply with the investigative, and adverse action reporting requirements of this compact prior to the effective date of withdrawal.

3. Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing a state from this compact, the state shall immediately provide notice of such withdrawal to all licensees within that state. Such withdrawing state shall continue to recognize all licenses granted pursuant to this compact for a minimum of 180 days after the date of such notice of withdrawal.

D. Nothing contained in this compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any PA licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between participating states and between a participating state and non-participating state that does not conflict with the provisions of this compact.

E. This compact may be amended by the participating states. No amendment to this compact shall become effective and binding upon any participating state until it is enacted materially in the same manner into the laws of all participating states as determined by the commission.

Section 12. Construction and Severability.

A. This compact and the commission's rulemaking authority shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes, and the implementation and administration of the compact. Provisions of the compact expressly authorizing or requiring the promulgation of rules shall not be construed to limit the commission's rulemaking authority solely for those purposes.

B. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this compact is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to the constitution of any participating state, a state seeking participation in the compact, or of the United States, or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this compact and the applicability thereof to any other government, agency, person, or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

C. Notwithstanding subsection B or this section, the commission may deny a state's participation in the compact or, in accordance with the requirements of section 10.B, terminate a participating state's participation in the compact, if it determines that a constitutional requirement of a participating state is, or would be with respect to a state seeking to participate in the compact, a material departure from the compact. Otherwise, if this compact shall be held to be contrary to the constitution of any participating state, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining participating states and in full force and effect as to the participating state affected as to all severable matters.

Section 13. Binding Effect of Compact.

A. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law of a participating state that is not inconsistent with this compact.

B. Any laws in a participating state in conflict with this compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.

C. All agreements between the commission and the participating states are binding in accordance with their terms.

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

2026-1916s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Permits licensed health care providers to administer ibogaine under the framework of an FDA-approved research protocol.

II. Adopts the PA licensure compact.

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.

JUDICIARY
HB 1356-FN, relative to the statute of limitations for bringing a private right of action for violation of the statute prohibiting medical procedures and treatments intended to alter a minor's gender.
Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senator Ward offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Carson, Dist 14
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
Sen. Ward, Dist 8
May 13, 2026
2026-1940s
07/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1356-FN

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

AN ACT relative to the statute of limitations for bringing a private right of action for violation of the statute prohibiting medical procedures and treatments intended to alter a minor's gender, authorizing the application of sunscreen in schools and camps without a licensed health care provider's note or prescription, and establishing a skin cancer prevention education program.

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

2 Findings and Purpose. With respect to sections 2-5 of this act, the general court finds that:

I. Many children are exposed to ultraviolet (UV) radiation due to suboptimal sunscreen use and high rates of sunburning, and therefore at risk of excessive UV exposure which could lead to skin cancer development. It is a high priority to ensure that children can use sunscreen and sun-protective clothing when outdoors.

II. News outlets have reported that some schools do not allow children to bring or use sunscreen without a prescription due to "medication bans" and fears of legal ramifications.

III. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention believes that school policies that prohibit hats or student possession of sunscreen can create barriers to the use of important sun protection methods.

IV. The United States Preventive Services Task Force recommends educating children, adolescents, and young adults on the dangers of sun exposure to reduce the risk of skin cancer.

V. It is in public interest that schools set policies that include education on sun exposure and encourage our youth to use sun protection, including sunscreen and sun-protective clothing.

3 New Subdivision; Pupil Use of Sunscreen for Skin Cancer Prevention. Amend RSA 200 by inserting after section 47 the following new subdivision:

Pupil Use of Sunscreen for Skin Cancer Prevention

200:47-a Application.

I. A pupil may possess and use a topical sunscreen product while on school property or at a school-sponsored event or activity without a licensed health care provider's note or prescription if the product is regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter use for the purpose of limiting ultraviolet light-induced skin damage.

II. Any pupil who is unable to self-apply sunscreen in accordance with this section may have assistance provided in applying a topical sunscreen product. This assistance shall be provided by appropriate school personnel only with the permission of a pupil's parent or guardian.

III. School personnel shall not be held liable in a criminal action or for civil damages for application of a topical sunscreen product if the topical sunscreen product is available to and used by the pupil in accordance with this section.

IV. Each school shall allow for outdoor use articles of sun-protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats and sunglasses. Schools may set a policy related to the type of sun-protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats, and sunglasses that will be allowed to be used outdoors pursuant to paragraph IV. Specific clothing, hats and sunglasses, determined by school personnel to be inappropriate apparel may be prohibited by the dress code policy.

200:47-b Sun-Safe Education. All public schools may incorporate instruction in the common school grades utilizing existing, free resources on skin cancer prevention as approved by the state board of education. The instruction shall be provided in an age appropriate manner and shall include the following components:

I. The basic facts about skin cancer, including the negative impact of human exposure to ultraviolet radiation obtained through sunburns and indoor tanning; and

II. A comprehensive set of strategies and behaviors to reduce the risk of contracting skin cancer, including the use of sunscreen and sun-protective clothing.

4 New Section; Possession and Use of Sunscreen at Recreation Camps. Amend RSA 170-E by inserting after section 62 the following new section:

170-E:62-a Possession and Use of Sunscreen at Recreation Camps.

I. A participant in a recreation camp may possess and use a topical sunscreen product while attending such camp without a licensed health care provider's note or prescription if the product is regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter use for the purpose of limiting ultraviolet light-induced skin damage.

II. Any participant in a recreation camp who is unable to self-apply sunscreen in accordance with this section may have assistance provided in applying a topical sunscreen product. This assistance shall be provided by appropriate recreation camp personnel only with the permission of a recreation camp participant's parent or guardian.

III. Recreation camp personnel shall not be held liable in a criminal action or for civil damages for application of a topical sunscreen product if the topical sunscreen product is available to and used by the recreation camp participant in accordance with this section.

IV. Each recreational camp shall allow for outdoor use articles of sun protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats and sunglasses. Recreational camps may set a policy related to the type of sun-protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats and sunglasses, that will be allowed to be used outdoors pursuant to paragraph IV. Specific clothing, hats, and sunglasses determined by recreational camp personnel to be inappropriate apparel may be prohibited by the dress code policy.

5 New Paragraph; Sun Safe Education Materials. Amend RSA 186:11 by inserting after paragraph XXXVII the following new paragraph:

XXXVIII. Sun-Safe Education. Approve of materials and resources for the instruction of sun-safe education in public schools pursuant to RSA 200:47-b.

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

2026-1940s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Extends the time period to file a claim for violation of the prohibition on medical procedures intended to change a minor's gender from 2 years to 10 years from the date the minor reaches the age of majority.

II. Permits the self-application of sunscreen by children in schools and camps without the requirement of a prescription or a licensed health care provider's note.

III. Authorizes specific school and camp personnel to apply sunscreen to a child with permission of the child's parent or guardian.

IV. Establishes a skin cancer prevention education program in public schools.

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.

HB 1365, relative to applications for licenses to carry a loaded pistol or revolver.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Judiciary
April 16, 2026
2026-1543s
12/09

Amendment to HB 1365

Amend RSA 159:6, I(b) as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(b) The license shall be in duplicate and shall bear the name, address, description, and signature of the licensee and the name, title, and signature of the person issuing the license. The original shall be delivered to the licensee and the duplicate shall be preserved by the people issuing the same for 5 years. When required, license renewal shall take place within the month of the fifth anniversary of the license holder's date of birth following the date of issuance. The license shall be issued within 14 days after application, and, if such application is denied, the reason for such denial shall be stated in writing, the original of which such writing shall be delivered to the applicant, and a copy kept in the office of the person to whom the application was made. The fee for licenses issued to residents of the state shall be $10, which fee shall be for the use of the town or city granting said licenses; the fee for licenses granted to out-of-state residents shall be $100, which fee shall be for the use of the state. The director of state police is hereby authorized and directed to prepare forms for the licenses required under this chapter and forms for the application for such licenses and to supply the same to officials of the cities and towns authorized to issue the licenses. The form shall require no more information than was required on the state of New Hampshire application for pistol/revolver license, form DSSP 85, as revised in [~~December 2009~~] ***March 2017***. ***The form shall not request or require disclosure of the applicant's occupation, present employer, employer's address, or personal references. The form shall not contain any consent or release language requiring the applicant to authorize disclosure of personal, employment, medical, psychiatric, or other records beyond what is expressly required on the state of New Hampshire application for pistol/revolver license, form DSSP 85, as revised in March 2017.*** No other forms shall be used by officials of cities and towns. The cost of the forms shall be paid out of the fees received from nonresident licenses.

2026-1543s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits pistol/revolver license application forms from requesting employment, personal references, or record disclosure information beyond what was required on the March 2017 version of form DSSP 85. This bill also updates the statute to reflect the released DSSP 85 form as of March 2017, and removes the prior reference to the version of the form from December 2009.

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

Senator Rochefort offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Rochefort, Dist 1
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
Sen. Watters, Dist 4
May 13, 2026
2026-1947s
08/07

Floor Amendment to HB 1365

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

AN ACT relative to applications for licenses to carry a loaded pistol or revolver, relative to the composition of the board of dental examiners, and relative to membership of the governor's commission on addiction, treatment, and prevention.

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

3 Dentists and Dentistry; Examining Board; Membership. Amend RSA 317-A:2, I to read as follows:

I. There shall be a board of dental examiners consisting of 9 members**,** [~~;~~] including 6 dentists, 2 dental hygienists, and one public member, each to be appointed by the governor, with the approval of the council, to a term of 5 years. One dentist member shall have a current permit to administer general anesthesia and deep sedation***, and one dentist member shall be a general dentist***. No member of the board shall be appointed to more than 2 consecutive terms. Only board members provided for in this paragraph shall have the authority to vote in board determinations.

4 Governor's Commission on Addiction, Treatment, and Prevention; Membership. Amend RSA 12-J:1, I to read as follows:

I. [~~Seven~~] ***Nine*** public members, 2 of whom shall be professionals knowledgeable about alcohol and other drug misuse prevention, one of whom shall be appointed by the governor and one of whom shall be appointed by the senate president; 2 of whom shall be professionals knowledgeable about alcohol and other drug misuse treatment including reduction of societal and individual harm, one of whom shall be appointed by the governor and one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; 2 of whom shall be public members who are not professionals within the alcohol and drug misuse prevention and treatment system, one of whom shall be appointed by the senate president and one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; ***one member with expertise in gaming addiction, appointed by the governor,*** and [~~one member~~] ***2 members*** in long-term recovery, appointed by the governor.

5 Governor's Commission on Addiction, Treatment, and Prevention; Membership. Amend RSA 12-J:1, IV(b) to read as follows:

(b) A representative of the state's faith-based community, [~~who shall be a nonvoting member,~~] appointed by the governor.

6 Effective Date.

I. Sections 1-2 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

II. Section 3 of this act shall take effect September 1, 2026.

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

2026-1947s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Prohibits pistol/revolver license application forms from requesting employment, personal references, or record disclosure information beyond what was required on the March 2017 version of form DSSP 85. This bill also updates the statute to reflect the released DSSP 85 form as of March 2017, and removes the prior reference to the version of the form from December 2009.

II. Mandates that one member of the board of dental examiners be a general dentist.

III. Adds 2 public members to the governor's commission on addiction, treatment, and prevention, one with expertise in gaming addiction and one in long-term recovery. The bill also makes the representative of the state's faith-based community a voting member of the commission.

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.

HB 1384, relative to prohibiting foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2. Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senate Judiciary
May 12, 2026
2026-1911s
07/09

Amendment to HB 1384

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

AN ACT relative to prohibiting foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits.

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

1 New Chapter; New Hampshire Third-Party Litigation Funding Transparency Act. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 294-E the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 294-F
NEW HAMPSHIRE THIRD-PARTY LITIGATION FUNDING TRANSPARENCY ACT

294-F:1 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. "Commercial litigation financier" means a person in the business of entering into commercial litigation financing agreements or lawyer financing agreements. The term "commercial litigation financier" shall not include a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income tax under 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code or its funders if the nonprofit organization represents the claimant on a pro bono basis, which may include an award of costs or attorney fees to the nonprofit organization or a related attorney.

II. "Consumer legal funding agreement" means a non-recourse transaction in which a consumer litigation funding company purchases, and a consumer assigns to the company, a contingent right to receive an amount of the potential proceeds of a settlement, judgment, award, or verdict obtained in the consumer's legal claim.

III. "Commercial litigation financing agreement" means, with respect to any civil action or group of civil actions, a written agreement:

(a) Whereby a third party agrees to provide funds to one of the named parties or any law firm affiliated with the action or group of actions; and

(b) Which creates a direct or collateralized interest in the proceeds of a civil action or group of civil actions, by settlement, verdict, judgment, or otherwise, where such interest is based in whole or in part on a funding obligation to the funded party in the action or group of actions.

(1) "Commercial litigation financing agreement" shall include any contract, including any option, forward contract, futures contract, short position, swap, or similar contract, or other agreement that is substantially similar to a litigation financing agreement.

(2) "Commercial litigation financing agreement" shall not include:

(A) A consumer legal funding agreement;

(B) An agreement by an attorney or law firm to provide legal services on a contingency fee basis to the claimant or to advance the claimant's legal costs in accordance with the New Hampshire rules of professional conduct;

(C) A health insurer, medical provider, or assignee that has paid, is obligated to pay, or is owed any sums for a person's health care under the terms of a health insurance plan or agreement;

(D) A financial institution providing loans to the claimant or the claimant's attorney or law firm when repayment is not contingent upon the outcome of the legal claim or on the outcome of any matter within a portfolio that includes the legal claim and involves the same attorney or law firm or affiliated attorney or law firm; or

(E) A person with a preexisting contractual obligation to indemnify or defend a party to a legal claim.

IV. "Foreign country of concern" means a foreign government or person listed as a "foreign adversary" under 15 C.F.R. 791.4.

V. "Foreign entity of concern" or "foreign person of concern" means an entity or person that:

(a) Is organized or incorporated in a foreign country of concern;

(b) Is owned or controlled by the government, a political subdivision, or a political party of a foreign country of concern;

(c) Has its principal place of business in a foreign country of concern; or

(d) Is owned, organized, or controlled by, affiliated with, or acting on behalf of an individual or entity that is or has been:

(1) On a sanctions list maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control, including:

(A) Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List);

(B) Foreign Sanctions Evaders List;

(C) Non-SDN Iran Sanctions Act List;

(D) Sectoral Sanctions Identifications List; or

(E) List of Foreign Financial Institutions Subject to Correspondent Account and Payable-Through Account Sanctions; or

(2) Designated by the United States Secretary of State as a foreign terrorist organization.

294-F:2 Prohibitions Related to Commercial Litigation Funding. No person or entity shall enter into a commercial litigation financing agreement with, or into an agreement funded directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, by a foreign entity of concern or a foreign country or person of concern, or any entity controlled by any of the foregoing persons or entities.

294-F:3 Applicability. This chapter shall apply to any commercial litigation financing agreement that is effectuated on or after the effective date of this chapter.

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

2026-1911s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits.

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

Senator Birdsell offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 12, 2026
2026-1928s
07/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1384

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

AN ACT relative to prohibiting foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits, prohibiting foreign principals from registering as lobbyists, and requires certain disclosures for persons acting on behalf of foreign principals.

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

2 Lobbyists; Registration. Amend RSA 15:1, I to read as follows:

I. Any person who is employed for a consideration by any other person, except the state of New Hampshire, in a representative capacity for the purposes specified in paragraph II of this section shall first register as a lobbyist with the secretary of state through the secretary of state's online lobbyist filing system. Each registration shall report the existence of a relationship between a single client and either a single lobbyist or a partnership, firm, or corporation with one or more partners, members, or employees of a firm acting as lobbyist. ***The registration shall state whether the client is a foreign principal as defined in RSA 477:22-b, and, if so, the name of the foreign country of concern as defined in RSA 477:22-b.***

3 New Paragraphs; Lobbyists; Registration. Amend RSA 15:1 by inserting after paragraph VI the following new paragraphs:

VII. A foreign principal, as defined in RSA 477:22-b, may not register as a lobbyist in the state of New Hampshire.

VIII. Any person registered under this chapter who appears before a legislative committee or other public hearing on behalf of a foreign principal, as defined by RSA 477:22-b, shall:

(a) Identify themselves for the record; and

(b) Disclose that they are registered as a lobbyist on behalf of a foreign principal or foreign country of concern.

IX. The secretary of state shall provide an annual report to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor listing anyone registered as a lobbyist in the state of New Hampshire for a foreign principal, as defined in RSA 477:22-b, and shall include the names of the relevant foreign countries of concern, as defined in RSA 477:22-b, represented.

4 Lobbyists; Statements. Amend RSA 15:6, V(d) to read as follows:

(d) For each lobbying client, the full name and business address of the client, the scope of the representation or lobbyist services being paid for, the gross amount of all fees received from that client, not reduced by any expenses, that are related, directly or indirectly, to lobbying, such as public advocacy, government relations, or public relations services including research, monitoring legislation, and related legal work, a statement of the aggregate total of fees received that are related, directly or indirectly, to lobbying services during the calendar year, and a statement of any fee payment due, but not yet paid. ***If the client is a foreign principal as defined in RSA 477:22-b, the statement shall clearly indicate this status and the name of the foreign country of concern as defined in RSA 477:22-b.***

5 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 2027.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

2026-1928s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits, prohibits foreign principals from registering as lobbyists, and requires certain disclosures for persons acting on behalf of foreign principals.

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.

HB 1416, prohibits certain government regulations regarding pregnancy resource centers in connection with abortion and contraception service offerings.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Judiciary
May 12, 2026
2026-1912s
07/09

Amendment to HB 1416

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

AN ACT establishing a committee to study what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.

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

1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.

2 Membership and Compensation.

I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

(a) Two members of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party, appointed by the president of the senate.

(b) Three members of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the committee.

3 Duties. The committee shall:

I. Determine what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.

II. Solicit testimony from the attorney general's office to determine whether there have been substantiated complaints by pregnancy resource centers alleging violations of the First Amendment.

III. Identify current state and federal law related to pregnancy resource centers, including relevant United States Supreme Court cases, and determine what First Amendment protections currently exist for pregnancy resource centers in New Hampshire.

IV. Determine if there are gaps in First Amendment protections for pregnancy resource centers in New Hampshire.

4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2026.

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

2026-1912s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.

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 1423-FN, relative to the offense of improper influence.
Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2. Senator Gannon for the committee.

Senator Abbas offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Abbas, Dist 22
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 14, 2026
2026-1976s
07/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1423-FN

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

AN ACT relative to the offense of improper influence and making synthetic and semisynthetic kratom illegal to prepare, distribute, manufacture, sell, possess, or advertise, with exceptions made for scientific research.

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

2 Severability. If any provision of section 1 of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

3 New Subdivision; Synthetic Kratom Policy. Amend RSA 318-B by inserting after section 50 the following new subdivision:

Synthetic Kratom Policy

318-B:51 Definitions. In this subdivision, “synthetic kratom” or “semisynthetic kratom” means:

I. An alkaloid or alkaloid derivative that has been created by chemical synthesis or biosynthetic means, including fermentation, recombinant techniques, yeast derived, and enzymatic techniques, rather than traditional food preparation techniques, such as heating or extracting that synthetically alters the composition of any kratom alkaloid or constituent; or

II. An alkaloid or alkaloid derivative contained in kratom that has been exposed to chemicals or processes that would confer a structural change in the alkaloids, resulting in material that has been chemically altered.

318-B:52 Synthetic Kratom Limitations. No person or entity person shall prepare, distribute, manufacture, sell, possess, or advertise synthetic or semisynthetic kratom, unless such preparation, distribution, manufacturing, sale, possession, or advertisement is undertaken for the sole purpose of scientific research.

4 New Paragraph; Controlled Drug Act; Scheduling by the Commissioner. Amend RSA 318-B:1-a by inserting after paragraph VIII the following new paragraph:

IX. Notwithstanding paragraph I, synthetic or semisynthetic kratom shall be classified as a schedule II controlled drug.

5 Effective Date.

I. Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

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

2026-1976s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Expands the offense of improper influence to include threats to immediate family members of a public servant, party official, or voter and provides mandatory minimum penalties for the certain violations of the offense.

II. Makes synthetic and semisynthetic kratom illegal to prepare, distribute, manufacture, sell, possess, or advertise, with exceptions made for scientific research.

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.

HB 1709-FN, prohibiting certain unlawfully present felons from occupying or renting real property.
Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senator Birdsell offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 13, 2026
2026-1939s
04/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1709-FN

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

AN ACT prohibiting certain unlawfully present felons from occupying or renting real property and relative to pet vendor foster homes and defining pet vendor foster facility.

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

2 New Paragraphs; Pet Vendor Foster Home; Definition. Amend RSA 437:1 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraphs:

VI. "Pet vendor foster home" means a private residence in New Hampshire associated with and inspected by a pet vendor licensed under RSA 437:3 that is used to provide temporary physical custody and care at such private residence for the pet vendor's animals, including, but not limited to, pregnant or lactating animals, when it is deemed to be in the best interests of that animal's health, safety and wellbeing as determined by a New Hampshire licensed veterinarian.

VII. "Pet vendor foster facility" means a facility in New Hampshire that may house animals owned and inspected by a pet vendor licensed under RSA 437:1 that is used to provide temporary physical custody and care at such facility for medical or behavioral rehabilitation when it is deemed to be in the best interest of the animal's health, safety, and wellbeing as determined by a New Hampshire licensed veterinarian.

3 New Paragraphs; Sale Of Pets And Disposition Of Unclaimed Animals; Transfer of Animals and Birds; Requirements. Amend RSA 437:3 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraphs:

VI. A pet vendor shall report, at least annually and updated as necessary, on all pet vendor foster homes associated with the pet vendor to the department of agriculture, markets, and food to ensure compliance with licensure, animal inventory, and applicable pet limit requirements, as established by department rules pursuant to RSA 541-A.

VII. Information contained in such pet vendor foster home listings shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public disclosure in accordance with RSA 436:6-a and RSA 91-A.

4 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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

2026-1939s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Prohibits certain unlawfully present aliens with prior felony convictions from occupying or renting real property and authorizes sheriffs to arrest such individuals during service of a writ of possession.

II. Includes a determination of the best interest of the animal in the definition of pet vendor foster home.

III. Defines a pet vendor foster facility.

IV. Requires all pet vendors to annually report on associated pet vendor foster homes to the department of agriculture, markets, and food to ensure compliance with licensure, animal inventory, and applicable pet limit requirements.

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

Senator Pearl offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Pearl, Dist 17
May 14, 2026
2026-1978s
04/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1709-FN

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

AN ACT prohibiting certain unlawfully present felons from occupying or renting real property and providing procedures for the potential confiscation of livestock involved in cruelty to animal cases.

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

2 Cruelty to Animals. Amend RSA 644:8, IV(a)(1) to read as follows:

IV.(a)(1) Any person charged with animal cruelty under paragraphs III or III-a may have his or her animals***, except for livestock,*** confiscated by the arresting officer. ***The confiscation of livestock shall be governed by paragraph IV-b.***

3 Cruelty to Animals. Amend RSA 644:8, IV-a(a) to read as follows:

IV-a.(a) Except as provided in subparagraphs (b) and (c) any appropriate law enforcement officer, animal control officer, or officer of a duly licensed humane society may take into temporary protective custody any animal***, except for livestock, which shall be governed by paragraph IV-b,*** when there is probable cause to believe that it has been or is being abused or neglected in violation of paragraphs III or III-a when there is a clear and imminent danger to the animal's health or life and there is not sufficient time to obtain a court order. Such officer shall leave a written notice indicating the type and number of animals taken into protective custody, the name of the officer, the time and date taken, the reason it was taken, the procedure to have the animal returned and any other relevant information. Such notice shall be left at the location where the animal was taken into custody. The officer shall provide for proper care and housing of any animal taken into protective custody under this paragraph. If, after 7 days, the animal has not been returned or claimed, the officer shall petition the municipal or district court seeking either permanent custody or a one-week extension of custody or shall file charges under this section. If a week's extension is granted by the court and after a period of 14 days the animal remains unclaimed, the title and custody of the animal shall rest with the officer on behalf of the officer's department or society. The department or society may dispose of the animal in any lawful and humane manner as if it were the rightful owner. If after 14 days the officer or the officer's department determines that charges should be filed under this section, the officer shall petition the court.

4 New Paragraphs; Cruelty to Animals; Livestock. Amend RSA 644:8 by inserting after paragraph IV-a the following new paragraphs:

IV-b.(a) Any person charged with cruelty to animals under RSA 644:8 paragraphs III or III-a concerning livestock may have his or her livestock confiscated by the arresting officer. No animal shall be confiscated unless a person is charged under this section, except when there is probable cause to believe the livestock's life is in imminent danger. The investigating officer for a case involving livestock as defined in RSA 427:38, III shall be accompanied by the state veterinarian or designee, to include New Hampshire department of agriculture, markets, and food staff, or a licensed veterinarian, or other qualified staff from an animal shelter facility approved by the state veterinarian, in person or by video who shall determine whether there is probable cause to believe that the livestock should be confiscated. Livestock confiscated without a warrant where a charge has not been filed shall be returned within 10 days.

(b) The department of justice shall develop a form to be distributed to any person charged with cruelty to animals under RSA 644:8, paragraphs III or IIIa, concerning livestock. The form shall inform the person of their right to have the confiscated livestock examined by a veterinarian licensed under RSA 332B, chosen by the person charged, at the person's expense.

(c) Courts shall give cases in which livestock have been confiscated by an arresting officer priority on the court calendar, as outlined in RSA 644:8, IV(a)(3).

(d) Any person with proof of sole ownership or co-ownership of the livestock confiscated by an arresting officer in a livestock cruelty case and who is not a defendant or party of interest in the criminal case may petition the court for temporary custody of the livestock. The court shall give such person priority for temporary custody of the livestock if the court determines it is in the best interest of the livestock's health, safety, and wellbeing.

(e) No custodian of the livestock confiscated under this section shall spay or neuter or otherwise permanently alter the confiscated livestock in his or her custody pending final disposition of the court case unless a treating veterinarian deems such procedure necessary to save the life of the livestock or the owner of the livestock agrees in writing to the procedure or treatment. If the treating veterinarian believes that livestock which has been confiscated is in a state of suffering and that the cost to alleviate the suffering will exceed the amount of allowable reimbursement as set by Agr 3504.01(c)(8), unless the owner pays for the care, the animal shall be euthanized.

(f) Upon a person's conviction of cruelty to animals regarding livestock, the court shall dispose of the confiscated livestock in any manner it decides except in a case in which the confiscated livestock is owned or co-owned by persons other than the defendant. If the defendant does not have an ownership interest in the confiscated livestock, the court shall give priority to restoring full ownership rights to any person with proof of ownership if the court determines that such is in the best interest of the livestock's health, safety, and wellbeing. If the confiscated livestock is co-owned by the defendant, the court shall give priority to transferring the defendant's interest in the property to the remaining owner or co-owners equitably if the court determines that such is in the best interest of the livestock's health, safety, and wellbeing.

(g) The costs to provide the confiscated livestock with humane care and adequate and necessary veterinary services, if any, incurred in boarding and treating the livestock, pending disposition of the case, and in disposing of the livestock upon a conviction of said person for cruelty to animals regarding livestock, shall be borne by the person so convicted in accordance with rules adopted by the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

(h) Any donations raised using the stories or likenesses of the animals in protective custody shall be used to offset the cost of care of such animals.

IV-c.(a) Except as provided in RSA 644:8, IV(b), any appropriate law enforcement officer or municipal animal control officer may take into temporary protective custody any livestock when the owner or caretaker is not present and there is probable cause to believe that it has been or is being abused or neglected in violation of paragraphs III or III-a when there is a clear and imminent danger to the livestock's health or life and there is not sufficient time to obtain a court order. Such officer shall leave a written notice indicating the type and number of livestock taken into protective custody, the name of the officer, the time and date taken, the reason it was taken, the procedure to have the livestock returned and any other relevant information. Such notice shall be left at the location where the livestock was taken into custody. The officer shall provide for proper care and housing of any livestock taken into protective custody under this paragraph. For any livestock confiscated without a warrant where a charge has not been filed, the confiscated livestock shall be returned within 10 days. If, after 10 days, the livestock has not been returned or claimed, the officer shall petition the municipal or district court seeking either permanent custody or a one-week extension of custody or shall file charges under this section. If a week's extension is granted by the court and after a period of 14 days the livestock remains unclaimed, the title and custody of the livestock shall rest with the officer on behalf of the officer's department. The department may dispose of the livestock in any lawful and humane manner as if it were the rightful owner. If after 14 days the officer or the officer's department determines that charges should be filed under this section, the officer shall petition the court. An owner of livestock taken into protective custody shall have the right as referenced in subparagraph IV(b).

(b) For purposes of subparagraph (a) the investigating officer for livestock, as defined RSA 427:38, III, shall be accompanied by the state veterinarian or their designee in person or by video who shall set the probable cause criteria for taking the livestock.

(c) In cases where one or more lactating livestock is confiscated, proof shall be provided by the confiscating party to the attending veterinarian and the owner or caretaker that proper care and facilities shall be provided for adults and offspring. No lactating livestock shall be separated from its non-weaned offspring unless such separation is authorized by a licensed veterinarian.

(d) No person, other than the state veterinarian or their designee, or an employee of a government agency with jurisdiction to investigate violations of this section, and which is conducting an investigation under this section, may take part during any investigation into a complaint conducted pursuant to this section. No person who may be called upon to take custody of any livestock seized as a result of a complaint under this section may participate in the decision to seize any livestock. The act of making or forwarding a complaint does not make a person part of an investigation and does not render that person ineligible to take animals into custody.

(e) In order to protect the integrity of complaint investigations an appropriate law enforcement officer shall require any person or their designated agent called upon to take custody of any livestock seized or to assist during any complaint investigation, to sign a binding nondisclosure agreement intended to protect any shared or confidential information against unauthorized use pending final adjudication or dismissal of such complaint; provided that information may be disclosed only to officials with a need to know who are subject to confidentiality obligations.

(f) No custodian of livestock in temporary protective custody under this section shall spay or neuter or otherwise permanently alter the confiscated livestock in his or her custody pending final disposition of the court case unless a treating veterinarian deems such procedure necessary to save the life of the livestock or the owner of the livestock agrees in writing to the procedure or treatment. If the treating veterinarian believes that livestock which has been confiscated is in a state of suffering and that the cost to alleviate the suffering will exceed the amount of allowable reimbursement as set by Agr 3504.01(c)(8), unless the owner pays for the care or surrenders the animal outright or for care by an animal shelter facility, the animal shall be euthanized.

5 Veterinarian Assistant. Amend RSA 644:8, V to read as follows:

V. A veterinarian licensed to practice in the state ***and the state veterinarian or their designee*** shall be held harmless from either criminal or civil liability for any decisions made for services rendered under the provisions of this section or RSA 435:11-16. Such a veterinarian ***or designee*** is, therefore, under this paragraph, protected from a lawsuit for his ***or her*** part in an investigation of cruelty to animals.

6 State Veterinarian; Powers. Amend RSA 436:8 to read as follows:

436:8 Powers. The state veterinarian, under the direction of the commissioner, shall have all of the powers of the commissioner and shall have general charge of the enforcement of this chapter. Complaints under RSA 644:8, 644:8-a, 644:8-aa and any other law pertaining to the abuse of domestic animals, as defined under RSA 436:1, shall initially be filed with the local law enforcement agency, animal control officer, state police, or sheriff which has jurisdiction over where the animal is located or kept. At the request of the local law enforcement agency, animal control officer, state police, or sheriff, the state veterinarian shall assist in a secondary capacity in enforcing the provisions of and investigating said complaints. [~~In the event the commissioner becomes incapacitated or a vacancy occurs in the office, the state veterinarian shall perform all the duties of that office during any such incapacity or until any such vacancy is filled. The commissioner may direct the state veterinarian to act for him or her in an official capacity whenever he or she may be absent from his or her duties.~~]

7 Repeal. RSA 644:8, IV-a(b), relative to livestock confiscation, is repealed.

8 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

2026-1978s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Prohibits certain unlawfully present aliens with prior felony convictions from occupying or renting real property and authorizes sheriffs to arrest such individuals during service of a writ of possession.

II. Provides procedures for the potential confiscation of livestock involved in cruelty to animal cases.

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.

Recess. Out of recess.

MOTION OF RECONSIDERATION

Senator Birdsell, having voted on the prevailing side, moved to reconsider the following action taken by the body on HB 1384, relative to prohibiting foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits, prohibiting foreign principals from registering as lobbyists, and requires certain disclosures for persons acting on behalf of foreign principals.

1. Rescind order to Third Reading. 2. Reconsider the vote on Ought to Pass with Amendment. 3. Reconsider the vote on the adoption of Floor Amendment #2026-1928s 4. Reconsider the vote on the adoption of the Committee Amendment. Adopted.

Senate Judiciary
May 12, 2026
2026-1911s
07/09

Amendment to HB 1384

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

AN ACT relative to prohibiting foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits.

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

1 New Chapter; New Hampshire Third-Party Litigation Funding Transparency Act. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 294-E the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 294-F
NEW HAMPSHIRE THIRD-PARTY LITIGATION FUNDING TRANSPARENCY ACT

294-F:1 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. “Commercial litigation financier” means a person in the business of entering into commercial litigation financing agreements or lawyer financing agreements. The term “commercial litigation financier” shall not include a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income tax under 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code or its funders if the nonprofit organization represents the claimant on a pro bono basis, which may include an award of costs or attorney fees to the nonprofit organization or a related attorney.

II. “Consumer legal funding agreement” means a non-recourse transaction in which a consumer litigation funding company purchases, and a consumer assigns to the company, a contingent right to receive an amount of the potential proceeds of a settlement, judgment, award, or verdict obtained in the consumer’s legal claim.

III. “Commercial litigation financing agreement” means, with respect to any civil action or group of civil actions, a written agreement:

(a) Whereby a third party agrees to provide funds to one of the named parties or any law firm affiliated with the action or group of actions; and

(b) Which creates a direct or collateralized interest in the proceeds of a civil action or group of civil actions, by settlement, verdict, judgment, or otherwise, where such interest is based in whole or in part on a funding obligation to the funded party in the action or group of actions.

(1) “Commercial litigation financing agreement” shall include any contract, including any option, forward contract, futures contract, short position, swap, or similar contract, or other agreement that is substantially similar to a litigation financing agreement.

(2) “Commercial litigation financing agreement” shall not include:

(A) A consumer legal funding agreement;

(B) An agreement by an attorney or law firm to provide legal services on a contingency fee basis to the claimant or to advance the claimant’s legal costs in accordance with the New Hampshire rules of professional conduct;

(C) A health insurer, medical provider, or assignee that has paid, is obligated to pay, or is owed any sums for a person’s health care under the terms of a health insurance plan or agreement;

(D) A financial institution providing loans to the claimant or the claimant’s attorney or law firm when repayment is not contingent upon the outcome of the legal claim or on the outcome of any matter within a portfolio that includes the legal claim and involves the same attorney or law firm or affiliated attorney or law firm; or

(E) A person with a preexisting contractual obligation to indemnify or defend a party to a legal claim.

IV. “Foreign country of concern” means a foreign government or person listed as a “foreign adversary” under 15 C.F.R. 791.4.

V. “Foreign entity of concern” or “foreign person of concern” means an entity or person that:

(a) Is organized or incorporated in a foreign country of concern;

(b) Is owned or controlled by the government, a political subdivision, or a political party of a foreign country of concern;

(c) Has its principal place of business in a foreign country of concern; or

(d) Is owned, organized, or controlled by, affiliated with, or acting on behalf of an individual or entity that is or has been:

(1) On a sanctions list maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control, including:

(A) Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List);

(B) Foreign Sanctions Evaders List;

(C) Non-SDN Iran Sanctions Act List;

(D) Sectoral Sanctions Identifications List; or

(E) List of Foreign Financial Institutions Subject to Correspondent Account and Payable-Through Account Sanctions; or

(2) Designated by the United States Secretary of State as a foreign terrorist organization.

294-F:2 Prohibitions Related to Commercial Litigation Funding. No person or entity shall enter into a commercial litigation financing agreement with, or into an agreement funded directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, by a foreign entity of concern or a foreign country or person of concern, or any entity controlled by any of the foregoing persons or entities.

294-F:3 Applicability. This chapter shall apply to any commercial litigation financing agreement that is effectuated on or after the effective date of this chapter.

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

2026-1911s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits.

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

Senator Birdsell offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 12, 2026
2026-1928s
07/09

Floor Amendment to HB 1384

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

AN ACT relative to prohibiting foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits, prohibiting foreign principals from registering as lobbyists, and requires certain disclosures for persons acting on behalf of foreign principals.

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

2 Lobbyists; Registration. Amend RSA 15:1, I to read as follows:

I. Any person who is employed for a consideration by any other person, except the state of New Hampshire, in a representative capacity for the purposes specified in paragraph II of this section shall first register as a lobbyist with the secretary of state through the secretary of state's online lobbyist filing system. Each registration shall report the existence of a relationship between a single client and either a single lobbyist or a partnership, firm, or corporation with one or more partners, members, or employees of a firm acting as lobbyist. ***The registration shall state whether the client is a foreign principal as defined in RSA 477:22-b, and, if so, the name of the foreign country of concern as defined in RSA 477:22-b.***

3 New Paragraphs; Lobbyists; Registration. Amend RSA 15:1 by inserting after paragraph VI the following new paragraphs:

VII. A foreign principal, as defined in RSA 477:22-b, may not register as a lobbyist in the state of New Hampshire.

VIII. Any person registered under this chapter who appears before a legislative committee or other public hearing on behalf of a foreign principal, as defined by RSA 477:22-b, shall:

(a) Identify themselves for the record; and

(b) Disclose that they are registered as a lobbyist on behalf of a foreign principal or foreign country of concern.

IX. The secretary of state shall provide an annual report to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor listing anyone registered as a lobbyist in the state of New Hampshire for a foreign principal, as defined in RSA 477:22-b, and shall include the names of the relevant foreign countries of concern, as defined in RSA 477:22-b, represented.

4 Lobbyists; Statements. Amend RSA 15:6, V(d) to read as follows:

(d) For each lobbying client, the full name and business address of the client, the scope of the representation or lobbyist services being paid for, the gross amount of all fees received from that client, not reduced by any expenses, that are related, directly or indirectly, to lobbying, such as public advocacy, government relations, or public relations services including research, monitoring legislation, and related legal work, a statement of the aggregate total of fees received that are related, directly or indirectly, to lobbying services during the calendar year, and a statement of any fee payment due, but not yet paid. ***If the client is a foreign principal as defined in RSA 477:22-b, the statement shall clearly indicate this status and the name of the foreign country of concern as defined in RSA 477:22-b.***

5 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 2027.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

2026-1928s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits, prohibits foreign principals from registering as lobbyists, and requires certain disclosures for persons acting on behalf of foreign principals.

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.

TRANSPORTATION
HB 2026, relative to the state 10-year transportation improvement plan.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Ricciardi for the committee.

Senate Transportation
April 30, 2026
2026-1763s
08/09

Amendment to HB 2026

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

AN ACT relative to the state 10-year transportation improvement plan and reconstruction of the Gregg Mill Road Bridge in the town of New Boston.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 3 with the following:

4 Bow-Concord; Project Added Contingent upon the Passage of Senate Bill 627. Contingent upon the passage of Senate Bill 627 of the 2026 general legislative session, the project named Bow-Concord Project # 13742: Interstate 93 widening from south of Interstate 89 to Merrimack River Bridge shall be added to the 2027-2036 10-year transportation improvement plan with $285,849,979.

5 Projects Added Contingent upon the Passage of Senate Bill 627. Contingent upon the passage of Senate Bill 627 of the 2026 general legislative session, the following projects shall be added to the 2027 - 2036 10-year transportation improvement plan with $68,547,475:

I. Randolph Project: Installation of left-turn lane for US 2 eastbound traffic at Randolph Hill Road and left-turn lane for US 2 westbound traffic at Raycrest Drive.

II. Enfield Project: Construct a roundabout to address road skew/offset, reduce conflict points, reduce pedestrian crossing length and number, promote lower speeds and traffic calming, support operational efficiency, and improve multi-modal safety.

III. Plymouth Project: Improve sight distance and provide bicycle and pedestrian access on US 3.

IV. Marlborough Project: Stormwater and Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvements.

V. Hillsborough Project: Henniker Street Improvements.

VI. Madbury Project: Intersection safety improvements to NH 9 and French Cross Road intersection.

VII. Hooksett Project: Intersection Improvements at I-93 Exit 11 and Hackett Hill Road.

VIII. Plaistow Project: NH 121 A (Main Street) and North Avenue intersection improvements.

IX. Nashua Project: Ledge Street improvements, reconstructing approximately 200 feet of Canal retaining wall, approximately 475 feet of guardrail and approximately 1,000' of sidewalk.

X. Dover-Somersworth-Rochester Project # 29604: Complete streets improvements on NH 108 from Indian Brook Road to Innovation Drive.

XI. Dunbarton Project # 43535: Improvements to the intersection of NH 113. NH 77 and Jewett Road.

6 Contingency. If SB 627 of the 2026 general legislative session becomes law, sections 4 and 5 of this act shall take effect upon its passage and section 3 of this act shall not take effect. If SB 627 does not become law, section 3 of this act shall take effect upon its passage and sections 4 and 5 of this act shall not take effect.

7 New Boston; Gregg Mill Road Bridge; Land Transfer.

I. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and in the interest of public safety and welfare, the following interests in land acquired by the state under the land conservation investment program, recorded at Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds Book 5446, Page 855, shall be transferred to the town of New Boston for the purpose of reconstructing the Gregg Mill Road Bridge:

(a) A permanent slope and structure easement of approximately 1,550 square feet on the parcel identified on the Town of New Boston Tax Map as Map 6, Lot 12-1.

(b) A permanent slope and structure easement of approximately 750 square feet, and a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,290 square feet expiring one year from project completion, on the parcel identified on the Town of New Boston Tax Map as Map 6, Lot 13.

II. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the department of natural and cultural resources and the town of New Boston may agree to additional transfers under a signed memorandum of agreement that are necessary to ensure the Gregg Mill Road Bridge is reconstructed. The council on resources and development, established under RSA 162-C, shall be notified of any additional transfers within 60 days of execution.

III. Compensation due to the state shall be the full fair market value of the interests transferred under paragraphs I and II, as determined by an appraisal completed by an appraiser licensed in the state of New Hampshire and approved by the department of natural and cultural resources. The appraisal shall also be reviewed by the department in determining just compensation for such acquisitions. Alternative compensation in the form of replacement land may be accepted provided all parties owning an interest in the property agree to such terms. Any monetary compensation shall be deposited in the land conservation endowment fund administered by the council on resources and development pursuant to RSA 162-C:7 and used for the purposes of the land conservation investment program.

8 Effective Date.

I. Sections 3-5 of this act shall take effect as provided in section 6 of this act.

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

2026-1763s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Adopts the state 10-year transportation plan for 2027-2036.

II. Authorizes the transfer of certain land acquired by the state under the land conservation investment program to the town of New Boston for the purpose of reconstructing the Gregg Mill Road Bridge.

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

Senator McConkey offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. McConkey, Dist 3
May 13, 2026
2026-1935s
08/07

Floor Amendment to HB 2026

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

AN ACT relative to the state 10-year transportation improvement plan; relative to toll rate adjustments and periodic toll reviews for the New Hampshire turnpike system to support the 2027-2036 ten-year transportation plan; and relative to reconstruction of the Gregg Mill Road Bridge in the town of New Boston.

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

3 Tolls. Amend RSA 237:9 to read as follows:

I. The commissioner of transportation, with the approval of the governor and council, shall establish toll rates and other charges for use of the New Hampshire turnpike system or any part of the right-of-way and other property acquired in connection therewith. The governor and council shall approve or reject the commissioner's proposed toll rates and other charges within 90 days of receiving them. The tolls collected shall be deposited with the state treasurer who shall keep the same in a separate account to be used exclusively for purposes of the New Hampshire turnpike system including, without limitation, the operating expenses, construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of the New Hampshire turnpike system. All operating expenses and maintenance costs shall be paid from said account. From the balance remaining after the payment of operating expenses and maintenance costs, there shall be paid the interest and principal on the bonds issued to finance the system. No part of such revenues shall, by transfer of funds or otherwise, be diverted to any other purpose whatsoever. Fourteen days previous to the time any interest or principal is payable, on any general obligation bonds issued to finance the system, the state treasurer shall examine the existing balance and, except as otherwise provided in RSA 237:10, if such balance is insufficient to make the payment, then he ***or she*** shall notify the governor who shall immediately draw his ***or her*** warrant on the highway fund to cover any deficit and if the funds in both of the above accounts are insufficient, the governor shall draw his ***or her*** warrant upon the state's general fund to the amount necessary to meet the payments. Any funds paid out from the state's highway fund or general fund for the above purposes shall be reimbursed from the collection of tolls as soon as such funds are available. Any funds that have been or may be expended for any portion of the system by the department of transportation shall be repaid to said department when, in the opinion of the governor and council, sufficient funds are available. Any excess income may be used for further system extensions in accordance with RSA 237:5, II(m). No provision of this chapter shall constitute a covenant with bondholders with respect to the charging, collection or disposition of tolls.

II. Notwithstanding paragraph I, RSA 237:24, and any other provision of law to the contrary, to support the turnpike projects included in the 2027-2036 10-year transportation improvement plan and to cover associated operating expenses and maintenance costs for the central New Hampshire turnpike, the eastern New Hampshire turnpike, and the New Hampshire turnpike system, the toll rates for all cash transactions and for vehicles using the New Hampshire electronic toll system not listed on a funded New Hampshire E-Z Pass account shall be increased based on the toll plaza and vehicle classification. For purposes of this section, "class" shall mean the classification of vehicles by type, height, number of axles, and dual tires established by the commissioner of transportation in rules adopted under RSA 541-A. Beginning January 1, 2027, the toll rates shall be as follows:

(a) Hooksett Main:

(1) Class 1: $2.00

(2) Class 2: $2.25

(3) Class 3: $2.50

(4) Class 4: $2.75

(5) Class 5: $4.00

(6) Class 6: $4.50

(7) Class 7: $5.00

(8) Class 8: $5.50

(9) Class 9: $6.00

(10) Class 10: $6.50

(11) Class 11: $7.00

(12) Class 12: $ 7.50

(b) Hooksett Ramp:

(1) Class 1: $1.00

(2) Class 2: $1.25

(3) Class 3: $1.50

(4) Class 4: $1.75

(5) Class 5: $2.00

(6) Class 6: $2.50

(7) Class 7: $3.00

(8) Class 8: $3.50

(9) Class 9: $4.00

(10) Class 10: $4.50

(11) Class 11: $5.00

(12) Class 12: $5.50

(c) Bedford Main:

(1) Class 1: $2.00

(2) Class 2: $2.25

(3) Class 3: $2.50

(4) Class 4: $2.75

(5) Class 5: $4.00

(6) Class 6: $4.50

(7) Class 7: $5.00

(8) Class 8: $5.50

(9) Class 9: $6.00

(10) Class 10: $6.50

(11) Class 11: $7.00

(12) Class 12: $7.50

(d) Hampton Main:

(1) Class 1: $4.00

(2) Class 2: $4.25

(3) Class 3: $4.50

(4) Class 4: $4.75

(5) Class 5: $8.00

(6) Class 6: $8.50

(7) Class 7: $9.00

(8) Class 8: $9.50

(9) Class 9: $10.00

(10) Class 10: $10.50

(11) Class 11: $11.00

(12) Class 12: $11.50

(e) Hampton Side:

(1) Class 1: $1.50

(2) Class 2: $1.75

(3) Class 3: $2.00

(4) Class 4: $2.25

(5) Class 5: $3.00

(6) Class 6: $3.50

(7) Class 7: $4.00

(8) Class 8: $4.50

(9) Class 9: $5.00

(10) Class 10: $5.50

(11) Class 11: $6.00

(12) Class 12: $6.50

(f) Dover:

(1) Class 1: $1.50

(2) Class 2: $1.75

(3) Class 3: $2.00

(4) Class 4: $2.25

(5) Class 5: $3.00

(6) Class 6: $3.50

(7) Class 7: $4.00

(8) Class 8: $4.50

(9) Class 9: $5.00

(10) Class 10: $5.50

(11) Class 11: $6.00

(12) Class 12: $6.50

(g) Rochester:

(1) Class 1: $1.50

(2) Class 2: $1.75

(3) Class 3: $2.00

(4) Class 4: $2.25

(5) Class 5: $3.00

(6) Class 6: $3.50

(7) Class 7: $4.00

(8) Class 8: $4.50

(9) Class 9: $5.00

(10) Class 10: $5.50

(11) Class 11: $6.00

(12) Class 12: $6.50

III. Notwithstanding paragraph I, RSA 237:24, and any other provision of law to the contrary, the toll rates for vehicles listed on a funded New Hampshire E-Z Pass account using the New Hampshire electronic toll collection shall be based on toll plaza and vehicle classification, where "class" has the same meaning as in paragraph II. Beginning January 1, 2027, the minimum toll rates shall be as follows:

(a) Hooksett Main:

(1) Class 1: $0.70

(2) Class 2: $0.88

(3) Class 3: $1.05

(4) Class 4: $1.23

(5) Class 5: $1.80

(6) Class 6: $2.25

(7) Class 7: $2.70

(8) Class 8: $3.15

(9) Class 9: $3.60

(10) Class 10: $4.05

(11) Class 11: $4.50

(12) Class 12: $4.95

(b) Hooksett Ramp:

(1) Class 1: $0.35

(2) Class 2: $0.53

(3) Class 3: $0.70

(4) Class 4: $0.88

(5) Class 5: $0.90

(6) Class 6: $1.35

(7) Class 7: $1.80

(8) Class 8: $2.25

(9) Class 9: $2.70

(10) Class 10: $3.15

(11) Class 11: $3.60

(12) Class 12: $4.05

(c) Bedford Main:

(1) Class 1: $0.70

(2) Class 2: $0.88

(3) Class 3: $1.05

(4) Class 4: $1.23

(5) Class 5: $1.80

(6) Class 6: $2.25

(7) Class 7: $2.70

(8) Class 8: $3.15

(9) Class 9: $3.60

(10) Class 10: $4.05

(11) Class 11: $4.50

(12) Class 12: $4.95

(d) Hampton Main:

(1) Class 1: $1.40

(2) Class 2: $1.58

(3) Class 3: $1.75

(4) Class 4: $1.93

(5) Class 5: $3.60

(6) Class 6: $4.05

(7) Class 7: $4.50

(8) Class 8: $4.95

(9) Class 9: $5.40

(10) Class 10: $5.85

(11) Class 11: $6.30

(12) Class 12: $6.75

(e) Hampton Side:

(1) Class 1: $0.53

(2) Class 2: $0.70

(3) Class 3: $0.88

(4) Class 4: $1.05

(5) Class 5: $1.35

(6) Class 6: $1.80

(7) Class 7: $2.25

(8) Class 8: $2.70

(9) Class 9: $3.15

(10) Class 10: $3.60

(11) Class 11: $4.05

(12) Class 12: $4.50

(f) Dover:

(1) Class 1: $0.53

(2) Class 2: $0.70

(3) Class 3: $0.88

(4) Class 4: $1.05

(5) Class 5: $1.35

(6) Class 6: $1.80

(7) Class 7: $2.25

(8) Class 8: $2.70

(9) Class 9: $3.15

(10) Class 10: $3.60

(11) Class 11: $4.05

(12) Class 12: $4.50

(g) Rochester:

(1) Class 1: $0.53

(2) Class 2: $0.70

(3) Class 3: $0.88

(4) Class 4: $1.05

(5) Class 5: $1.35

(6) Class 6: $1.80

(7) Class 7: $2.25

(8) Class 8: $2.70

(9) Class 9: $3.15

(10) Class 10: $3.60

(11) Class 11: $4.05

(12) Class 12: $4.50

4 Agency Directive; Department of Transportation; New Hampshire E-Z Pass Transponder. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for a period of 210 days, beginning December 1, 2026, the department of transportation shall issue, at no cost, a New Hampshire E-Z Pass transponder to anyone who opens or currently maintains a funded New Hampshire E-Z Pass account, if so requested by the new or current New Hampshire E-Z Pass holder.

5 Repeal. RSA 237:11, V, relative to the E-Z Pass discount on established tolls on any of the New Hampshire turnpike system, is repealed.

6 Manchester I-293 Projects Added.

I. The project named Manchester Project #16099A, to reconstruct and widen Exit 6 on I-293 in Manchester, shall be added to the 2027-2036 10-year transportation improvement plan with $146,888,734.

II. The project named Manchester Project #16099B, to reconstruct and widen Exit 7 on I-293 in Manchester, shall be added to the 2027-2036 10-year transportation improvement plan with $74,902,494.

7 Bow-Concord Project Added. The project named Bow-Concord Project # 13742: Interstate 93 widening from south of Interstate 89 to Merrimack River Bridge shall be added to the 2027-2036 10-year transportation improvement plan with $285,849,979.

8 Projects Added. The following projects shall be added to the 2027 - 2036 10-year transportation improvement plan with $68,547,475:

I. Randolph Project: Installation of left-turn lane for US 2 eastbound traffic at Randolph Hill Road and left-turn lane for US 2 westbound traffic at Raycrest Drive.

II. Enfield Project: Construct a roundabout to address road skew/offset, reduce conflict points, reduce pedestrian crossing length and number, promote lower speeds and traffic calming, support operational efficiency, and improve multi-modal safety.

III. Plymouth Project: Improve sight distance and provide bicycle and pedestrian access on US 3.

IV. Marlborough Project: Stormwater and Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvements.

V. Hillsborough Project: Henniker Street Improvements.

VI. Madbury Project: Intersection safety improvements to NH 9 and French Cross Road intersection.

VII. Hooksett Project: Intersection Improvements at I-93 Exit 11 and Hackett Hill Road.

VIII. Plaistow Project: NH 121 A (Main Street) and North Avenue intersection improvements.

IX. Nashua Project: Ledge Street improvements, reconstructing approximately 200 feet of Canal retaining wall, approximately 475 feet of guardrail, and approximately 1,000' of sidewalk.

X. Dover-Somersworth-Rochester Project # 29604: Complete streets improvements on NH 108 from Indian Brook Road to Innovation Drive.

XI. Dunbarton Project # 43535: Improvements to the intersection of NH 113. NH 77 and Jewett Road.

9 New Boston; Gregg Mill Road Bridge; Land Transfer.

I. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and in the interest of public safety and welfare, the following interests in land acquired by the state under the land conservation investment program, recorded at Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds Book 5446, Page 855, shall be transferred to the town of New Boston for the purpose of reconstructing the Gregg Mill Road Bridge:

(a) A permanent slope and structure easement of approximately 1,550 square feet on the parcel identified on the Town of New Boston Tax Map as Map 6, Lot 12-1.

(b) A permanent slope and structure easement of approximately 750 square feet and a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,290 square feet expiring one year from project completion on the parcel identified on the Town of New Boston Tax Map as Map 6, Lot 13.

II. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the department of natural and cultural resources and the town of New Boston may agree to additional transfers under a signed memorandum of agreement that are necessary to ensure the Gregg Mill Road Bridge is reconstructed. The council on resources and development, established under RSA 162-C, shall be notified of any additional transfers within 60 days of execution.

III. Compensation due to the state shall be the full fair market value of the interests transferred under paragraphs I and II, as determined by an appraisal completed by an appraiser licensed in the state of New Hampshire and approved by the department of natural and cultural resources. The appraisal shall also be reviewed by the department in determining just compensation for such acquisitions. Alternative compensation in the form of replacement land may be accepted provided all parties owning an interest in the property agree to such terms. Any monetary compensation shall be deposited in the land conservation endowment fund administered by the council on resources and development pursuant to RSA 162-C:7 and used for the purposes of the land conservation investment program.

10 Effective Date.

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

II. Sections 3 and 5 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

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

2026-1935s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Adopts the state 10-year transportation plan for 2027-2036.

II. Provides for toll rate adjustments at specified turnpike plazas to support projects in the 2027–2036 10-year transportation plan.

III. Provides for periodic toll adjustments tied to the New Hampshire department of transportation's projected inflation index as part of the statewide transportation improvement program.

IV. Authorizes the transfer of certain land acquired by the state under the land conservation investment program to the town of New Boston for the purpose of reconstructing the Gregg Mill Road Bridge.

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.

JUDICIARY
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.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-2. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Judiciary
May 12, 2026
2026-1917s
09/08

Amendment to HB 609-FN

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

1 Firearms, Ammunition, and Knives; Authority of the State. Amend RSA 159:26 to read as follows:

159:26 Firearms, Ammunition, and Knives; Authority of the State.

I. To the extent consistent with federal law, the state of New Hampshire shall have authority and jurisdiction over the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearms components, ammunition, firearms supplies, ***stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices,*** [~~or~~] knives***, or other self-defense tools*** in the state. Except as otherwise specifically provided by statute, no ordinance or regulation of a political subdivision may regulate the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearms components, ammunition, or firearms supplies in the state. Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting a political subdivision's right to adopt zoning ordinances for the purpose of regulating firearms or knives businesses in the same manner as other businesses or to take any action allowed under RSA 207:59.

II. Upon the effective date of this section, all municipal ordinances and regulations not authorized under paragraph I relative to the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearm components, ammunition, firearms supplies, ***stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices,*** [~~or~~] knives***, or other self-defense tools*** shall be null and void.

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

2026-1917s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that the state has authority and jurisdiction over the regulation of firearms, stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices, knives, and other self-defense tools, to the extent consistent with federal law.

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

Senator Abbas offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Carson, Dist 14
Sen. Abbas, Dist 22
May 14, 2026
2026-1987s
09/08

Floor Amendment to HB 609-FN

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

1 Firearms, Ammunition, and Knives; Authority of the State. Amend RSA 159:26 to read as follows:

159:26 Firearms, Ammunition, and Knives; Authority of the State.

I. To the extent consistent with federal law, the state of New Hampshire shall have authority and jurisdiction over the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearms components, ammunition, firearms supplies, ***stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices,*** [~~or~~] knives***, or other self-defense tools*** in the state. Except as otherwise specifically provided by statute, no ordinance or regulation of a political subdivision may regulate the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearms components, ammunition, or firearms supplies in the state. Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting a political subdivision's right to adopt zoning ordinances for the purpose of regulating firearms or knives businesses in the same manner as other businesses or to take any action allowed under RSA 207:59.

I-a. To the extent consistent with federal law, the general court of New Hampshire shall have exclusive authority and jurisdiction to make laws and delegate authority to adopt rules, regulations, and policies regarding the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, or other matters relating to firearms, firearm components, ammunition, firearms supplies, stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices, knives, or other self-defense tools, by state employees or on state property.

I-b. All rules, regulations, and policies adopted under any authority delegated by the general court pursuant to this section shall be adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A.

I-c. No rule, regulation, or policy adopted or instituted by an executive branch agency regarding the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, or other matters relating to firearms, firearm components, ammunition, firearms supplies, stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices, knives, or other self-defense tools, by state employees or on state property, shall continue or remain in effect after July 1, 2029, unless renewed or re-adopted pursuant to this section.

II. Upon the effective date of this section, all municipal ordinances and regulations not authorized under paragraph I relative to the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearm components, ammunition, firearms supplies, ***stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices,*** [~~or~~] knives***, or other self-defense tools*** shall be null and void.

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

2026-1987s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that the state has authority and jurisdiction over the regulation of firearms, stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices, knives, and other self-defense tools, to the extent consistent with federal law, and exclusive authority and jurisdiction to make laws and delegate authority to adopt rules regarding the same by state employees or on state property. This bill also provides that no rule, regulation, or policy adopted or instituted by an executive branch agency regarding the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting or other matters relating to firearms, firearm component, ammunition firearms supplies, stun guns, Tasers, pepper spray devices, knives, or other self-defense tools, by state employees or on state property shall continue or remain in effect after July 1, 2029, unless renewed or re-adopted.

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.

Recess. Out of recess.

MOTION TO REMOVE FROM THE TABLE

Senator Lang moved to remove HB 1336-FN from the Table. Adopted.

COMMERCE
HB 1336-FN, relative to regulated conditional deposits.

The pending motion is the Committee Amendment.

Senate Commerce
April 28, 2026
2026-1724s
09/08

Amendment to HB 1336-FN

Amend RSA 540-A:7, I(b) as inserted by section 4 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(b) If any portion of a security deposit was paid by a third party on behalf of the tenant, the landlord may return any refundable portion of such contribution to the third party in accordance with the third party's written instructions, provided a copy of such instructions was delivered to the tenant in writing or by electronic communication prior to the commencement of the tenancy. Absent any agreement to the contrary, the landlord shall make any deductions first from tenant-paid funds and second from any known third-party funds. The landlord shall furnish an itemized statement of any deductions from third-party funds within 30 days of a written request by the third party. A landlord who, in good faith, apportions third-party funds in compliance with this section shall be discharged of liability related to such apportionment. Unless otherwise directed by the municipality, any security deposit funds paid by a municipality under RSA 165, together with any interest required by law and less any lawful deductions, shall be returned directly to the municipality within 30 days after termination of the tenancy. A landlord who, in good faith, returns such funds directly to a municipality shall be discharged of liability to any other party for the return of those specific municipal funds.

The question is on the adoption of the Committee Amendment.

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

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

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

The following Senators were excused: Ricciardi.

Roll Call, Yeas: 14 - Nays: 9. Adopted.

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, McGough, Avard, Murphy, Pearl, Sullivan, Abbas, Gannon, Carson.

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

The following Senators were excused: Ricciardi.

Roll Call, Yeas: 14 - Nays: 9. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

MOTION TO REMOVE FROM THE TABLE

Senator Abbas moved to remove HB 1817-FN from the Table. Adopted.

EDUCATION
HB 1817-FN, relative to access to curricular courses and cocurricular programs within school districts.

The pending motion is the Committee Amendment.

Senate Education
April 28, 2026
2026-1733s
07/09

Amendment to HB 1817-FN

Amend RSA 193:1-c, I as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

I. Nonpublic, public chartered school, ***education freedom account,*** or home educated pupils shall have access to curricular courses and cocurricular programs offered by the school district in which the pupil resides. The local school board shall adopt a policy regulating participation in curricular courses and cocurricular programs, provided that such policy shall not be more restrictive for non-public, public chartered school, ***education freedom account,*** or home educated pupils than the policy governing the school district's resident pupils. In this section, "cocurricular" shall include those activities which are designed to supplement and enrich regular academic programs of study, provide opportunities for social development, and encourage participation in clubs, athletics, performing groups, and service to school and community. For purposes of allowing access as described in this section, a "home educated pupil" includes any pupil who is a "child with a disability" under RSA 186-C:2, I, until such time as such pupil has acquired a high school diploma or reached age 21 inclusive; but shall not include any other pupil who has graduated from a high school level program of home education, or its equivalent, or has attained the age of 21.

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

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

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

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

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

The following Senators were excused: Ricciardi.

Roll Call, Yeas: 15 - Nays: 8. Adopted, bill ordered to Third Reading.

Recess. Out of recess.

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.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION
HB 1332, relative to the authorized display of flags on state house grounds.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0. Senator Lang for the committee.

Senate Executive Departments and Administration
May 6, 2026
2026-1860s
09/08

Amendment to HB 1332

Amend RSA 3:4-a, II as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Only those flags officially recognized by the United States federal government shall be flown over the state house. For purposes of this section, flags officially recognized by the United States federal government means only those flags that have been established by federal law, executive order, or an official agency regulation.

2026-1860s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill limits the flags which may be displayed over the state house to only those flags officially recognized by the federal government by law, executive order, or an official agency regulation, with the exception of the Gold Star Flag, which the governor may authorize to display on state house grounds.

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

Senator Altschiller offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Altschiller, Dist 24
May 12, 2026
2026-1927s
08/07

Floor Amendment to HB 1332

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

AN ACT relative to the authorized display of flags on state house grounds and prohibiting smoking in Hampton Beach state park.

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

3 New Subdivision; Smoking in State Parks. Amend RSA 155 by inserting after section 78 the following new subdivision:

Smoking in State Parks

155:78-a Smoking in Hampton Beach State Park.

I. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, including any regulation adopted pursuant to RSA 12-A:2-c, II(a), smoking, as defined by RSA 155:65, XV, shall be prohibited within Hampton Beach state park.

II. The department of natural and cultural resources shall develop and post signage in Hampton Beach state park informing the public of this prohibition.

III. Any authorized official may enforce this prohibition through directing the offending individual to comply with the prohibition. No monetary fine shall be levied.

4 Effective Date.

I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

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

2026-1927s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Limits the flags which may be displayed on state house grounds to only those flags officially recognized by the federal government by law, executive order, or an official agency regulation, with the exception of the Gold Star Flag, which the governor may authorize to display on state house grounds.

II. Prohibits smoking in Hampton Beach state park.

The question is on the adoption of the Floor Amendment.

A division was requested.

Division, Yeas: 9 - Nays: 14. Failed.

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

FINANCE
HB 155-FN, relative to business enterprise tax returns and appropriating funds to the department of health and human services for licensed nursing facilities.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 8-0. Senator Lang for the committee.

Senate Finance
May 12, 2026
2026-1913s
07/05

Amendment to HB 155-FN

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

AN ACT relative to business enterprise tax returns and relative to appropriations for nursing home payments.

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

2 Department of Health and Human Services; Division of Long Term Supports and Services; Nursing Home Payments. Amend 2025, 140, 05-95-48-482010-2152, Class Note 504 to read as follows:

504 The appropriation in Class 504 shall not lapse, except where noted below, shall not be used for any other purpose, and shall not be considered for budget reductions required pursuant to any section of this act or any other budget reduction, including executive orders, required of the department of health and human services. To the extent that nursing home rates paid to providers in 504-Nursing Home Payments are less

than the rates established by the department, prior to applying the budget adjustment factor, any balance remaining, less transfers made into class 504 [~~which shall lapse~~], shall be paid out to providers as a lump sum payment within 30 days of the year end, proportionally based on Medicaid class 504 payments made to such providers during the fiscal year. ***All funds which are transferred into class 504 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, that will not be expended, shall not lapse and are hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for the purposes of supporting Class 504 Nursing Home Payments.***

3 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect June 30, 2026.

2026-1913s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Raises the amount of income needed before businesses are required to file a business enterprise tax return with the department of revenue administration.

II. Makes all unexpended funds transferred into Class 504 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 nonlapsing and appropriates such funds to the department of health and human services for the purposes of supporting Class 504 nursing home payments.

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

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

HB 1323-FN, relative to parental alienation.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 6-1. Senator Gray for the committee.

Senate Finance
May 5, 2026
2026-1849s
09/05

Amendment to HB 1323-FN

Amend the bill by deleting sections 10 and 11 and renumbering the original section 12 to read as 10.

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

Senator Prentiss offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Prentiss, Dist 5
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 14, 2026
2026-1982s
09/07

Floor Amendment to HB 1323-FN

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

AN ACT relative to parental alienation and limiting certain prior authorization requirements for physical therapy, occupational therapy, and similar rehabilitative services.

Amend the bill by inserting after section 9 the following and renumbering the original section 10 to read as 11:

10 New Section; Managed Care Law; Prior Authorization for Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy; When Required. Amend RSA 420-J by inserting after section 6-e the following new section:

420-J:6-f Prior Authorization for Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy; When Required.

I. A health carrier shall not require prior authorization for physical therapy and occupational therapy, as defined in RSA 328-A:2, XI and RSA 326-C:1, IV, respectively, for the first visit of each new episode of care. Health carriers may require prior authorization following the covered person's first visit. Each health carrier shall provide prior authorization for physical therapy and occupational therapy, if medically necessary based on the evaluation of the patient at the initial visit, for not less than 8 treatments before requiring additional review for medical necessity, unless otherwise specified in the plan sponsor's contract with the health carrier. For purposes of this section, "new episode of care" means treatment for a new condition or treatment for a recurring condition for which an enrollee has not been treated within the previous 60 days.

II. This section shall not limit the right of a health carrier to deny a claim when an appropriate prospective or retrospective review concludes that the health care services or treatment rendered were not medically necessary.

2026-1982s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Defines parental alienation to mean a pattern of behavior, conduct, or speech which would damage the relationship of the child and a parent, resulting in the child's fear, negative perception, rejection, or hostility toward their other parent, and adds standards for considering claims of parental alienation in certain cases involving children and parental rights.

II. Prohibits health carriers from requiring prior authorization for the first physical or occupational therapy visit in any new episode of care, and mandates approval of at least 8 medically necessary treatments after the initial evaluation before further review. This bill also preserves insurers' ability to deny claims deemed not medically necessary.

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

Senator Birdsell offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 14, 2026
2026-1981s
09/07

Floor Amendment to HB 1323-FN

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

AN ACT relative to parental alienation and relative to children's mental health services for persons 18 years of age and younger.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 9 with the following:

10 New Subdivision; System of Care for Children's Mental Health; New Hampshire Children's Behavioral Health Association. Amend RSA 135-F by inserting after section 9 the following new subdivision:

New Hampshire Children's Mental Health Association

135-F:10 Definitions. In this chapter:

I. "Assessable coverage" means:

(a) Health coverage as defined in RSA 420-G:2, IX;

(b) Stop loss coverage that conforms with RSA 415-H:3, or other group excess loss insurance purchased against the risk that any particular claim, or total liability, will exceed a specified dollar amount; or

(c) Group health plan, as defined by 42 U.S.C. section 300gg-91(a).

II. "Assessable entity" means any:

(a) Health maintenance organization, as defined by RSA 420-B:1, VI.

(b) Third party administrator, as defined by RSA 402-H:1, I.

(c) Entity providing administrator services and required to register with the insurance commissioner under RSA 402-H:11-a or RSA 402-H:11-b.

(d) Insurance company licensed pursuant to RSA 401:1, IV.

(e) Health service corporation, as defined by RSA 420-A:1, III.

III. “Assessable lives” means all children under 19 years of age residing in the state who have assessable coverage written or administered by an assessable entity, with the exception of children whose childhood behavioral health services are paid for under Medicaid.

IV. “Assessment” means the assessable entity’s liability with respect to the childhood behavioral health services determined in accordance with this chapter. For purposes of rate setting and medical loss ratio calculations, all association assessments are considered pharmaceutical or medical benefit costs and not regulatory costs. In the event of any insolvency or similar proceeding affecting any payer, assessments shall be included in the highest priority of obligations to be paid by or on behalf of such payer.

V. “Association” means the New Hampshire children’s behavioral health association.

VI. “Board” means the board of directors of the New Hampshire children’s behavioral health association.

VII. “Care management entity” means an organizational entity that serves as a centralized entity to coordinate all care for youth with complex behavioral health challenges who are involved in multiple systems and their families, as defined in RSA 135-F:4.

VIII. “Childhood behavioral health services” mean any of the following services:

(a) Behavioral health intensive in-home services, which are therapeutic interventions delivered to children and families in their homes and other community settings to improve child and family functioning and prevent out-of-home placement. The components of intensive in-home services include, but are not limited to individual and family therapy, skills training and behavioral interventions, functional supports, and family support and training.

(b) Behavioral health intensive structured outpatient programs, which include short-term, clinically intensive, structured day or evening service for a child with a behavioral health disorder, and provides multidisciplinary treatment to address the subacute needs of children and youth, while allowing them to continue to work or attend school and be part of family life.

(c) Intensive care coordination, including but not limited to evidence based approaches like a high-fidelity wraparound for children and youth with significant behavioral health conditions, which includes assessment and service planning, accessing and arranging for services, coordinating multiple services, including access to crisis services. Assisting the child and family to meet basic needs, advocating for the child and family, and monitoring progress are also included. The wraparound “facilitator” is the intensive care coordinator who organizes, convenes, and coordinates this process.

(d) Parent and youth peer support services provided by trained peer support specialists.

IX. “Commissioner” means the commissioner of the department of health and human services.

X. “Estimated cost” means the estimated cost to the state over the course of a state fiscal year to reimburse the care management entities for provision of the childhood behavioral health services they provide to assessable lives.

XI. “Provider” means a person licensed or certified by this state, or otherwise qualified to provide health care services to persons or a partnership or corporation made up of those persons.

XII. “Total non-federal program cost” means the estimated childhood behavioral health services cost less the amount of federal revenue available to the state for the administration and provision of childhood behavioral health services.

135-F:11 New Hampshire Children’s Behavioral Health Association Established. There is hereby created a nonprofit corporation to be known as the New Hampshire children’s behavioral health association. The association is formed to assess assessable entities for the cost of childhood behavioral health services provided to certain children in New Hampshire.

135-F:12 Membership, Powers, and Duties of the New Hampshire Children’s Behavioral Health Association.

I. The New Hampshire children’s behavioral health association shall be comprised of all assessable entities.

II. The New Hampshire children’s behavioral health association shall be a not-for-profit, voluntary corporation under RSA 292 and shall possess all general powers of a not-for-profit corporation.

III. The board of directors shall include:

(a) Three representatives selected from the assessable entities currently writing, maintaining, or administering assessable coverage through a voting process where votes are based on assessable lives. The plan of operation shall provide details for this selection process.

(b) Two health care provider representatives appointed by the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, who shall serve as an ex officio member.

(d) The commissioner of the department of insurance who shall serve as an ex-officio member.

(e) One member appointed by the governor and council who shall represent self-insured entities.

(f) One public member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(g) One public member appointed by the president of the senate.

IV. The directors' terms and appointments shall be specified in the plan of operation adopted by the New Hampshire children's behavioral health association.

V. The board of directors of the association shall:

(a) Prepare and adopt articles of association and bylaws.

(b) Prepare and adopt a plan of operation.

(c) Submit the plan of operation to the commissioner of insurance for approval after the consultation with the commissioner.

(d) Conduct all activities in accordance with the approved plan of operation.

(e) On an annual basis, no later than November 1 of each year, establish the amount of the assessment for the succeeding year.

(f) Enter into contracts as necessary or proper to collect and disburse the assessment.

(g) Enter into contracts as necessary or proper to administer the plan of operation.

(h) Sue or be sued, including taking any legal action necessary or proper for the recovery of any assessment for, on behalf of, or against members of the association or other participating person.

(i) Appoint from among its directors, committees as necessary to provide technical assistance in the operation of the association, including the hiring of independent consultants as necessary.

(j) Determine an assessment amount and collect payments from assessed entities in accordance with RSA 135-F:13.

(k) Submit an annual report to the commissioner of insurance, in a manner and form determined by the commissioner, listing the association membership base, providing a count of assessable lives by assessable entity, identifying changes in assessable lives by assessable entity, describing the collection of assessments, listing payment delinquencies, and containing such other related information as the commissioner may require.

(l) Allow each assessable entity up to 45 days after the closing of each calendar quarter to report its assessable lives and remit its corresponding assessment amount as calculated pursuant to RSA 135-F:13.

(m) Collect assessments from assessable entities as calculated under RSA 135-F:13 and deposit said assessments less the association's administrative costs annually and reserves with the state treasurer to the credit of the childhood behavioral health services fund established pursuant to RSA 135-F:19. At the written request of the association following a majority vote of the board of directors, any funds forwarded to the state treasurer for the childhood behavioral health services fund remaining unexpended for childhood behavioral health services, shall promptly be returned to the association.

(n) Be authorized to enter into one or more agreements with other applicable authorities in surrounding states to reduce the risk of duplicate assessments and to assure provision of childhood behavioral health services for children who are residents of this state but who receive childhood behavioral health services in other states. Any costs relating to any such agreement shall be considered additional childhood behavioral health services costs of the program for purposes of determining the association's assessments.

(o) Adopt procedures by which affiliated assessable entities calculate their assessment on an aggregate basis and procedures to ensure that no assessable life is counted more than once. Unless otherwise determined by the board, the assessable entity responsible for the payment of the provider's administrative costs for childhood behavioral health services shall be the entity responsible for reporting assessable lives and payment of the corresponding assessment.

(p) Submit an annual report regarding the association's activities and its financial reports adopted by the department of health and human services to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor.

(q) Perform any other functions as may be necessary or proper to carry out the plan of operation.

135-F:13 Assessment Determination.

I. The board shall determine an assessment for each assessable entity in accordance with this section. An assessment determination made pursuant to this section is a medical benefit cost and not a regulatory cost for purposes of calculating the carrier's medical loss ratio.

II. In determining the assessment amount, the board shall:

(a) Estimate the total non-federal program cost for the succeeding year;

(b) Add its anticipated operating costs for the succeeding year and such additional working capital reserves as may be established by the board from time to time;

(c) Add a reserve of up to 10 percent of the anticipated cost under subparagraph (a) for unanticipated costs associated with providing childhood behavioral health services to children covered; and

(d) Subtract the amount of any unexpended assessments collected in the preceding year along with any unexpended interest accrued to the fund during the preceding year.

III. The board shall include in its plan of operations, details regarding the timing for assessment collections, and the form and format assessable entities shall use to calculate assessments.

IV. The board shall include in its plan of operation details regarding payment due dates, grace periods, late payment fees, interest, and other details regarding the collection of assessments.

V. The board may determine an interim assessment for new childhood behavioral health services or unanticipated shortfalls in the association's ability to meet childhood behavioral health services funding needs. The board shall calculate the interim assessment in accordance with paragraph II, and the interim assessment is payable the calendar quarter that begins no less than 30 days following the establishment of the interim assessment. The board shall not impose more than one interim assessment per year.

VI. In the event that the association discontinues operation for any reason, any unexpended assessments, including unexpended funds from prior assessments in the state vaccine purchase fund, shall be refunded to payees in proportion to the respective assessment payments by payees over the most recent 8 quarters prior to discontinuation of association operations.

135-F:14 Powers and Duties. In addition to the duties and powers enumerated elsewhere in this chapter:

I. The commissioner of insurance shall, after notice from the association, issue a show cause order to any assessable entity that fails to comply with the association's plan of operation. In addition to late fees and other penalties imposed by the association, assessable entities may, after a finding of just cause, be subject to a minimum fine of $5,000, a maximum fine of 25 percent of the total amount of delinquent assessments, and licensure suspension.

II. The insurance commissioner shall annually review the assessment report required under RSA 135-F:12, V(k) to ensure that all assessable entities are participating in the association and that all assessable entities have accurately reported assessable lives. The association shall remedy any problem identified by the commissioner with respect to assessable entities and assessable lives.

III. The commissioner of insurance may adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, as necessary to carry out the purposes of this subdivision.

135-F:15 Examinations and Annual Reports. The board of directors shall submit to the commissioner, no later than 120 days after the close of the association's fiscal year, a financial report in a form approved by the commissioner.

135-F:16 Exemption From Taxes. The association shall be exempt from payment of all fees and all taxes levied by this state or any of its subdivisions, except taxes levied on real property.

135-F:17 Immunity from Liability. There shall be no liability on the part of and no cause of action of any nature shall arise against any association member or its agents or employees, the association or its agents or employees, members of the board of directors, or the commissioner or the commissioner's representatives, for any action or omission by them in the performance of their powers and duties under this chapter.

135-F:18 Severability of Chapter. If any provisions of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions of this chapter are severable.

135-F:19 Childhood Behavioral Health Services Fund. There is hereby established a childhood behavioral health services fund for the payment to the care management entities for the provision of childhood behavioral health services. Any funds provided to the department for this purpose and deposited in the fund shall not be used for any other purpose. Moneys in the fund shall be continually appropriated to the commissioner.

11 New Subparagraph; State Treasurer; Application of Receipts. Amended RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (410) the following new subparagraph:

(411) Moneys deposited in the childhood behavioral health services fund established in RSA 135-F:19.

12 Insurance; Coverage for Certain Biologically-Based Mental Illnesses. Amend RSA 417-E:1, V-a to read as follows:

V-a. The commissioner shall periodically require health insurers, health service corporations, and health maintenance organizations to submit the comparative analysis described in 42 U.S.C. section 300gg-26(a)(8)(A) for review to ensure compliance with this chapter and with the Act. ***These comparative analyses shall also include specific comparative data for medical/surgical benefits and mental health and substance use disorder benefits available to consumers by age group including ages 0-5 years and 18 years and younger, and including services available, coverage guidelines, denial rates, complaints about lack of services, network capacity data, provider qualifications and restrictions for comparable services, and other factors that indicate whether there are barriers to care that affect parity.*** To the extent allowable under state and federal law, such analysis shall be made public.

13 Effective Date.

I. Sections 1-9 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

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

2026-1981s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Defines parental alienation to mean a pattern of behavior, conduct, or speech which would damage the relationship of the child and a parent, resulting in the child's fear, negative perception, rejection, or hostility toward their other parent, and adds standards for considering claims of parental alienation in certain cases involving children and parental rights.

II. Establishes the New Hampshire children's behavioral health association for the purpose of collecting assessments to fund payments to care management entities for the provision of childhood behavioral health services. The association is authorized to collect assessments from insurance carriers, stop loss carriers, and third-party administrators for fully insured and self-funded health plans. The assessment base would include covered lives in the state employee health plan, as well as pooled risk management programs under RSA 5-b. The funds provided for this purpose would be deposited in a dedicated fund administered by the insurance commissioner.

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.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HB 1735-FN, permitting treatment of certain severe illness under the right to try act.
Interim Study, Vote 3-2. Senator Prentiss for the committee.

Senator Birdsell moved to Lay on the Table. Adopted.

JUDICIARY
HB 1279, relative to the use of physical force in defense of a person.
Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-1. Senator Abbas for the committee.

Senate Judiciary
April 17, 2026
2026-1545s
09/07

Amendment to HB 1279

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Physical Force in Defense of a Person. Amend RSA 627:4, II(d) to read as follows:

(d) Is likely to use any unlawful force in the commission of a felony against the actor ***or a third person*** within such actor's dwelling or its curtilage.

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

Senator Prentiss offered a Floor Amendment.

Sen. Prentiss, Dist 5
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19
May 13, 2026
2026-1944s
09/08

Floor Amendment to HB 1279

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

AN ACT relative to the use of physical force in defense of a person and relative to authorization of seclusion or restraint during a personal safety emergency by a physician, physician associate, or advanced practice registered nurse.

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

2 New Hampshire Mental Health Services System; Treatment Rights; Seclusion or Restraint. Amend RSA 135-C:57, V to read as follows:

V. Freedom from seclusion or physical or pharmacological restraint. ***Notwithstanding any state law to the contrary,*** seclusion or restraint shall be administered only ***by order of a physician, physician associate, or an APRN*** with the consent of the person, who has made an informed decision, or as a form of emergency treatment imposed by law or by rules, adopted by the commissioner under RSA 541-A.

3 Effective Date.

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

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

2026-1944s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Modifies the standard for when force can be used against someone likely to use unlawful force in the commission of a felony.

II. Authorizes a physician, physician associate, or advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) to order seclusion or restraint during a personal safety emergency at New Hampshire hospital and other designated receiving facilities.

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.

TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CORRECTIONS

Without objection the Clerk is authorized to make technical and administrative corrections to bills which are necessary to reflect the intent of the Senate. Adopted.

LIST OF RULE 6-25'S FOR THE DAY

Senator Innis: HB 1793-FN
Senator Pearl: HB 1469-FN-A
Senator Reardon: HB 707-FN

LIST OF IN FAVOR/OPPOSITION FORMS FOR THE DAY

Senator Altschiller: HB 194-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 232-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1010: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1275: In opposition to Floor Amendment #2026-1879s.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1275: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1279: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1376: In opposition to the Committee Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1376: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1416: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1499-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1792-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1793-FN: In opposition to Floor Amendment #2026-1882s.
Senator Altschiller: HB 1817-FN: In favor of the Committee Amendment.
Senator Birdsell: HB 1064-FN: In opposition to the motion to Lay on the Table.
Senator Birdsell: HB 1709-FN: In opposition to Floor Amendment #2026-1766s.
Senator Birdsell: HB 1738-FN: In opposition to Floor Amendment #2026-1931s.
Senator Birdsell: HB 2026: In opposition to Floor Amendment #2026-1935s.
Senator Fenton: HB 360: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1906s.
Senator Fenton: HB 360: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Fenton: HB 1219: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1943s.
Senator Fenton: HB 1219: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Fenton: HB 1279: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1944s.
Senator Fenton: HB 1279: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Fenton: HB 1323-FN: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1981s.
Senator Fenton: HB 1323-FN: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1982s.
Senator Fenton: HB 1323-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Fenton: HB 1365: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1947s.
Senator Fenton: HB 1365: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Fenton: HB 1376: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1938s.
Senator Fenton: HB 1376: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Fenton: HB 1499-FN: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1952s.
Senator Fenton: HB 1499-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Fenton: HB 1738-FN: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1931s.
Senator Fenton: HB 1738-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Murphy: HB 609-FN: In opposition to Floor Amendment #2026-1987s.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1010: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1907s.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1010: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1064-FN: In opposition to the motion to Lay on the Table.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1219: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1943s.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1279: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1944s.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1365: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1947s.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1376: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1938s.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1709-FN: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1739s.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1709-FN: In opposition to Floor Amendment #2026-1978s.
Senator Prentiss: HB 1709-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Rochefort: HB 1584-FN: In opposition to Floor Amendment #2026-1959s.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 155-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 360: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1906s.

Senator Rosenwald: HB 360: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1219: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1943s.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1323-FN: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1981s.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1323-FN: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1982s.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1323-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1365: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1947s.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1365: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1376: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1938s.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1376: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1499-FN: In favor of Floor Amendment #2026-1952s.
Senator Rosenwald: HB 1499-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.
Senator Watters: HB 1323-FN: In opposition to the Committee Amendment.
Senator Watters: HB 1365: In opposition to the Committee Amendment.
Senator Watters: HB 1376: In opposition to the Committee Amendment.
Senator Watters: HB 1499-FN: In opposition to the motion of Ought to Pass with Amendment.

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
ANNOUNCEMENTS

(The Chair recognized Senator Perkins Kwoka.)

SENATOR PERKINS KWOKA: Yeah, I just have this really long announcement. Just kidding. Great job today, everybody.

PRESIDENT CARSON: Okay. I am going to ask Senator Pearl to come up here because I'd like to present him with a certificate. I would like to present Senator Pearl with the 2026 Bradley Special Award and I'm presenting this to Senator Howard Pearl for his work on House Bill 707, establishing a solid waste site evaluation committee for a compromise on a complex issue that no one loves but everybody can live with.

SENATOR PEARL: I've prepared a 45 minute thank you. Thank you very much. It's an honor. It really is.

PRESIDENT CARSON: Thank you Senator for all your hard work.

(The Chair recognized Senator Gannon.)

SENATOR GANNON: I would like to thank the Senator from District 5 who for probably the fifth or sixth year has helped me get a good bill across, a bipartisan thing. You helped me every step of the way getting the prosthetic bill. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

Without objection, all Personal Privileges and Unanimous Consent shall be entered into the permanent *Journal of the Senate.* (Rule 2-16 and Rule 2-17). Adopted.

LATE SESSION
Third Reading and Final Passage

HB 113, relative to OHRV operation on certain highways within the town of Windsor.
HB 155-FN, relative to business enterprise tax returns and appropriating funds to the department of health and human services for licensed nursing facilities.
HB 194-FN, relative to the crime of interference with custody and relative to the practice of pharmacy and the dispensing of certain medications by pharmacists.
HB 232-FN, relative to the rights of conscience for medical professionals.
HB 360, prohibiting public schools from performing surgical procedures or prescribing pharmaceutical drugs, relative to licensing requirements for health care facilities established within a 15 mile radius of a critical access hospital, and relative to the administration of prescription medication to minors by youth camp staff.
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 661-FN, relative to the department of health and human services management of social security payments, supplemental security income payments, and veterans benefits for children in foster care.
HB 707-FN, establishing a solid waste site evaluation committee.
HB 1010, relative to multi-family residential development on commercially zoned land.
HB 1102-FN, increasing the research and development tax credit cap and relative to state park fees for state residents.
HB 1219, relative to immunization requirements in foster family homes and relative to financial eligibility for the Medicare savings program.
HB 1275, relative to the effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on agriculture, exempting certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl products from use restrictions, and relative to the definition of "drinking water standard".
HB 1279, relative to the use of physical force in defense of a person and relative to authorization of seclusion or restraint during a personal safety emergency by a physician, physician associate, or advanced practice registered nurse.
HB 1300, establishing a school district local tax cap question for the state general election of 2026 and related limitations on central office administrative expenses in school districts.
HB 1323-FN, relative to parental alienation, limiting certain prior authorization requirements for physical therapy, occupational therapy, and similar rehabilitative services, relative to children's mental health services for persons 18 years of age and younger.
HB 1332, relative to the authorized display of flags on state house grounds.
HB 1336-FN, relative to regulated conditional deposits.
HB 1337, repealing the New Hampshire council on autism spectrum disorders.
HB 1356-FN, relative to the statute of limitations for bringing a private right of action for violation of the statute prohibiting medical procedures and treatments intended to alter a minor's gender, authorizing the application of sunscreen in schools and camps without a licensed health care provider's note or prescription, and establishing a skin cancer prevention education program.
HB 1365, relative to applications for licenses to carry a loaded pistol or revolver, relative to the composition of the board of dental examiners, and relative to membership of the governor's commission on addiction, treatment, and prevention
HB 1376, relative to a parent's ability to raise their child in a manner consistent with the child's biological sex and relative to breast surgeries for minors.
HB 1384, relative to prohibiting foreign adversary persons or foreign entities of concern from financing lawsuits, prohibiting foreign principals from registering as lobbyists, and requires certain disclosures for persons acting on behalf of foreign principals.
HB 1415-FN, establishing a special veterans license plate and creating a fund and administrative programs from the proceeds of the sale of such plates and establishing the New Hampshire first for veterans program and authority.
HB 1416, establishing a committee to study what legal protections currently exist for the freedom of expression of pregnancy resource centers and whether further First Amendment protections are needed.
HB 1423-FN, relative to the offense of improper influence and making synthetic and semisynthetic kratom illegal to prepare, distribute, manufacture, sell, possess, or advertise, with exceptions made for scientific research.
HB 1433-FN, creating a child care tax credit for qualifying businesses.
HB 1469-FN-A, relative to the licensing requirements for massage therapy establishments.
HB 1491, relative to pooled risk management programs.
HB 1499-FN, relative to additional grounds for eviction under the landlord and tenant statute, relative to the responsibility of local school districts to provide meals to students during school hours, and reimbursing schools for meals provided to students at no cost and making an appropriation therefor.
HB 1554-FN, requiring insurance carriers to provide peer-to-peer review at any stage of prior authorization and mandating disclosure of reviewer credentials.
HB 1555-FN, relative to the administration and enforcement of the state fire code.
HB 1563-FN-LOCAL, relative to the special education aid formula and the administration and monitoring of state special education aid.
HB 1565-FN, relative to the penalty for false reports of suspected abuse and neglect made to the division for children, youth, and families, relative to owner's project manager services for school building aid projects, and relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor.
HB 1569-FN, repealing the directive that the state sell the Anna Philbrook Center for Children property in

Concord.
HB 1574-FN, relative to the extension of free and reduced price breakfast and lunch for students under the age of 22 and making an appropriation therefor.
HB 1584-FN, directing the department of health and human services to provide notice of medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements and relative to the form of such exemption.
HB 1598-FN, relative to notice and proceedings for tenants and landlords engaged in eviction processes.
HB 1637, relative to the scheduling of hearings on certain motions to modify or revoke bail.
HB 1705-FN, establishing an employee assistance program for small town and volunteer first responders.
HB 1709-FN, prohibiting certain unlawfully present felons from occupying or renting real property, relative to pet vendor foster home and defining pet vendor foster facility, and providing procedures for the potential confiscation of livestock involved in cruelty to animal cases.
HB 1718-FN, relative to authorizing energy storage in connection with net metering.
HB 1723-FN, requiring utilities and electric grid operators to assess and report the vulnerability of high-voltage transformers to geomagnetic and electromagnetic disturbances, and to recommend mitigation measures to protect the state electric infrastructure.
HB 1734-FN, establishing a committee to study the feasibility of establishing experimental treatment centers in New Hampshire and the oversight thereof.
HB 1738-FN, relative to ratepayer benefits from the regional greenhouse gas initiative and relative to net metering, energy procurement, and nuclear regulatory duties.
HB 1772-FN-A, relative to prescribing ibogaine for investigational use only and adopting the physician associate licensure compact.
HB 1774-FN, relative to qualifying scholarship granting organizations and federal workforce Pell grants.
HB 1775-FN, relative to utility ownership of natural gas and nuclear power generation facilities.
HB 1792-FN, relative to the prohibition on teaching discrimination.
HB 1793-FN, prohibiting public colleges and universities from regulating the possession or carrying of certain weapons on campus and establishing a committee to study the feasibility of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education.
HB 1817-FN, relative to access to curricular courses and cocurricular programs within school districts.
HB 2026, relative to the state 10-year transportation improvement plan; relative to toll rate adjustments and periodic toll reviews for the New Hampshire turnpike system to support the 2027-2036 ten-year transportation plan; and relative to reconstruction of the Gregg Mill Road Bridge in the town of New Boston.

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.