

July 10, 2025
No. 29

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

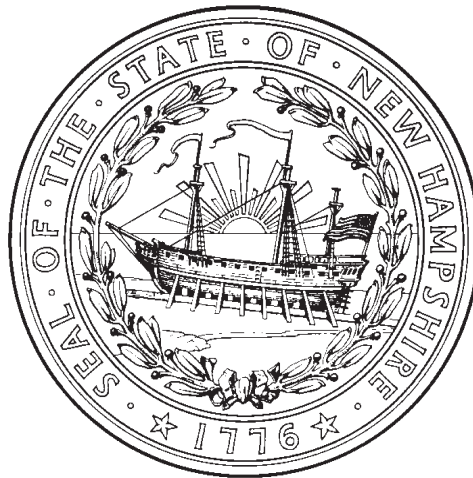
Senate Meeting Schedule Website Address:

<https://gc.nh.gov/senate/schedule/dailyschedule.aspx>

All Standing Committee hearings will be livestreamed on the NH Senate's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/NewHampshireSenateLivestream>

Links are also available on the Senate Meeting Schedule.



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

SENATE CALENDAR

MEETINGS

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025

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

2:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

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

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

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. You also may join the meeting by phone:

Call in Number: 1 (562) 247-8422

Access Code: 115-413-777

Webinar ID: 286-889-131

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

NH COLLEGE TUITION SAVINGS PLAN ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 195-H:2)

2:00 p.m.

University System of New Hampshire

Special Meeting

Farnum Hall

Boardroom 102

28 College Drive

Concord, NH

MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025

NEW HAMPSHIRE OPIOID ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 126-A:85)

1:00 p.m.

Department of Justice

Regular Meeting

Room 107

1 Granite Place South

Concord, NH

Microsoft Teams:

Meeting ID: 279 737 604 573

Passcode: zKPHQY

In accordance with RSA 91-A, the Right-to-Know law, a copy of this notice will be posted on bulletin boards in the elevators at the State House, at the Department of Justice, on the Department of Justice website, and on the Department of Health and Human Services website: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/about-dhhs/advisoryorganizations/nh-opioid-abatement-trust-fund-advisory-commission>

For further information, please contact Deputy Attorney General James T. Boffetti (603) 271-0302 or james.t.boffetti@doj.nh.gov

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (RSA 541-A:2)

9:00 a.m.

Room 100, SH

Regular Meeting

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

NEW HAMPSHIRE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL (RSA 238-A:2)

9:00 a.m. Room 185 Regular Meeting
 7 Hazen Drive
 Concord, NH
 Microsoft Teams Link:
 https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OGI0MDI1OGUtYzIxNy00OGN1LTgzYjMtZTRkZWl5NGMxZGM1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22992deae9-1c4c42c8-a310-5088af55ba74%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2254460536-2ad8-4eb8-86ff-1e217695f6c7%22%7d
 Meeting ID: 215 106 481 470 6
 Passcode: 44yQ7nJ7

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

10:00 a.m. Fish & Game Department Regular Meeting
 629 Main St, Ste B
 Lancaster, NH
 Microsoft Teams Meeting ID: 268 956 476 29
 Passcode: sb2oU3S3

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025

NEW HAMPSHIRE VETERANS HOME BOARD OF MANAGERS (RSA 119:3-a)

9:00 a.m. NH Veterans Home Town Hall Regular Meeting
 139 Winter Street
 Tilton, NH

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025

CURRENT USE BOARD (RSA 79-A:3)

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

CURRENT USE BOARD (RSA 79-A:3)

10:30 a.m. Department of Revenue Administration Agricultural Land Assessment
 Training Room Model Subcommittee
 109 Pleasant Street
 Concord, NH

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

4:30 p.m. Claremont Savings Bank Public Hearing Meeting
 Community Center
 152 South Street
 Claremont, NH

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025

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

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

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2025

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

2:00 p.m.	BEA Kingsman Room 100 Main Street Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2025

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

10:00 a.m.	Room 100, SH	Regular Meeting
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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

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

10:00 a.m.	NH Hospital Association 125 Airport Road Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
	Zoom:	
	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFR3I5emt3NGVueDBYYW9SZThLUT09	

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

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

1:00 p.m.	Room 100, SH	Regular Meeting
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MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025

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

10:00 a.m.	NH Hospital Association 125 Airport Road Concord, NH	Regular Meeting
	Zoom:	
	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430173115?pwd=bUFR3I5emt3NGVueDBYYW9SZThLUT09	

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2025 BILLS REREFERRED TO COMMITTEE:

SENATE BILLS: 39, 53, 56, 66, 82, 88, 90, 101, 109, 111, 123, 136, 139, 142, 152, 155, 175, 183, 187, 191, 208, 220, 223, 226, 231, 256, 261, 270, 289, 298, 301

HOUSE BILLS: 59, 68, 105, 109, 126, 171, 191, 208, 221, 222, 233, 292, 321, 340, 410, 431, 451, 452, 470, 480, 481, 486, 639, 649, 676, 697, 705, 707, 723, 733, 741

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2025 BILLS REMAINING ON THE TABLE:

SENATE BILLS: 14, 17, 20, 21, 35, 38, 59, 64, 70, 81, 86, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 120, 122, 125, 127, 128, 131, 132, 135, 137, 158, 168, 181, 199, 227, 238, 239, 240, 242, 244, 246, 255, 264, 274, 276, 277, 279, 286, 288, 290, 296, 303, 304

HOUSE BILLS: 51, 53, 63, 75, 188, 190, 198, 207, 223, 226, 276, 301, 380, 381, 445, 482, 528, 616, 653

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FISCAL NOTE ADDITIONS AND UPDATES HAVE BEEN AMENDED TO THE BILLS ON THE WEB SITE AND ARE AVAILABLE IN THE SENATE CLERK’S OFFICE FOR THE FOLLOWING 2025 BILLS:

SENATE BILLS: 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 26, 27, 31, 49, 58, 60, 65, 71, 73, 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 83, 84, 86, 87, 92, 93, 99, 100, 106, 107, 108, 110, 111, 112, 113, 115, 116, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 127, 128, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 137, 139, 140, 142, 144, 147, 148, 150, 151, 152, 153, 157, 160, 162, 164, 168, 170, 179, 180, 181, 185, 188, 191, 193, 196, 201, 204, 205, 208, 213, 218, 222, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 233, 238, 239, 241, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 249, 253, 258, 261, 263, 267, 274, 276, 277, 280, 286, 297, 300, 302

HOUSE BILLS: 10, 59, 62, 66, 67, 71, 77, 85, 86, 87, 88, 107, 111, 112, 127, 132, 140, 144, 148, 153, 179, 191, 192, 195, 196, 211, 214, 215, 218, 225, 226, 240, 260, 268, 270, 271, 276, 284, 291, 309, 319, 321, 327, 328, 340, 369, 377, 378, 380, 389, 393, 405, 406, 410, 416, 421, 451, 468, 473, 480, 494, 496, 498, 499, 502, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 511, 514, 517, 518, 521, 522, 524, 525, 526, 528, 534, 535, 536, 538, 542, 546, 547, 551, 553, 566, 572, 574, 575, 581, 583, 586, 587, 591, 607, 608, 609, 611, 615, 616, 619, 621, 622, 624, 630, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 646, 648, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 657, 658, 659, 662, 665, 666, 667, 669, 670, 671, 672, 674, 677, 680, 681, 683, 686, 687, 688, 690, 691, 694, 696, 702, 707, 708, 710, 711, 712, 713, 716, 719, 720, 721, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 738, 739, 741, 743, 749, 750, 753, 755, 756, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 767, 769, 770, 771, 775, 778, 781, 782

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

SENATE BILLS: 26, 32, 62, 79, 80, 140, 156, 166, 195, 236, 269

HOUSE BILLS: 1, 2, 73, 127, 268, 279, 307, 310, 324, 367, 370, 399, 406, 468, 473, 505, 513, 577, 606, 647, 650, 672, 690, 752, 763, 779

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NOTICES

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on May 16, 2025, voted to formally issue the following interpretive ruling, which is printed below in its entirety.

INTERPRETIVE RULING 2025-6

(May 16, 2025)

The Legislative Ethics Committee has received a request for a ruling from Representative Gregory G. Hill, seeking to have the Committee provide its interpretation of the terms “state budget” and “general revenue bills” as set forth in RSA 14-C:4-b, Exceptions to Recusal for Conflicts of Interest. More specifically, noting that the definitions of “budget” and “trailer bill” are contained in RSA 9:2 and RSA 9:2-a, he asked whether the Committee would interpret the recusal exception for “state budget” to apply only to HB 1 or whether it would include both HB1 and HB 2 (the trailer bill). In addition, he asked whether “members with conflicts of interest that arise during consideration of amendments to House Bill 2 would be required to recuse?”

In making its interpretation, the Committee considered the legislative history of RSA 14-C:4-b, as enacted into law by 2024 House Bill 1388, reviewed the statutory provisions set forth in RSA 9:2 and RSA 9:2-a, and took into account the provisions of New Hampshire Constitution, Part II, Article 18-a.

RSA 14-C:4-b Exceptions to Recusal for Conflicts of Interest. – A legislator shall not be required to recuse themselves from participation in any official legislative activity regarding preparation, review, or approval or disapproval of the *state budget or general revenue bills*. (Emphasis added.)

RSA 9:2 Transmission to the Legislature. – Not later than February 15 of the year of each biennial legislative session, the governor shall transmit to the legislature a document to be known as a *budget* setting forth the governor’s financial program for each of the fiscal years of the ensuing biennium and having the character and scope hereinafter set forth. (Emphasis added.)

RSA 9:2-a Transmission to the Legislature; Changes to Statutory Law. – Not later than February 15 of the first year of each biennial legislative session, the governor shall transmit to the legislature a document to be known as the *trailer bill* containing any changes to statutory law deemed necessary for the ensuing biennium. ***This document shall be separate from the document known as the budget as provided in RSA 9:2 and shall not be considered a budget bill as provided in part II, article 18-a of the New Hampshire constitution.*** ... (Emphasis added.)

New Hampshire Constitution Part II, Article 18-a [Budget Bills.] All sections of all **budget bills before the general court shall contain only the operating and capital expenses for the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.** No section or footnote of any such budget bill shall contain any provision which establishes, amends or repeals statutory law, other than provisions establishing, amending or repealing operating and capital expenses for the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.

Committee Analysis

Having given due consideration to RSA 9:2 and the constitutional provisions of Part II, Article 18-a, the Committee concludes that the term “state budget,” as set forth in RSA 14-C:4-b, applies to the state’s operating budget, currently and traditionally designated as House Bill 1, and the state’s capital budget, currently and traditionally designated as House Bill 25. The Committee notes that the legislature may elect to give those budget bills different designations in the future.

The trailer bill is currently and has been traditionally designated as HB 2, although the legislature may elect to give it a different designation in the future. While the trailer bill may at times enact provisions which produce the revenues required to implement the budget, that is not its primary purpose. Given its role, the Committee finds that HB 2 is not a “general revenue” bill as provided in RSA 14-C:4-b.

RSA 9:2-a clearly provides that “the trailer bill” “shall not be considered a budget bill as provided in part II, article 18-a of the New Hampshire constitution.” While it is not defined as a budget bill, HB 2 plays a critical role in the implementation of the state budget. It is indispensable to the budget process as it contains “any changes to statutory law deemed necessary for the ensuing year.” While the budget reflects the State’s priorities and how its funds will be expended, the trailer bill makes the statutory changes necessary to establish, amend or repeal laws in order for the budget to work.

In considering the intent of RSA 14-C:4-b as it applies to recusal, it makes little sense to require legislators to recuse themselves from the trailer bill but not the budget. Furthermore, the trailer bill contains a collection of subject matters. Requiring recusal might lead to substantial numbers of legislators being unable to participate. The obvious intent of the legislature when it enacted the provisions of RSA 14-C:4-b in 2024 HB 1388 was to except from recusal the large critically important omnibus bills such as the budget, capital budget and the trailer bill.

Therefore, recognizing the inconsistency in the definition of “budget bill,” the Committee finds unanimously that, notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 9:2-a, the legislature intended that the exception for recusal for budget bills applies to the trailer bill. The Committee would recommend that the legislature address this apparent statutory conflict in future legislation.

The Ethics Committee was divided over whether a legislator who has a conflict of interest on an amendment to the trailer bill is exempted from recusal by RSA 14-C:4-b. That statute provides that the exception from recusal would apply to “any official activity regarding the preparation, review, or approval or disapproval of the state budget or general revenue bills.” While the language of the statute does not include “amendment” as a qualifying official activity, the amendment process might be considered part of preparation of the budget.

A majority of the Committee believed that it was logically inconsistent to require a legislator to recuse for a conflict of interest on a bill during the regular legislative process and then allow that legislator to vote on the same bill when it is offered as an amendment to the trailer bill. A minority of the Committee believed that the process of amending the trailer bill is different than the regular legislative process. Making amendments is part of preparation of the trailer bill and it would be impractical to require recusal at that time. The Committee vote 4-3 in favor of requiring recusal. The Committee would recommend that the legislature address this issue in future legislation.

Conclusions

In summary, the Ethics Committee interprets House Bill 1 (the budget), HB 2 (the trailer bill) and House Bill 25 (the capital budget) to be “state budget” bills as provided in RSA 14-C:4-b. The Ethics Committee is divided over whether RSA 14-C:4-b exempts legislators with conflicts of interest from recusal on amendments to HB 2. A slight majority believes recusal would be required. Some future legislation may be required to address and clarify the recusal provisions.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman

[Vote: 7-0]

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With several national conferences and other events taking place throughout the Summer and Fall, please remember that any costs that are waived, forgiven, reduced, prepaid, or reimbursed from an organization such as NCSL or CSG, that are related to your attendance at the event, must be reported on an “Honorary or Expense Reimbursement Report” and filed with the Secretary of State’s Office. The forms can be downloaded from the Legislative Ethics Committee’s website [RSA 14-C - Honorary or Expense Reimbursement Report - August 2019.pdf \(gc.nh.gov\)](#) . Payments received from the Senate do not have to be reported on the form. If you have any questions on ethics filings, please feel free to contact Rich Lambert, Executive Administrator of the Legislative Ethics Committee, at richard.lambert@gc.nh.gov or at (603) 271-3326.

Senator Sharon M. Carson, Senate President

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SENATE CALENDAR SUMMER SCHEDULE

The Senate Calendar will begin its summer schedule of being published every two weeks.

The schedule for the Senate Calendar is as follows:

Thursday, July 24, 2025

Thursday, August 07, 2025

Thursday, August 21, 2025

Thursday, September 04, 2025

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SENATE SCHEDULE

Monday, September 01, 2025

Wednesday, September 03, 2025

Friday, September 12, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 27, 2025

Friday, November 28, 2025

Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 25, 2025

Wednesday, January 07, 2026

Monday, February 23, 2026 -

Friday, February 27, 2026

Labor Day (State Holiday)

First Day to FILE legislation for 2026 Senate Session.

Deadline for the Office of Legislative Services to accept drafting of a Senate Bill, Senate Concurrent Resolution, or Senate Joint Resolution with complete information for the 2026 Senate Session.

Veterans’ Day (State Holiday)

Deadline for prime sponsors to sign off on legislation.

Thanksgiving Day (State Holiday)

Day after Thanksgiving (State Holiday)

Deadline for co-sponsors to sign off on legislation.

Deadline to REPORT rereferred bills out of committee.

Christmas Day (State Holiday)

Convening Day

SENATE BREAK