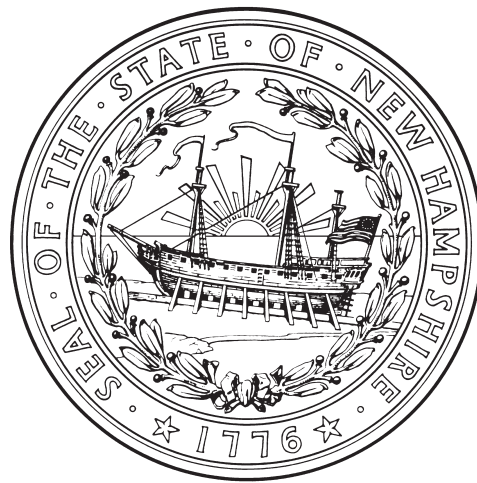


January 8, 2025  
No. 2

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Web Site Address: [www.gencourt.state.nh.us](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us)



**First Year of the 169<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
New Hampshire General Court**

**Legislative Proceedings**

## **SENATE JOURNAL**

**CONVENING DAY – JANUARY 8, 2025**

# SENATE JOURNAL 2

*January 8, 2025*

## CONVENING DAY

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

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

Let's pray as your faith allows you. Lord, as we gather today for the convening of the New Hampshire Senate, we acknowledge the opportunity and responsibility given to our Senators to serve the people of this great state. We ask for your wisdom, your guidance to be upon each legislator, that their work may be done with unity and mutual respect. Bless this session with healthy debate, open hearts and minds, focused on what is best for the people of New Hampshire. May the decisions made here bring prosperity, justice, and peace to our communities. We pray that through teamwork and collaboration, this new legislation will allow us to create a place where our residents would flourish in every area of life. May your spirit guide each conversation and decision. We recognize the truth of Ecclesiastes 4:9, "Two are better than one, for they have a good reward for their toil". May their work here today be fruitful and pleasing to you. Amen.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Carson: Thank you, Reverend. Before we go into the Pledge of Allegiance, I'd like everyone to remain standing and to have a moment of silence to honor the passing of former President Jimmy Carter. Thank you.

Senator Lang led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

President Carson introduced the newest members of the Senate Clerk's Office: Shannon Girard, Assistant Senate Clerk; Sloane French, Calendar Clerk; Adam Dapolite, Bill Status Clerk; Matthew Newton, Journal Clerk; Steve Puckett, Senate Sergeant-At-Arms; Sherry Vestal, Senate Sergeant-At-Arms; Darin Foor, Senate Doorkeeper.

Recess. Out of recess.

## HOUSE MESSAGE

The House of Representatives is ready to meet with the honorable Senate in Joint Convention for the purpose of canvassing the votes for Governor and Executive Council.

## RESOLUTION NO. 6

Senator Birdsell offered the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Senate meet in Joint Convention with the House of Representatives for the purpose of canvassing votes for the Governor and Executive Council. Adopted.

Recess to meet in Joint Convention. Out of recess.

Recess. Out of recess.

## AMENDMENT TO SENATE RULES

Senator Birdsell moved to amend the Senate Rules, with the amendment provided in the Senate Calendar, with the exception of Senate Rule 2-18. Adopted.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE SENATE RULES

Amend Senate Rule 2-3 by replacing with the following:

**2-3 Use of Electronic Devices** - The use of electronic devices by Senators, with the exception of Senate-issued devices is prohibited on the Senate floor during session, unless the Senate is in recess or unless otherwise approved by the Senate.

Amend Senate Rule 3-17 by replacing with the following:

**3-17 Non-Germane Amendments Prohibited** - No amendment to any bill or resolution shall be allowed except it be germane. For the purposes of this rule, an amendment to a bill or resolution is germane if:

- (a) The subject matter of the amendment is the same as that of some portion of the bill or resolution, or
- (b) A public hearing has been held after proper notice in the Senate calendar, or
- (c) If the subject of the amendment was previously found ought-to-pass by the Senate, or
- (d) It is an amendment to a house bill, proposed by the Committee on Finance, establishing a general appropriations (budget) bill or trailer bill because the House did not pass one or more of the budget bills.

Amend Senate Rule 4-7 by replacing with the following:

**4-7 Standing Committees** - The standing committees of the Senate shall be as follows: the Committee on Capital Budget, the Committee on Children and Family Law, the Committee on Commerce, the Committee on Education, the Committee on Election Law and Municipal Affairs, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Health and Human Services, the Committee on Judiciary, the Committee on Rules and Enrolled Bills, the Committee on Transportation, the Committee on Ways and Means, and such subcommittees as the Senate President determines.

Amend Senate Rule 6-21 by replacing with the following:

**6-21 Conditions for Inclusion** - No bill or resolution shall appear on the Consent Calendar unless all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) All members of the committee that are present and voting to which the bill or resolution was referred, vote in favor of placing it on the Consent Calendar.
- (b) A short explanation of the committee's recommendation, approved by the member of the committee who is reporting the bill, appears with the bill or resolution in the Consent Calendar.

Amend Senate Rule 6-22 by replacing with the following:

**6-22 Prohibitions** - The following items shall not appear on the Consent Calendar:

- (a) Constitutional amendment concurrent resolutions
- (b) Committee of conference reports

## INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Senator Birdsell offered the following Resolution:

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

### First and Second Reading and Referral

25-0981

SB 4, relative to commercial property assessed clean energy and resiliency (C-PACER). (Innis, Dist 7; Reardon, Dist 15; Commerce)

25-0215

SB 11, relative to the allocation of electoral college votes. (Gannon, Dist 23; McGough, Dist 11; Sullivan, Dist 18; Avard, Dist 12; Birdsell, Dist 19; Lang, Dist 2; Rochefort, Dist 1; L. Walsh, Rock. 15; Election Law and Municipal Affairs)

25-0244

SB 12, relative to adding eligibility for a disability placard for certain veterans. (Watters, Dist 4; Fenton, Dist 10; Birdsell, Dist 19; Moffett, Merr. 4; S. Smith, Sull. 3; Transportation)

25-0219

SB 13-FN, invalidating out-of-state driver's licenses issued to undocumented immigrants. (Gannon, Dist 23; Lang, Dist 2; Innis, Dist 7; Ward, Dist 8; Sullivan, Dist 18; Avard, Dist 12; Birdsell, Dist 19; Rochefort, Dist 1; Murphy, Dist 16; Weyler, Rock. 14; Vose, Rock. 5; L. Walsh, Rock. 15; Judiciary)

25-0228

SB 14-FN, relative to the penalty for certain fentanyl-related offenses. (Gannon, Dist 23; Lang, Dist 2; Innis, Dist 7; Birdsell, Dist 19; Abbas, Dist 22; Avard, Dist 12; Rochefort, Dist 1; Murphy, Dist 16; Weyler, Rock. 14; M. Pearson, Rock. 34; Bernardy, Rock. 36; Judiciary)

25-0229

SB 15-FN, relative to establishing a mandatory minimum sentence for the crime of distribution of a controlled drug with death resulting. (Gannon, Dist 23; Gray, Dist 6; Lang, Dist 2; Birdsell, Dist 19; Avard, Dist 12; Abbas, Dist 22; Litchfield, Rock. 32; Khan, Rock. 30; Vose, Rock. 5; L. Walsh, Rock. 15; Bernardy, Rock. 36; Judiciary)

25-0682

SB 16, requiring municipalities to post a copy of election return forms on their websites and in public locations. (Gray, Dist 6; Election Law and Municipal Affairs)

25-0269

SB 17-FN, relative to insurance cost-sharing calculations. (Innis, Dist 7; Health and Human Services)

25-0185

SB 18, permitting the commissioner of health and human services to authorize additional beds for a pediatric intermediate care facility under certain circumstances. (Rosenwald, Dist 13; Long, Dist 20; Fenton, Dist 10; Rochefort, Dist 1; Birdsell, Dist 19; Prentiss, Dist 5; Weber, Ches. 5; Nagel, Belk. 6; Health and Human Services)

25-1023

SB 19, relative to hotel and motel operations. (Innis, Dist 7; Commerce)

25-0186

SB 20-FN, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers. (Rosenwald, Dist 13; Fenton, Dist 10; Altschiller, Dist 24; Prentiss, Dist 5; Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Long, Dist 20; Reardon, Dist 15; Watters, Dist 4; Edgar, Rock. 29; Wallner, Merr. 19; Telerski, Hills. 11; Simpson, Rock. 33; Nagel, Belk. 6; Finance)

25-0196

SB 21-FN, relative to establishing a New Hampshire state trooper recruitment loan debt relief program and making an appropriation therefor. (Gannon, Dist 23; Rochefort, Dist 1; Avard, Dist 12; Lang, Dist 2; Long, Dist 20; McGough, Dist 11; Pearl, Dist 17; Rice, Hills. 38; Vose, Rock. 5; Weyler, Rock. 14; Bernardy, Rock. 36; L. Walsh, Rock. 15; Executive Departments and Administration)

25-0309

SB 22-FN, relative to disclosure of criminal history and criminal records to the child care licensing unit of the department of health and human services. (Pearl, Dist 17; Children and Family Law)

25-1052

SB 23-FN, expanding the crime of endangering the welfare of a child. (Long, Dist 20; Gregg, Hills. 7; Children and Family Law)

25-0260

SB 24, allowing students under age 21 to taste wine in educational settings. (Innis, Dist 7; Lang, Dist 2; Ward, Dist 8; Gray, Dist 6; Abbas, Dist 22; Sullivan, Dist 18; Avard, Dist 12; Rochefort, Dist 1; Murphy, Dist 16; McConkey, Dist 3; Pearl, Dist 17; Horrigan, Straf. 10; Potucek, Rock. 13; See, Merr. 26; Thibault, Merr. 25; Commerce)

25-1082

SB 25, allowing credit union members to pay members of the board of directors for their services as a board member. (Innis, Dist 7; Commerce)

25-1070

SB 26, relative to the definition of deposits as they pertain to land sales. (Pearl, Dist 17; Lang, Dist 2; Reardon, Dist 15; Innis, Dist 7; Murphy, Dist 16; See, Merr. 26; C. McGuire, Merr. 27; Moffett, Merr. 4; Verville, Rock. 2; Bryer, Rock. 1; Commerce)

25-0972

SB 27-FN, relative to dwellings over water. (Lang, Dist 2; McConkey, Dist 3; Long, Dist 20; Murphy, Dist 16; Commerce)

25-0353

SB 28, relative to workers' compensation claims involving emergency responders with acute stress disorder or post-traumatic stress disorder. (Birdsell, Dist 19; Long, Dist 20; Gannon, Dist 23; Prentiss, Dist 5; Soucy, Merr. 21; S. Pearson, Rock. 13; Executive Departments and Administration)

25-0188

SB 29, relative to membership, jurisdiction, and reports of the health care workplace safety commission and relative to health care facility reporting requirements under the workplace violence prevention program. (Rosenwald, Dist 13; Reardon, Dist 15; Fenton, Dist 10; Avard, Dist 12; Gray, Dist 6; Ricciardi, Dist 9; W. MacDonald, Rock. 16; Palmer, Sull. 2; B. Sullivan, Sull. 1; MacKenzie, Hills. 40; Weber, Ches. 5; Executive Departments and Administration)

25-0319

SB 30, proclaiming the Virginia opossum the state marsupial of New Hampshire. (Fenton, Dist 10; Long, Dist 20; Watters, Dist 4; Rochefort, Dist 1; Reardon, Dist 15; Ward, Dist 8; Lang, Dist 2; Abbas, Dist 22; Murphy, Dist 16; Birdsell, Dist 19; Prentiss, Dist 5; Altschiller, Dist 24; Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Innis, Dist 7; Ricciardi, Dist 9; M. Pearson, Rock. 34; C. Harvey, Ches. 6; Berch, Ches. 6; Executive Departments and Administration)

25-0367

SB 31-FN, establishing an apprentice guide license. (Pearl, Dist 17; Lang, Dist 2; Reardon, Dist 15; Innis, Dist 7; Avard, Dist 12; Rochefort, Dist 1; J. Aron, Sull. 4; Spillane, Rock. 2; Executive Departments and Administration)

25-0368

SB 32, relative to the fish and game commission. (Pearl, Dist 17; Lang, Dist 2; Reardon, Dist 15; Birdsell, Dist 19; Innis, Dist 7; Avard, Dist 12; Rochefort, Dist 1; Executive Departments and Administration)

25-0212

SB 33-FN, relative to the regulation of public school materials. (Avard, Dist 12; Lang, Dist 2; Gannon, Dist 23; McGough, Dist 11; Murphy, Dist 16; Pearl, Dist 17; Kofalt, Hills. 32; Pauer, Hills. 36; Sirois, Hills. 32; Cordelli, Carr. 7; Education)

25-0193

SB 34, relative to parental consent for student participation in Medicaid to schools program. (Ward, Dist 8; Avard, Dist 12; Gray, Dist 6; Gannon, Dist 23; Lang, Dist 2; Innis, Dist 7; Birdsell, Dist 19; McGough, Dist 11; Sullivan, Dist 18; Rochefort, Dist 1; Murphy, Dist 16; Pearl, Dist 17; Cordelli, Carr. 7; Kofalt, Hills. 32; Ball, Rock. 25; Bernardy, Rock. 36; Education)

25-0463

SB 35-FN, making an appropriation for rail trail project matching funds. (Innis, Dist 7; Ward, Dist 8; Fenton, Dist 10; Watters, Dist 4; Avard, Dist 12; Reardon, Dist 15; Payeur, Merr. 8; Finance)

25-0325

SB 36, relative to the collection and reporting of abortion statistics by health care providers and medical facilities. (Avard, Dist 12; Ward, Dist 8; Lang, Dist 2; Sullivan, Dist 18; Birdsell, Dist 19; Gannon, Dist 23; Murphy, Dist 16; Notter, Hills. 12; Mooney, Hills. 12; Rice, Hills. 38; Pauer, Hills. 36; Health and Human Services)

25-0297

SB 37, relative to residential care and health facility licensing. (Pearl, Dist 17; Birdsell, Dist 19; Rosenwald, Dist 13; M. Pearson, Rock. 34; Grote, Rock. 24; Health and Human Services)

25-0197

SB 38-FN, relative to state recognition of biological sex. (Avard, Dist 12; Lang, Dist 2; Abbas, Dist 22; Gannon, Dist 23; Innis, Dist 7; Murphy, Dist 16; McGough, Dist 11; Pearl, Dist 17; Sullivan, Dist 18; Sirois, Hills. 32; Kofalt, Hills. 32; Cordelli, Carr. 7; Pauer, Hills. 36; Judiciary)

25-0488

SB 39-FN, relative to establishing an alternative driver education program. (Lang, Dist 2; Ward, Dist 8; Murphy, Dist 16; Innis, Dist 7; Reardon, Dist 15; Pearl, Dist 17; Sullivan, Dist 18; Osborne, Rock. 2; Edwards, Rock. 31; Moffett, Merr. 4; J. Aron, Sull. 4; Coker, Belk. 2; Transportation)

25-0628

SB 40, relative to safe boater education certificates. (Lang, Dist 2; Innis, Dist 7; Moffett, Merr. 4; Coker, Belk. 2; Edwards, Rock. 31; Transportation)

## 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.

Adopted. Adjournment from the Early Session.

LATE SESSION  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

(The Chair recognized Senator Watters.)

SENATOR WATTERS: Unanimous consent. Thank you. So colleagues, I just wanted to take a moment as we start our session today. It always feels like the first day of school and a lot of great energy, but I did want to say, Madam President, it's awfully great to see you up there. And I want to appreciate so much your leadership so far and the cooperation and the collegiality that has been evident so far working with our caucuses and you know we're going to have a tough session, right, and we all know that, but I think that what is so important is the Senate courtesy and the way that we as a body can work together and I just wanted to thank you Madam President for setting us forward on this path. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CARSON: Pursuant to Rule 7-1, after conferring with the Minority Leader I am amending the deadline for sponsors and co-sponsors to sign off on legislation to Friday, January 17th at 4pm. Okay, we all know that we've had difficulty with getting things out of OLS and not having the internet for a day and a half did not help. So this is going to give everyone the opportunity to sign off and get your legislation rolling.

Adopted.

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.

## 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, and processing enrolled bill reports and amendments and when we recess, we recess to the Call of the Chair.

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