

Bill as Introduced

HB 585 - AS INTRODUCED

2011 SESSION

11-0556

04/01

HOUSE BILL **585**

AN ACT proclaiming the third Friday in October as New Hampshire history day.

SPONSORS: Rep. Watters, Straf 4; Rep. Norelli, Rock 16; Rep. Welch, Rock 8; Rep. K. Roberts, Ches 3; Sen. Odell, Dist 8; Sen. Merrill, Dist 21

COMMITTEE: Legislative Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the governor to proclaim the third Friday in October as New Hampshire History Day.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics**.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Eleven

AN ACT proclaiming the third Friday in October as New Hampshire history day.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Findings. The general court finds that the commemoration of New Hampshire history is a
2 public good that unites New Hampshire citizens in recognition of the important events, people,
3 places, documents, and artifacts that form the distinctive character of the state; and that the
4 preservation of New Hampshire's historical documents, artifacts, and buildings, as well as its
5 historic areas and archaeological sites is necessary for such commemoration; and that
6 New Hampshire historical societies, preservation societies, museums, and libraries serve the public
7 by collecting, preserving, and interpreting New Hampshire history; and that educating students and
8 the general public in the importance of New Hampshire history and its preservation promotes civic
9 life; and that October is a month of notable dates in New Hampshire history;

10 2 New Section; Observances Proclaimed by the Governor; New Hampshire History Day. Amend
11 RSA 4 by inserting after section 13-o the following new section:

12 4:13-p New Hampshire History Day. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation calling
13 for the proper observance of the third Friday in October as New Hampshire History Day and shall
14 call on the citizens of New Hampshire to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities
15 commemorating New Hampshire history and promoting its preservation.

16 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

CHAPTER 174
HB 585 - FINAL VERSION

05/18/2011 1854s
1June2011... 2275EBA

2011 SESSION

11-0556
04/01

HOUSE BILL **585**

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COMMITTEE: Legislative Administration

AMENDED ANALYSIS

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.....

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CHAPTER 174
HB 585 - FINAL VERSION

05/18/2011 1854s
1June2011... 2275EBA

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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7 libraries serve the public by collecting, preserving, and interpreting New Hampshire history; and
8 that educating students and the general public in the importance of New Hampshire history and its
9 preservation promotes civic life.

10 174:2 New Section; Observances Proclaimed by the Governor; New Hampshire History Week.
11 Amend RSA 4 by inserting after section 13-p the following new section:

12 4:13-q New Hampshire History Week. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation calling
13 for the proper observance of the third week of October as New Hampshire History Week and shall
14 call on the citizens and schools of New Hampshire to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies
15 and activities commemorating New Hampshire history and promoting its preservation.

16 174:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

17 Approved: June 14, 2011

18 Effective Date: August 13, 2011

Amendments



Sen. Boutin, Dist. 16
May 9, 2011
2011-1810s
04/05

Amendment to HB 585

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

2

3 AN ACT proclaiming the second week of September as New Hampshire history week.

4

5 Amend the bill by replacing sections 1-2 with the following:

6

7 1 Findings. The general court finds that the commemoration of New Hampshire history is a
8 public good that unites New Hampshire citizens in recognition of the important events, people,
9 places, documents, and artifacts that form the distinctive character of the state; and that the
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19 calling for the proper observance of the second week of September as New Hampshire History Week
20 and shall call on the citizens and schools of New Hampshire to observe the week with appropriate
21 ceremonies and activities commemorating New Hampshire history and promoting its preservation.



2011-1810s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the governor to proclaim the second week of September as New Hampshire history week.



Public and Municipal Affairs
May 11, 2011
2011-1854s
04/05

Amendment to HB 585

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Amendment to HB 585
- Page 2 -



2011-1854s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

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Committee Minutes

ATTENDANCE

**SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE
PUBLIC AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS**

- ✓ Senator John Barnes, Jr. Chairman
- ✓ Senator Jeanie Forrester V Chairman
- ✓ Senator David Boutin
- ✓ Senator Amanda Merrill
- ✓ Senator Nancy Stiles

START : 10:38 AM
STOP : 11:02 AM
(24)

For Use by Senate Clerk's Office ONLY

Bill Status

Docket

Calendar

Proof: Calendar Bill Status

Date: April 28, 2011

HEARINGS

Tuesday

5/3/2011

PUBLIC AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

LOB 101

9:00 AM

(Name of Committee)

(Place)

(Time)

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

- 9:00 AM HB61 relative to daylight saving time.
- 9:15 AM HB398 relative to service animals.
- 9:45 AM HB409 relative to planning board members.
- 10:15 AM HB521 relative to meeting dates for county conventions.
- 10:30 AM HB585 proclaiming the third Friday in October as New Hampshire history day.
- 10:45 AM HB341 relative to local spending caps.

Sponsors:

HB61

Rep. Timothy Horrigan

HB398

Rep. Donna Schlachman

Sen. John Barnes, Jr.

HB409

Rep. Amy Perkins

HB521

Rep. Betsey Patten

HB585

Rep. David Watters

Rep. David Welch

HB341

Rep. Steve Vaillancourt

Rep. Clifford Newton

Rep. John Hunt

Rep. Patrick Abrami

Rep. William Butynski

Sen. Bob Odell

Rep. Kris Roberts

Sen. Amanda Merrill

Rep. Terie Norelli

Rep. David Bettencourt

Sen. Tom De Blois

Rep. Phil Greazzo

Sen. Gary Lambert

Rep. Tammy Simmons

Sen. Jim Luther

Debra Martone 271-3092

Sen. John Barnes, Jr.

Chairman

Public and Municipal Affairs Committee

Hearing Report

TO: Members of the Senate

FROM: Deb Martone, Legislative Aide

RE: Hearing report on HB 585 – **proclaiming the third Friday in October as New Hampshire history day.**

HEARING DATE: May 3, 2011.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE PRESENT: Senators Barnes, Forrester, Merrill, Boutin and Stiles.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ABSENT: No one.

Sponsor(s): Representatives Watters, Norelli, Welch and K. Roberts; Senators Odell and Merrill.

What the bill does: requires the Governor to proclaim the third Friday in October as New Hampshire History Day.

Who supports the bill: Representatives Watters, Norelli, Welch and K. Roberts; Senators Odell and Merrill; Bill Dunlap, NH Historical Society; Elizabeth Muzzey, NH Division of Historical Resources; Jennifer Goodman, NH Preservation Alliance; Deb Wiswell, NH Department of Education.

Who opposes the bill: No one.

Summary of testimony received:

•Senator Barnes opened the hearing at 10:38 am and called on Senator Merrill, who introduced the bill on behalf of the prime sponsor, Representative Watters. Representative Watters is currently out of state, but did supply committee members with his written testimony.

•Bill Dunlap, Executive Director of the NH Historical Society, strongly urged passage of HB 585.

- New Hampshire's rich history defines us as a state. It's an important part of what makes us a unique and wonderful place to live, and what makes us such a popular destination for tourists. An appreciation of our history is critical to the development of the values of good citizenship in our democracy.
- There are 206 local historical societies operating in New Hampshire.
- New Hampshire History Day will serve as a focal point to stimulate activities and events promoting interest in our state's history among these local historical societies, school kids and other community organizations.
- Elizabeth Muzzey, Director of the Division of Historical Resources, supports the bill. HB 585 recognizes the deep value that residents of our state place on its heritage, its traditions and its historical sense of place.
- Residents of the state do worry that New Hampshire's history is no longer emphasized and nurtured. People voice concerns about a diminished emphasis in school curriculums in history, and suggest place-based education and lessons in local history as tools to instill a lifelong stewardship in the next generation.
- People all over the state are hard at work uncovering and preserving the state's history. They're serving on their towns' heritage commissions, updating town histories, rehabilitating once vacant buildings, rebuilding stone walls and much more. New Hampshire History Day would tell these residents that what they do is important. It enriches both our lives today and in the future.
- Senator Barnes inquired of Ms. Muzzey as to how we can help the students in our schools gain more knowledge about American history, some of which is New Hampshire history. Senator Barnes cited, for example, those New Hampshire citizens who died in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He wondered what we could do to help our schools instill more history in our students. Ms. Muzzy believes part of the problem is the changing requirements put on schools today. Even if there is an American history course, our schools run out of time and usually end their teaching around 1920. Much of the 20th Century is left off the curriculum. Students need to be more engaged in history.
- Senator Boutin indicated there are many wonderful groups throughout the state, i.e., historical societies and heritage commissions, who try to preserve and enrich their communities with history. However, 95% of the folks who are involved in these activities are working on a Friday, which is the day suggested by the bill to celebrate. Senator Boutin is unsure what activities would get promoted by a gubernatorial proclamation.

He believes the intent would be better served by celebrating New Hampshire History Day on a Saturday. This would enable these various groups to plan a day with maximum effect. Ms. Muzzey imagined that Representative Watters chose a Friday because it was a school day; he hoped to reach the school audience. However, that does leave out those employed on Fridays. Ms. Muzzey suggested that perhaps we need a History Weekend.

- Senator Boutin agreed with Senator Barnes in that we need to do more to educate our children about New Hampshire history and American history. Senator Boutin does not have a problem with the overall concept of the bill.

- Jennifer Goodman, Executive Director of the NH Preservation Alliance, supports the bill. She indicated this type of commemorative day can be a great focal point to harness the energy of groups with limited resources. We have a patchwork of school groups, heritage commissions, historical societies and other groups involved in history and historical preservation that could truly benefit from such an activity.

- Ms. Goodman believes celebrating the holiday on a Friday to enable a connection with student groups, is a valid argument. But activities could be planned throughout the weekend.

- Deb Wiswell of the Department of Education indicated the Department had worked with Representative Watters on the bill. She agreed with previous testimony in that New Hampshire needs this type of recognition. Her strong concern, however, is that the third Friday in October is often the last day of state testing. She indicated having a celebration at the end of a testing period might be welcomed.

- Ms. Wiswell stated that New Hampshire history is a huge part of our New Hampshire curriculum frameworks at all levels. It is very specific to fourth grade. There is a new textbook that has been published specifically about New Hampshire history, which is very comprehensive and well done. The Department has circulated information on the textbook to the various school districts.

- Because of American history and world history, it is difficult to get to New Hampshire history and put a focus on it. Having a New Hampshire History Day at the high school level would make it more recognizable.

- The schools that have been successful in teaching history have done it thematically. It's a way for schools to get to the more recent history, instead of teaching chapter by chapter. There is an effort in New Hampshire to integrate a thematic approach, to enable reaching the more recent history.

- Senator Barnes closed the hearing at 11:02 am.

Future Action: Concerns expressed during the public hearing will be shared with Representative Watters upon his return. The committee will allow him an opportunity to make changes to the bill if he so desires.

dam

[file: HB 585 report]

Date: May 5, 2011

Speakers

Testimony

Rep. David Watters
Strafford 4

House Bill 585 proclaims the third Friday in October as New Hampshire History Day. The bill is introduced in the belief that such an annual proclamation would benefit schools, historical societies, libraries, museums, and the general public. As the bill states in its findings, the commemoration of New Hampshire history is a public good that unites New Hampshire citizens in recognition of the important events, people, places, documents, and artifacts that form the distinctive character of the state. In times of great change, the state has found strength in recognizing that citizens in New Hampshire can find important shared values in the history of the state. Each generation has to wrestle with the legacy of the past in charting the future. Moreover, the bill finds that the preservation of New Hampshire's historical documents, artifacts, and buildings, as well as its historic areas and archaeological sites, is necessary for understanding history. We are indebted to New Hampshire historical societies, preservation societies, museums, and libraries that serve the public by collecting, preserving, and interpreting New Hampshire history. If we are to have historical resources so today's history can be understood, we must rely on families with full attics, local libraries and historical societies, and our great museums, colleges, and universities, and, indeed, on the state government. The State House itself is a shrine that our predecessors in the legislature have curated so that new legislators, and all those fourth graders, can touch the past and imagine the future. Finally, the bill finds that educating students and the general public in the importance of New Hampshire history and its preservation promotes civic life. Our founding fathers and mothers knew that in a Republic it would be the function of memory of the events that gave birth to our freedoms rather than the rituals of privileged classes that would sustain our freedom.

These findings, valuable as they may be in themselves, need to be served through the establishment of a New Hampshire history day so that at least once a year the history of the state is called to the foreground of public awareness. When there is a Governor's proclamation, people take notice, and in particular, a proclamation provides an opportunity for observation by schools, historical societies and museums, and other groups. An October date is a practical choice for such opportunities. In consultation with Ken Relihan in the New Hampshire Department of Education, Bill Dunlap of the New Hampshire Historical Society, and school teachers, it became apparent that an October date would give teachers enough time to prepare classes for it. Local historical societies, which often close or have reduced activities during the winter months, would find an October date convenient for open houses and special programs. The date avoids conflict with the National History Day essay program in which some schools participate in March. The October date also avoids conflicts with other state proclaimed commemorations, school vacations, and religious holidays.

October is a month with many significant dates in New Hampshire history, and I will note only a few. Given the depth of local knowledge in the state, there is no doubt that we will be surprised at all the October dates students, teachers, local historians, and others will discover. Three dates in October resonate in significance. On October 7, 1756, The New Hampshire Gazette, the first newspaper in the state, commenced publication, reminding us that freedom of the press is essential to our liberty. President George Washington, on his visit to New Hampshire, spoke from the state house in Portsmouth, on October 30, 1789. It was a visit and a

speech that helped define the nature of the presidency and executive power in our republic. And on October 8, 1869, the death of President Franklin Pierce stood as a reminder of the cauldron of conflicts during his presidency that preceded the Civil War. I recall a discussion a few years ago between two high school students, at an exhibit at the New Hampshire Historical Society, who were looking at Pierce's pen with which he signed the Kansas-Nebraska Act. They argued over whether that was the pen that started the Civil War. That's the kind of conversation that forges citizenship, and as this act proposes, a New Hampshire History Day will promote. I urge you to make a recommendation of ought to pass.



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources
19 Pillsbury Street, Concord, NH 03301-3570
www.nh.gov/nhdhr

603-271-3483
FAX 603-271-3433
preservation@dcr.nh.gov

House Bill 585 – As Introduced Public Hearing Testimony, May 3, 2011

The Division of Historical Resources is pleased to speak today on behalf of House Bill 585, with appreciation for Representative Watters for his leadership in sponsoring the bill, along with Senators Merrill and Odell and Representatives Welch, Norelli and Roberts.

House Bill 585 recognizes the deep value that residents of our state place on its heritage, traditions and historical sense of place. This past year, in public forums and a questionnaire, the Division heard from hundreds of people about the resources they care about in New Hampshire and their concerns moving into the future.

Universally, everyone was worried that history in New Hampshire is no longer emphasized or nurtured. People voiced concerns about a diminished emphasis in school curriculums on history and suggested place-based education and lessons in local history as tools that can instill a life-long sense of stewardship in the next generation. Others spoke of today's newest challenge: engaging people and volunteers locally, despite the distractions of an online world.

We closed our questionnaire with the question "What will you be working on over the next five years to preserve and promote historical and archeological resources?" The answers – pages and pages of responses – were phenomenal. People all over the state are hard at work uncovering and preserving the state's history. They are serving on town heritage commissions, updating town histories, rehabilitating once vacant buildings, rebuilding stone walls, and much more. New Hampshire History Day would tell these residents that what they are doing is important – that it enriches both our lives today and the future as well.

One of my favorite quotes is by the historian and author David McCollough: "History is a guide to navigation in perilous times. It is who we are and why we are the way we are." As much as we enjoy the stories and people of our past, perhaps the true value of history is the confidence that it gives us to move forward as engaged and capable citizens.

I encourage you to support House Bill 585, and thank you very much for the opportunity to speak today.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth H. Muzzey
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
NH Division of Historical Resources
NH Department of Cultural Resources

Testimony in support of House Bill 585
Senate Public and Municipal Affairs Committee

Presented by: William H. Dunlap
Executive Director
New Hampshire Historical Society
May 3, 2011

My name is Bill Dunlap and I am Executive Director of the New Hampshire Historical Society, located here in Concord, New Hampshire. The Society is a privately funded non-profit organization founded in 1823 with the mission of preserving, saving and sharing New Hampshire history. The extensive collections located at our museum and library document the life of our state from pre-colonial times to the present. We have over 4,000 members and we serve between 15,000 and 20,000 New Hampshire elementary school children each year with our educational programming.

On behalf of our board of trustees and membership I strongly urge passage of House Bill 585. Our rich history defines us as a state: it is an important part of what makes us a unique and wonderful place to live, and what makes us such a popular destination for tourists.

An appreciation of our history is critical to the development of the values of good citizenship in our democracy. In the recent election cycle there has been a renewed interest in the principles expressed in our foundational documents, such as the Declaration of Independence and the Constitutions of both our state and nation. An engagement with our shared history—learning about the life and times of the remarkable figures who created these documents—helps to bring these important principles of our democracy to life. It helps to create a more active and informed citizenry.

New Hampshire has a strong tradition of volunteerism and community involvement. An example of this can be found among the thousands of members of the 206 local historical societies located throughout the state. New Hampshire history day will serve as a focal point to stimulate activities and events promoting interest in history among these local historical societies and other community organizations.

The New Hampshire Historical Society strongly endorses enactment of this legislation. Thank you.



May 2, 2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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JENNIFER GOODMAN

The Honorable John S. Barnes
Chairman, Committee on Public and Municipal Affairs
State of New Hampshire
Legislative Office Building
Room 101
Concord, NH 03301

Re: HB 585

Dear Chairman Barnes and members of the committee:

The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance supports HB 585 and urges the committee's positive endorsement of this bill. The Preservation Alliance is the non-profit statewide organization committed to the preservation of historic buildings, communities and landscapes through leadership, education and advocacy.

Our history, as it is associated with our built environment, is the centerpiece of the historic preservation movement, and we feel there are great opportunities to increase public awareness of our connections to our history, and historic preservation. From our assistance to communities across the state, we know that much of the work promoting state and local history is done by volunteers, and a centralized tool like a commemorative "New Hampshire History Day" can be a strong focal point for groups with limited resources.

Increased public awareness can help prevent unnecessary losses, enhance the quality of our communities, and provide economic benefits. Labor-intensive rehabilitation and restoration activity creates and supports well-paying jobs and keeps money circulating in local economies. Heritage visitors stay longer and spend more than other types of visitors.

This very modestly-scaled commitment by state government could be an effective vehicle for leveraging the work of local historical societies, heritage commissions, historical sites, school groups, local businesses and other partners.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Goodman, Executive Director

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

P.O. BOX 268 • CONCORD, N.H. 03302-0268

TELEPHONE 603 224 2281 • FAX 603 226 9368 • www.nhpreservation.org

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SENATE
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Date: May 10, 2011

THE COMMITTEE ON Public and Municipal Affairs

to which was referred House Bill 585

AN ACT proclaiming the third Friday in October as New
Hampshire history day.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill:

OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

BY A VOTE OF: 5-0

AMENDMENT # 1854s

Senator David R. Boutin
For the Committee

Debra Martone 271-3092

New Hampshire General Court - Bill Status System

Docket of HB585

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: (New Title) proclaiming the third week of October as New Hampshire history week.*Official Docket of HB585:*

Date	Body	Description
1/24/2011	H	Introduced 1/6/2011 and Referred to Legislative Administration; HJ 11 , PG. 192
2/1/2011	H	Public Hearing: 2/8/2011 11:00 AM LOB 104 ==Executive Session to Follow==
2/8/2011	H	Committee Report: Ought to Pass for Feb 15 (Vote 15-0; CC); HC 13 , PG.231
2/15/2011	H	Ought to Pass: MA VV; HJ 17 , PG.359
3/30/2011	S	Introduced and Referred to Public and Municipal Affairs; SJ 12 , Pg.244
4/28/2011	S	Hearing: 5/3/11, Room 101, LOB, 10:30 a.m.; SC22
5/11/2011	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment #2011-1854s, 5/18/11; SC24
5/18/2011	S	Committee Amendment 1854s, NT, AA, VV; SJ 17 , Pg.355
5/18/2011	S	Ought to Pass with Amendment 1854s, NT, MA, VV; OT3rdg; SJ 17 , Pg.355
5/18/2011	S	Passed by Third Reading Resolution; SJ 17 , Pg.357
5/25/2011	H	House Concurs with Senate AM #1854s(NT)(Rep Mirski): MA VV; HJ 46 , PG.1582
6/1/2011	S	Enrolled Bill Amendment #2275e Adopted; SJ 20 , Pg.546
6/1/2011	H	Enrolled Bill Amendment #2011-2275e Adopted; HJ 48 , PG.1671
6/8/2011	S	Enrolled
6/8/2011	H	Enrolled; HJ 51 , PG.1726
6/14/2011	H	Signed By Governor 06/14/2011; Effective 08/13/2011; Chapter 0174

NH House

NH Senate

Other Referrals

COMMITTEE REPORT FILE INVENTORY

HB 585 ORIGINAL REFERRAL

_____ RE-REFERRAL

-
-
1. THIS INVENTORY IS TO BE SIGNED AND DATED BY THE COMMITTEE AIDE AND PLACED INSIDE THE FOLDER AS THE FIRST ITEM IN THE COMMITTEE FILE.
 2. PLACE ALL DOCUMENTS IN THE FOLDER FOLLOWING THE INVENTORY IN THE ORDER LISTED.
 3. THE DOCUMENTS WHICH HAVE AN "X" BESIDE THEM ARE CONFIRMED AS BEING IN THE FOLDER.
 4. THE COMPLETED FILE IS THEN DELIVERED TO THE CALENDAR CLERK.

- DOCKET (Submit only the latest docket found in Bill Status)
- COMMITTEE REPORT
- CALENDAR NOTICE
- HEARING REPORT
- PREPARED TESTIMONY AND OTHER SUBMISSIONS HANDED IN AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

SIGN-UP SHEET(S)

ALL AMENDMENTS (passed or not) CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEE:

- AMENDMENT # 2011-1810s _____ - AMENDMENT # _____

- AMENDMENT # 2011-1854s _____ - AMENDMENT # _____

ALL AVAILABLE VERSIONS OF THE BILL:

AS INTRODUCED _____ AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

FINAL VERSION _____ AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

_____ OTHER (Anything else deemed important but not listed above, such as amended fiscal notes):

DATE DELIVERED TO SENATE CLERK

08/29/11

BY:

Petra A. Martone
COMMITTEE AIDE