

JANUARY 12, 1998

No. 3

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



Legislative

SENATE CALENDAR

HEARINGS, MEETINGS, AND NOTICES



**THE SENATE WILL MEET IN SESSION ON THURSDAY,
JANUARY 29, 1998, AT 10:00 A.M.**



SENATE HEARINGS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1998

BANKS, Room 102, LOB

1:00 p.m. **HB 792-FN-L**, prohibiting trusts and other legal devices from being used to shelter wealth for the purposes of medicaid eligibility (rereferred from 1997 session).

1:45 p.m. **SB 344**, clarifying requirements regarding certain trusts.

INSURANCE, Room 101, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 371**, requiring health insurers to provide certain information regarding a denial of a requested medical service.

9:00 a.m. **SB 378**, relative to very small employer and individual insurance.

9:30 a.m. **SB 393**, relative to health insurance deductibles.

10:00 a.m. **SB 430-FN**, requiring health carriers to pay for all recommended prescription drugs.

10:30 a.m. **SB 478-FN**, relative to medicaid under managed care entities.

11:00 a.m. **SB 432-FN**, requiring health carriers offering any managed care plan to have a consumer advisory board.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Room 105-A, SH

2:45 p.m. **SB 411-FN-A**, relative to congregate services and making an appropriation therefor.

3:00 p.m. **SB 480-FN**, expanding medical coverage to pay dental assistance for adults on medicaid.

3:15 p.m. **SB 476-FN**, relative to ambulatory surgical facilities.

3:30 p.m. **SB 355**, mandating that hospital infection rates be reported.

3:45 p.m. **SB 310**, relative to licensure of permanent micropigmentation technicians.

4:00 p.m. **SB 409**, extending the moratorium on new nursing home beds.

4:15 p.m. **SB 398**, relative to prescription drug therapy management.

TRANSPORTATION, Room 101, LOB

1:00 p.m. **SB 302-FN-L**, naming certain portions of U.S. Route 3 after Trooper Leslie Lord and Trooper Scott Phillips.

1:15 p.m. **SB 305-FN**, naming the bridge over the Souhegan River on the F.E. Everett turnpike in the town of Merrimack, New Hampshire, Merrill's Marauders bridge.

1:30 p.m. **SB 306-L**, relative to municipal officials and their discretion over the use of traffic devices and the purchase of liability insurance.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 103, SH

2:45 p.m. **SB 309**, relative to distributors and suppliers of bingo equipment.

3:00 p.m. **SB 356**, relative to the bond required as a condition for filing an intent to cut or receiving a permit to cut.

3:15 p.m. **SB 328**, relative to dispensing equipment at beer festivals.

3:30 p.m. **SB 324-FN**, relative to entertainers and entertainment on premises of an on-sale liquor licensee and relative to penalties for manufacture, sale, and possession of false identification.

3:45 p.m. **SB 482-FN**, reducing the number of live races a racetrack is required to schedule in order to simulcast races.

4:00 p.m. **SB 447-FN**, exempting siblings of a decedent who are unable to engage in substantial gainful employment from the legacies and successions tax.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1998

EDUCATION, Room 105-A, SH

1:00 p.m. **SB 313**, requiring compliance with the Military Selective Service Act as a condition to receiving certain state education and employment benefits.

1:30 p.m. **SB 318-L**, allowing a school district to transfer surplus funds to its capital reserve account or an expendable trust fund.

2:00 p.m. **SB 452-FN-L**, allowing students to choose alternatives to dissection as part of a course exercise.

2:30 p.m. **SB 451-FN-L**, relative to strengthening family and pupil privacy rights.

INSURANCE, Room 101, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 308**, relative to the board of directors of Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire, Inc.

9:00 a.m. **SB 354**, requiring insurance coverage for hospitalization and anesthesia for dental procedures for certain patients.

9:30 a.m. **SB 435**, extending the reporting date for the committee to study the problem of access to dental care for low-income, uninsured, and underinsured persons.

10:00 a.m. **SB 486**, relative to old age and survivors' insurance.

JUDICIARY, Room 103, SH

10:15 a.m. **SB 387**, permitting one-party consent recording of communications under certain circumstances by presumed victims of criminal offenses, abuse, or sexual harassment and expanding the attorney general's authority to record communications in criminal investigations.

10:30 a.m. **SB 463-FN**, establishing a pilot program in Strafford county which eliminates trials de novo in the superior court for misdemeanor cases and requires the election of trial by judge in the district court or trial by jury in the superior court.

11:00 a.m. **SB 410-FN**, relative to possession of firearms and other deadly weapons by a person convicted of a class A misdemeanor.

11:15 a.m. **SB 474-FN**, relative to controlling the transfer of large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

11:30 a.m. **SB 350**, relative to probate court procedures.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, Room 104, LOB

10:15 a.m. **SB 307**, relative to the display of the POW-MIA flag.

10:45 a.m. **SB 317**, relative to the time for consideration of applications to planning boards.

11:15 a.m. **SB 327-L**, allowing local political subdivisions to adopt biennial budgets.

11:45 a.m. **SB 333**, allowing any registered voter who is unable to vote in person for any cause to vote by absentee ballot.

12:00 p.m. **SB 335-L**, relative to hours of polling and polling in the town of Bath.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1998

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Room 103, LOB

1:30 p.m. **SCR 6**, urging Congress to establish a centralized registry for security interests in intellectual property to be located in New Hampshire.

2:00 p.m. **SB 421-FN**, relative to timber harvesting and penalties for timber trespass.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 104, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 314-FN-L**, relative to testing the accuracy of voting machinery.

9:00 a.m. **SB 331**, eliminating work certificates for 16 and 17 year old youths.

9:30 a.m. **SB 415**, relative to the authority of zoning boards of adjustment to grant variances from certain zoning ordinances.

10:00 a.m. **SB 332**, requiring that the real estate transfer questionnaire be provided to the municipality in which the property is located.

10:30 a.m. **SB 369**, relative to the appeal of disciplinary actions of the New Hampshire real estate commission.

11:00 a.m. **SB 444-FN**, requiring the New Hampshire real estate commission to notify licensees of proposed rules and any changes adopted to rules.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS, Room 103, LOB

3:00 p.m. **SB 322**, repealing the prospective repeal relative to an exemption for certain rules regarding the radiological health program from drafting and numbering requirements of the rulemaking process.

3:30 p.m. **SB 382-FN**, increasing the salaries of the state fire marshal and the director of fire standards and training.

4:00 p.m. **SB 416**, relative to notice of public hearings of the legislature.

4:15 p.m. **SB 465-FN**, relative to the disposition of firearms confiscated or otherwise acquired by state or local law enforcement agencies.

WILDLIFE AND RECREATION, Room 102, LOB

2:45 p.m. **SB 303-FN-L**, changing the name of Blue Mountain to Bunnell Mountain.

3:00 p.m. **SB 343**, relative to Squam Lakes public access.

3:45 p.m. **SB 368**, relative to muffling devices for watercraft.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1998

INSURANCE, Room 101, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 454**, relative to motor vehicle insurance.

9:00 a.m. **SB 345**, relative to uninsured or hit-and-run motor vehicle insurance coverage.

9:30 a.m. **SB 433-FN**, relative to computing average weekly wages for the purpose of determining workers' compensation benefits.

10:00 a.m. **SB 457-FN**, relative to the eligibility of employment program participants for workers' compensation.

TRANSPORTATION, Room 101, LOB

1:00 p.m. **SB 330**, permitting a surviving spouse of a former prisoner of war to retain and use an issued POW special number plate.

1:15 p.m. **SB 386**, relative to eligibility for antique motor vehicle plates.

1:30 p.m. **SB 408-FN**, requiring the department of safety to perform a background check to determine if an applicant for a motor vehicle registration is in default or has a warrant issued against the applicant.

1:45 p.m. **SB 407-FN**, allowing certain nonprofit agencies to purchase fuel at statewide automated fuel distribution centers.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 103, SH

2:45 p.m. **SB 483-FN**, exempting certain businesses from the electronic filing requirement under the meals and rooms tax.

3:15 p.m. **SB 391-FN-A**, exempting personal property which is subject to taxation under the legacies and successions tax from the 2 percent tax on transfers of personal property of nonresident decedents.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1998

EDUCATION, Room 105-A, SH

1:00 p.m. **SB 485-L**, exempts special education catastrophic aid payments from the municipal budget law.

1:30 p.m. **SB 443-L**, requiring the state to pay for in-home support and care for special education children.

2:30 p.m. **SB 381**, creating a committee to study the components of the Augenblick formula.

INSURANCE, Room 101, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 323**, relative to insurance coverage for nonprescription enteral formula.

9:15 a.m. **SB 357**, establishing a committee to study insurance coverage for infertility.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, Room 104, LOB

10:15 a.m. **SB 334**, changing election day for towns from the second Tuesday in March to the third Saturday in April.

10:45 a.m. **SB 338**, relative to special meetings.

11:15 a.m. **SB 348**, relative to property left behind by tenants.

11:45 a.m. **SB 349**, enabling a town or school district moderator to postpone the deliberative session of a meeting because of an event that may diminish voter attendance at the deliberative session of a meeting.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1998

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Room 103, LOB

1:30 p.m. **SB 427-FN**, establishing a revolving fund for loans for intrastate energy infrastructure facilities improvements.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 104, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 326**, relative to representation and costs in utility rate proceedings.

9:00 a.m. **SB 341**, relative to the decommissioning finance committee.

9:30 a.m. **SB 375**, relative to zoning requirements for certain public water utilities and water withdrawals.

10:00 a.m. **SB 390**, relative to the application of the law governing foreign business entities to a merger or other reorganization of a gas utility.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS, Room 103, LOB

2:30 p.m. **SB 320**, relative to notice by a state agency to certain persons of proposed rulemaking activity.

3:00 p.m. **SB 359-FN**, providing immunity to the state and public employees for any harm resulting from certain computer errors in the millennium changeover.

3:30 p.m. **SB 366**, establishing a study committee to examine the purging of archaic laws.

4:00 p.m. **SB 405-FN**, relative to a specific time period by which the state is required to have an audited financial statement available to the public.

WILDLIFE AND RECREATION, Room 102, LOB

2:45 p.m. **SB 361-FN**, relative to deer hunting on Long Island in the town of Moultonborough and establishing a task force on wildlife population control.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1998

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 104, LOB

9:00 a.m. **SB 438**, relative to the authority of a voluntary corporation to indemnify its directors and officers.

9:30 a.m. **SB 441-FN-L**, relative to the authority of and protections for fire chiefs.

10:00 a.m. **SB 363-L**, relative to procedures applicable to state owned radio or communication towers on state land.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1998

BANKS, Room 102, LOB

1:00 p.m. **SB 377**, authorizing the organization of merchant banks to provide equity financing and related services to small businesses.

1:45 p.m. **SB 395**, enacting certain provisions of the prudent investor act.

TRANSPORTATION, Room 101, LOB

1:00 p.m. **SB 414**, relative to official motor vehicle plates.

1:15 p.m. **SB 445**, relative to penalties for personal use of walking disabled motor vehicle plates or placards by persons not issued the plates or placards.

1:30 p.m. **SB 450-FN-L**, authorizing a motor vehicle rental company to charge a registration reimbursement fee to reimburse the rental company for the cost of registration, licensing fees, title fees, and personal property taxes.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1998

EDUCATION, Room 105-A, SH

1:00 p.m. **SB 481-FN-L**, relative to the availability of school building aid for year-round schools.

2:00 p.m. **SB 439-L**, relative to the adoption of rules by local school district governing bodies concerning pupil discipline and behavior.

INSURANCE, Room 101, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 336**, relative to small group and individual insurance.

9:00 a.m. **SB 337**, relative to the order of distribution of claims from an insurer's estate.

9:30 a.m. **SB 399**, relative to managed care plans as appropriate lines of business for insurance companies.

10:00 a.m. **SB 490-FN**, relative to life and accident and health insurance and relative to certain salaries.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, Room 104, LOB

● **PLEASE NOTE THE HEARING FOR SB 431-FN-A HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

10:15 a.m. **SB 353**, relative to official ballot procedures.

10:45 a.m. **SB 413**, relative to nomination papers.

11:15 a.m. **SB 428-FN**, relative to firearm lock boxes in state facilities.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1998

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 104, LOB

● **PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGES FOR BELOW-LISTED ED&A HEARINGS**

1:00 p.m. **SB 466-FN-L**, relative to filing security interests.

1:30 p.m. **SB 472-FN-L**, relative to the place for filing security interests under the Uniform Commercial Code.

2:00 p.m. **SB 468-FN-L**, requiring the state to reimburse municipalities for a percentage of the costs of municipal services provided to state facilities and state university system property.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS, Room 103, LOB

2:00 p.m. Executive Session *Continuation*, **HB 385**, relative to reporting and registration requirements for lobbyists and employees of lobbyists.

2:30 p.m. **SB 406**, establishing a legislative task force to develop a state government restructuring plan.

WILDLIFE AND RECREATION, Room 102, LOB

2:45 p.m. **SB 402**, extending the reporting date for the pet overpopulation committee.

3:00 p.m. **SB 403**, relative to mooring on Spofford Lake.

3:30 p.m. **SB 412**, designating skiing as the official New Hampshire sport.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1998

INTERSTATE COOPERATION, Room 103, LOB

1:45 p.m. **SB 370-L**, establishing an international trade corridor and border crossing planning and development advisory committee.

TRANSPORTATION, Room 101, LOB

1:00 p.m. **SB 484**, prohibiting triple-trailer trucks from the ways of this state.

1:15 p.m. **SB 461-FN-A**, designating low digit number plates as vanity number plates and establishing a lottery system for issuing such plates.

1:30 p.m. **SB 429-FN**, relative to the confidentiality of drivers' motor vehicle records.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1998

EDUCATION, Room 105-A, SH

1:00 p.m. **SB 301**, relative to teacher renomination and the application of teacher professional and performance standards.

INSURANCE, Room 101, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 380**, relative to exercising an opt out provision of any federal program mandating no fault motor vehicle insurance.

9:00 a.m. **SB 372**, relative to forms and rates for large scale commercial insurance policies.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1998

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 104, LOB

1:00 p.m. **SB 358-L**, including the regulation of the practice of podiatry under the authority of the board of registration in medicine.

1:30 p.m. **SB 397**, relative to the composition of the pharmacy board.

2:00 p.m. **SB 364**, establishing a committee to study the feasibility and advisability of consolidating existing building trades under a single licensing board.

2:30 p.m. **SB 455-FN**, relative to the regulation of plumbers and plumbing.

WILDLIFE AND RECREATION, Room 102, LOB

2:45 p.m. **SB 376**, relative to animal cruelty.

3:15 p.m. **SB 401-FN**, establishing a special animal welfare motor vehicle license plate.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1998

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 104, LOB

9:00 a.m. **SB 426-FN**, relative to the powers and duties of the commissioner of the department of health and human services.

9:30 a.m. **SB 425-FN**, relative to the powers and duties of the commissioner of health and human services.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1998

TRANSPORTATION, Room 101, LOB

1:00 p.m. **SB 467-FN**, requiring the department of transportation to construct sound barriers along certain streets in Nashua.

1:45 p.m. **SB 464-FN**, relative to limitations from civil liability for volunteers and relative to special license plates and related fees for volunteer emergency personnel with 2-way radio equipment in their vehicles.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998

EDUCATION, Room 105-A, SH

1:00 p.m. **SB 321-FN-L**, relative to creating a joint maintenance high school in certain towns.

1:30 p.m. **SB 448**, establishing a committee to study joint maintenance agreements in school districts.

2:30 p.m. **SB 400**, relative to withdrawal of a school district from an area district.

INSURANCE, Room 101, LOB

8:30 a.m. **SB 362**, relative to the proper classification of jobs in the New Hampshire retirement system.

9:00 a.m. **SB 423**, relative to eligibility for cost of living adjustments for retired members or beneficiaries in the New Hampshire retirement system.

9:30 a.m. **SCR 7**, supporting the mission of economic security 2000.

9:45 a.m. **SB 316**, authorizing insurance companies to give discounts to drivers over 55 years of age who complete an approved driver safety course.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1998

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 104, LOB

1:00 p.m. **SB 367**, requiring attorneys to be bonded through the New Hampshire Bar Association.

1:30 p.m. **SB 388**, relative to membership of the personnel appeals board.

2:00 p.m. **SB 389**, transferring rulemaking authority from the director of the division of personnel to the commissioner of the department of administrative services.

2:30 p.m. **SB 469-FN**, relative to public employee polygraph protection.

SENATE MEETINGS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1998

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION ON THE SMITHSONIAN FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN FOLKLIFE (SJR 20, Chapter 204, Laws of 1996), Room 307, LOB

3:00 p.m. Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Southern NH Regional Planning Commission, 438 Dubuque St., Manchester

3:00 p.m. Committee Meeting, Transportation Enhancement (TE) Advisory Committee

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Plymouth Town Hall, Main Street, Plymouth

7:00 p.m. Public Officials Meeting, Plymouth, Main Street Transportation Enhancement

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1998

CAPITAL BUDGET OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (RSA 17-J:2), Room 201, LOB

8:45 a.m. Meeting

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT, Rooms 210-211, LOB

9:00 a.m. Regular Business

9:30 a.m. Audits:

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the New Hampshire Retirement System
for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1997

State of New Hampshire Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year
Ended June 30, 1997

New Hampshire Turnpike System Audited Financial Statements June 30, 1997

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FUNDING AND ADEQUACY, Room 103,
SH

4:00 p.m. Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Keene Public Library, 60 Winter Street, Keene

6:30 p.m. Citizen Advisory Task Force (CATF), Keene-Swanzey, NH Route 9, 10, 12 and 101

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1998

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES, Rooms 306-308, LOB

9:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE, Office of the President, Room 302, SH

9:00 a.m. Meeting

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 281-A:62), Room 305, LOB

9:00 a.m. Meeting

OSTEOPOROSIS ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 126-I:3), Room 103, LOB

10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING FINANCING COMMITTEE (RSA 162-F:15), Room 307, LOB

1:00 p.m. Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1998

NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL ON APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (RSA 12-H:1,I), Room 304, LOB

8:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Southern New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, 438 Dubuque St., Manchester

3:00 p.m. Committee Meeting, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Advisory Committee

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1998

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE, Office of the President, Room 302, SH

12:00 p.m. Meeting

JOINT LEGISLATIVE FACILITIES COMMITTEE (RSA 17-E:2), Room 103, SH

1:00 p.m. Meeting

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE (RSA 14-B:2), Room 304, LOB

3:00 p.m. Public hearing on a proposed Advisory Opinion regarding the requirement that a legislator file a Declaration of Intent Form for individual bills when a legislator has a potential conflict of interest.

Public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Ethics Guidelines for the 1999 session to allow a general disclosure of potential conflicts of interest.

Regular meeting.

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FUNDING AND ADEQUACY, Room 103, SH

4:00 p.m. Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Exeter Town Office Building, Nowak Room, 10 Front St., Exeter

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing (Commission), Exeter NH Route 108

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1998

VEHICLE EMISSIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RSA 268:20, I), Room 304, LOB

10:00 a.m. Meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1998

OIL FUND DISBURSEMENT BOARD (RSA 146-D:4), Room 305, LOB

9:30 a.m. Regular Meeting

NEW HAMPSHIRE BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 137-K:2), Room 205, LOB

2:00 p.m. Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1998

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, New Hampton Community School, Main Street, New Hampton

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing (Selectmen), New Hampton (Betterment), Dana Hill Road

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1998

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FUNDING AND ADEQUACY, Room 103, SH

4:00 p.m. Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Plymouth Town Hall, Main Street, Plymouth

7:00 p.m. Public Information Meeting, Plymouth, Main Street Transportation Enhancement

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1998

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Chesterfield Elementary School Gymnasium, 535 Old Chesterfield Road, Chesterfield

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing (Special Committee), Chesterfield, NH – Brattleboro, VT, NH Route 9

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1998

JOINT HEALTH COUNCIL, (RSA 326-B:12), NH Board of Nursing, Room 17, 78 Regional Drive, Building 2, Concord

6:30 p.m. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1998

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FUNDING AND ADEQUACY, Room 103, SH

4:00 p.m. Meeting

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1998

PERINATAL ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUG USE TASK FORCE (RSA 132:19), Room 101, LOB

9:00 a.m. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FUNDING AND ADEQUACY, Room 103, SH

4:00 p.m. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1998

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FUNDING AND ADEQUACY, Room 103, SH

4:00 p.m. Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Stratham Municipal Center, 10 Bunker Hill Ave, Stratham

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing (Commission), Newfields-Stratham, NH Route 108

NOTICES

Members of the NH Senate and House are encouraged to utilize the complimentary ski privileges afforded them. Upon presentation of proper credentials at the ticket window, NH Senators and Representatives may receive a lift ticket for their personal use and one for a guest. The elected official must be present to personally present the credentials, unless prior arrangement is made with Commissioner Thomson. *Lift tickets are to be picked up at Guest Services at Sunapee; and at Guest Services or the Ticket Window at Cannon.*

Senator Joseph Delahunty

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1998

To celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr., Civil Rights Day, there will be a gathering at noon on Monday, January 19, at the State House Plaza for words of Martin Luther King, Jr., followed by the ringing of the Liberty Bell. An ecumenical service will be held at 12:15 at St. Paul's Church.

Senator Katie Wheeler

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1998

The Legislative Ethics Committee will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 21, 1998, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 304, LOB on a proposed Advisory Opinion and a proposed amendment to the Ethics Guidelines for the 1999 session. The proposed Advisory Opinion and a *working draft* of the proposed amendment are printed below in their entirety.

Senator Richard L. Russman

PROPOSED

ADVISORY OPINION

The Legislative Ethics Committee has received and reviewed a request for an Advisory Opinion regarding the application of the conflict of interest disclosure procedure of the Guidelines as it may pertain to members of the General Court who own land subject to current use assessment. The Committee was asked whether a legislator who has filed a general disclosure of ownership of land in current use assessment at the beginning of a legislative session must also file a Declaration of Intent Form for each individual bill the legislator votes upon which relates to the current use assessment and tax system.

The Committee has addressed the issue of current use land ownership previously. In Advisory Opinion 1996-1, the Committee ruled:

The current use tax system, unlike a tax of general application, is available and applies to a limited number of landowners, and accordingly, constitutes a financial interest, and therefore a potential conflict of interest, with respect to any official activity pertaining to the current use tax system. Therefore, a legislator who owns (or whose spouse owns) land in current use must file a conflict of interest disclosure form with the clerk with respect to any official activity which may affect the financial benefits or burdens of such ownership. (emphasis added)

Ethics Guidelines Section 2, VI defines "official activities" as:

...the conduct of activities which relate to official responsibilities including the introduction of legislation, testifying before any legislative committee or state agency, voting in committee or in house or senate session or otherwise participating in, influencing, or attempting to influence any decision of the legislature, county delegation or any state agency.

Ethics Guidelines Section 5, Conflict of Interest Procedure, requires a legislator to file a Declaration of Intent Form with the clerk of the member's respective body "within 24 hours" of the time of the legislator's participation in any official activity in which the legislator has a potential conflict of interest. Although the Ethics Committee is currently considering a process which would allow

legislators to file a general disclosure form at the beginning of the session, that process has not yet been adopted by the House and the Senate.

Accordingly, the Committee concluded that the Ethics Guidelines require a legislator with land in current use to file a Declaration of Intent Form for each bill for which the legislator has a potential conflict of interest.

WORKING DRAFT

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ETHICS GUIDELINES

3 LEGISLATOR'S FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM.

Every representative, representative-elect, senator, senator-elect, and officer of the House and Senate, shall file with the Secretary of State the following financial disclosure form on or before January 31 of each year [~~for the preceding calendar year~~].

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM

FOR STATE SENATORS, STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL COURT

Required by the Legislative Ethics Committee (RSA 14-B)

Name of Legislator/Officer _____

(print name)

Address _____

street town/city zip code

Office _____ County/District _____

Telephone Number _____

I. Identify below the name, address, and type of any professional, business, or other organization (including any unit of government) in which you are or were an officer, director, associate, partner, proprietor, employee, or member, or served in any advisory capacity, from which you derived any income (including retirement benefits) in excess of \$10,000 during the preceding calendar year.

1) a) Name of organization _____

b) Address of organization _____

c) Type of organization _____

2) a) Name of organization _____

b) Address of organization _____

c) Type of organization _____

3) a) Name of organization _____

b) Address of organization _____

c) Type of organization _____

(attach additional sheets if necessary)

Please note: every State Senator, State Representative, and Officer of the General Court is required to file this form. If you feel that your income during the preceding calendar year does not qualify for disclosure according to the criteria stated above, signify by checking on the line below.

My income does not qualify _____

Do you or your spouse participate in and/or receive income from any of the following businesses, professions, occupations, groups, or matters? Check any of the following which apply and describe the nature of the interest:

any profession, occupation, or business licensed or certified by the State of New Hampshire_____

health care_____

insurance

real estate, including brokers, agents, developers, and landlords

banking/financial services

State of New Hampshire employment

the New Hampshire Retirement System

the current use land assessment program

restaurants and lodging

the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages

the practice of law

any business regulated by the Public Utilities Commission

horse or dog racing, or other legal forms of gambling

DISCLOSURE AND DESCRIPTION OF INTERESTS ON THIS FORM MAY ELIMINATE THE NEED TO FOLLOW THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 5 OF THE ETHICS GUIDELINES. IF YOUR PARTICIPATION IN AN OFFICIAL ACTIVITY CREATES A CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOT DISCLOSED BY THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND FILE A DECLARATION OF INTENT FORM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 5 OF THE ETHICS GUIDELINES.

The foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Legislator/Officer

Complete and return to the Office of Secretary of State no later than January 31, ____

5 CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROCEDURE.

I. No declaration shall be required if no benefit or detriment could reasonably be expected to accrue to the legislator as a member of a business, profession, occupation, or other group, to any greater extent than to any other member of such business, profession, occupation, or other group,

provided that disclosure of the legislator's membership is made in the Financial Disclosure Form pursuant to section 3 of the Ethics Guidelines. For purposes of these guidelines, groups shall be limited to ones generally recognized and of a substantial size.

II. When a legislator becomes aware that a conflict of interest exists or may exist ***and the conditions set forth in paragraph I are not met***, the legislator shall proceed in accordance with either subparagraph (a) or (b):

(a) Declare that the legislator will not participate in any official activity associated with the issue.

(b) Declare that the legislator intends to participate in the official activity and will provide a description of the conflict of interest including:

- * names of all entities, both public and private, which might be affected;
- * the nature of any benefit which may accrue to the legislator;
- * the nature of any financial interest in the issue;
- * the nature of any relationship which existed, exists or may exist between the legislator and any person or entity which might be affected;
- * such additional information as may be required to permit clear public awareness and understanding of the nature and extent of the conflict.

III. The declaration required in subparagraphs **II** (a) and (b) of this procedure shall be publicly announced prior to the legislator's initial participation in the official activity. The information required in subparagraph (b) shall be filed with the clerk of the member's respective body within 24 hours of the time of the official activity and be made available for public inspection during normal business hours.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1998

The Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce cordially invites the Merrimack County Delegation and Leadership of the House, the NH Senate, and the Executive Council to a Legislative Reception on Thursday, January 29, from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. at the NH Historical Society at 30 Park Street, across from the LOB.

Senator Sylvia Larsen

VISITORS' CENTER SCHEDULE – JANUARY

As a convenience to the members of the NH General Court, the Visitors' Center offers the following schedule of school groups visiting the State House in January 1998. These listings will replace individual notifications in an effort to reduce paper usage and to ensure all members will be notified

in a timely manner. Please contact the Visitors' Center for further information. Thank you for your continued participation with our School Visitation Program.

Kenneth Leidner, Director

<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>GROUP</i>	<i>CLASS/Size</i>
1/14	10:15 & 12:00	Lancaster Memorial - Salem	4 / 46
1/15	9:15	Pembroke Hill School	4 / 25
1/15	11:00 & 12:00	Bedford Memorial School	4 / 40
1/16	10:00 & 11:00	DAR Good Citizens	HS / 100
1/16	1:00	Walker School - Concord	3&4 / 36
1/19	10:00	Troop 22 BSA - Amherst	11-15 / 20
1/20	9:00	Nashua Jr. High NSSSB	JHS - 15
1/20	10:00 & 11:30	Charlotte Ave. - Nashua	4 / 70
1/21	10:00 & 12:00	Milford Elementary School	4 / 75
1/22	10:00 & 12:00	The Paul School - Sanbornville	4 / 50
1/23	9:30	Chester Elementary School	4 / 50
1/23	11:00 & 12:00	Bedford Memorial School	4 / 60
1/26	10:00 & 11:15	Towle School - Newport	4 / 50
1/27	9:15 & 10:30	Pembroke Hill School	4 / 50
1/28	10:00 & 11:00	Charlotte Ave. - Nashua	4 / 46
1/29	10:00 & 12:00	Milford Elementary School	4 / 75
1/30	10:00 & 11:30	Woodman Park School - Dover	4 / 80

