

# Bill as Introduced

HB 1643 - AS INTRODUCED

2012 SESSION

12-2797  
10/03

HOUSE BILL           **1643**

AN ACT               relative to county appropriations.

SPONSORS:          Rep. F. McCarthy, Carr 1; Rep. Simard, Graf 8; Rep. Reilly, Graf 8

COMMITTEE:       Municipal and County Government

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ANALYSIS

This bill clarifies the definition of an appropriation in the county budget.

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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                      Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 Twelve*

AN ACT                   relative to county appropriations.

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

1           1 County Convention; Appropriation. Amend RSA 24:14, I-a to read as follows:

2           I-a. In this chapter, an appropriation means an amount of money authorized for a specified  
3 purpose by the legislative body, ***and each appropriation shall be classified and defined as a***  
4 ***line item.***

5           2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

# Speakers



# Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1643

**BILL TITLE:** relative to county appropriations.

**DATE:** February 7, 2012

**LOB ROOM:** 301      **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:00 pm

**Time Adjourned:** 1:20 pm

(please circle if present)

**Committee Members:** Reps. Ferrante, Sterling, B. Patten, Lockwood, Accornero, Belanger,  
Burt Coffey, Copeland, Moore, Munck, Shackett, Stroud, DeStefano, Roberts, Hooper and  
Tatro.

**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. F. McCarthy, Carr 1; Rep. Simard, Graf 8; Rep. Reilly, Graf 8

TESTIMONY

\* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

**Rep. Frank McCarthy** of Carroll District – sponsor – Goal is to clarify the word appropriation as it appears in county budget. It is clearer in town budget laws. It uses the word “purpose” in the definition synonymous with line item. This bill will clarify the county budget law. I am trying to instill some discipline in spending in Carroll County. People don’t understand what an appropriation is. McCarthy continued in response to a question, he said that state law allows the county commissioners to transfer money from one existing appropriation to another. In Carroll County transfers are being made to appropriations that have not previously been included in the budget. Wants the law to say that every line item in a budget is an appropriation.

**Betsy Miller** representing the NH Association of Counties. Opposes the bill. All of the problems attributed to Carroll County are addressed in existing statutes. MS-22 adequately defines appropriations. This just muddies up the waters.

**Rep. Harold Reilly.** Supports the bill. It is confusing if the appropriation is just the bottom line of the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Rep. Philip Munck  
Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1643

BILL TITLE: relative to county appropriations.

DATE:

2/7/12

LOB ROOM:

301

Time Public Hearing Called to Order:

1:00

Time Adjourned:

1:20

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Ferrante, Sterling, B. Patten, Lockwood, Accornero, Belanger, Burt, Coffey, Copeland, Moore, Munck, Shackett, Stroud, DeStefano, Roberts, Hooper and Tatro.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. F. McCarthy, Carr 1; Rep. Simard, Graf 8; Rep. Reilly, Graf 8

TESTIMONY

\* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. <sup>Frank</sup> McCarthy <sup>of Carroll District 1</sup>: Goal is to clarify the word appropriation as it appears in County budget. It is clearer in Town budget laws. It uses the word "purpose" in the definition. Synonymous with line item. This bill will clarify the County budget law. I am trying to instill some discipline in spending in Carroll County. People don't understand what an appropriation is.



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Betsy Miller representing the NH Association of Counties. Opposes the bill. All of the problems attributed to Carroll County are addressed in existing statutes. MS-22 adequately defines appropriations. This just muddies up the waters.

Rep. Harold Reilly. Supports the bill. It is confusing if the appropriation is just the bottom line of the budget.

# Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1643

**BILL TITLE:** relative to county appropriations.

**DATE:** February 13, 2012

**LOB ROOM:** 301

**Amendments:**

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Coffey

Seconded by Rep. Belanger

Vote: 15-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

**CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:** YES NO (Please circle one)

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

**Statement of Intent:** Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Philip Munck, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1643

**BILL TITLE:** relative to county appropriations.

**DATE:** 2/13/12

**LOB ROOM:** 301

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Coffey

Seconded by Rep. Belanger

Vote: 15-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: YES NO (Please circle one)

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Philip Munck, Clerk

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Bill #: HB 1643 Title: \_\_\_\_\_

PH Date: 1/7/12

Exec Session Date: 2/13/12

Motion: ITL

Amendment #: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Ferrante, Beverly A, Chairman	✓	
Sterling, Franklin W, V Chairman	✓	
Patten, Betsey L	✓	
Lockwood, Priscilla P	✓	
Accornero, Harry	✓	
Belanger, James P	✓	
Burt, John A	✓	
Coffey, James E	✓	
Copeland, Timothy D	✓	
Moore, Robert W	✓	
Munck, Philip L, Clerk	✓	
<del>Shackett, Jeffrey S</del> <u>Comerford T</u>	✓	
Stroud, Kathleen M	✓	
DeStefano, Stephen T	✓	
Roberts, Kris E	Abs	
Hooper, Dorothea D	Abs	
Tatro, Bruce L	✓	

TOTAL VOTE:  
Printed: 12/21/2011

15

0

# Committee Report

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**February 15, 2012**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

The Committee on MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT to which was referred HB1643,

AN ACT relative to county appropriations. Having  
considered the same, report the same with the following  
Resolution: RESOLVED, That it is INEXPEDIENT TO  
LEGISLATE.

**Rep. James E Coffey**

**FOR THE COMMITTEE**

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	<b>MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB1643</b>
Title:	<b>relative to county appropriations.</b>
Date:	<b>February 15, 2012</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>YES</b>
Recommendation:	<b>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</b>

### STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill adds a phrase to RSA 24:14, I-a that defines each appropriation as a single line item. This would result in chaos for those administering county budgets. The details of managing each county should rest with county commissioners and their delegations. We should avoid micro managing the counties and allow them to develop their own policies and procedures for day to day operation.

Vote 15-0.

Rep. James E Coffey  
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File



## CONSENT CALENDAR

### MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

**HB1643**, relative to county appropriations. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. James E Coffey for MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT. This bill adds a phrase to RSA 24:14, I-a that defines each appropriation as a single line item. This would result in chaos for those administering county budgets. The details of managing each county should rest with county commissioners and their delegations. We should avoid micro managing the counties and allow them to develop their own policies and procedures for day to day operation. **Vote 15-0.**

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

# COMMITTEE REPORT

Coffey

COMMITTEE: \_\_\_\_\_

BILL NUMBER: HB 1643

TITLE: county appropriations

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ CONSENT CALENDAR: YES  NO

OUGHT TO PASS

OUGHT TO PASS W/ AMENDMENT

INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

INTERIM STUDY (Available only 2<sup>nd</sup> year of biennium)

Amendment No.  
\_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT OF INTENT:

This Bill  
HB 1643 ADDS A PHRASE TO RSA 24:14, I-2  
THAT DEFINES EACH APPROPRIATION AS A SINGLE  
LINE ITEM. THIS WOULD RESULT IN CHAOS FOR  
THOSE ADMINISTERING COUNTY BUDGETS. THE DETAILS  
OF MANAGING EACH COUNTY SHOULD REST WITH  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THEIR DELEGATIONS.  
WE SHOULD AVOID MICRO MANAGING THE COUNTIES  
~~W/~~ AND ALLOW THEM TO DEVELOP THEIR  
OWN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR DAY  
TO DAY OPERATION.

BAF

COMMITTEE VOTE: 15-0

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

- Copy to Committee Bill File
- Use Another Report for Minority Report

Rep. [Signature]  
For the Committee