

Bill as Introduced

HB 1687-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2012 SESSION

12-2701
05/01

HOUSE BILL

1687-FN

AN ACT

relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

SPONSORS:

Rep. L. Ober, Hills 27; Rep. Weyler, Rock 8; Rep. Belvin, Hills 6.

COMMITTEE:

Executive Departments and Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the state transparency website to include certain information relative to state employees.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 state employee information available on the state transparency website.

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

1 1 Online Access to Budget Information and Reports; State Employee Information. Amend RSA
2 9-F:1, II(b) to read as follows:

3 (b) Annual salaries of all full-time state employees, listed by pay type category and in a
4 searchable format ***that includes the state agency, accounting unit, job title, position number,***
5 ***and whether the position is vacant or filled.***

6 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

HB 1687-FN - AS INTRODUCED

- Page 2 -

LBAO
12-2701
01/03/12

HB 1687-FN - FISCAL NOTE

AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Budget Assistant is unable to complete a fiscal note for this bill as it is awaiting information from the Department of Administrative Services. When completed, the fiscal note will be forwarded to the House Clerk's Office.

HB 1687 FISCAL NOTE

AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Legislative Budget Assistant has determined that this legislation has a total fiscal impact of less than \$10,000 in each of the fiscal years 2012 through 2016.

HB 1687-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

7Mar2012... 0883h

2012 SESSION

12-2701
05/01

HOUSE BILL ***1687-FN***

AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

SPONSORS: Rep. L. Ober, Hills 27; Rep. Weyler, Rock 8; Rep. Belvin, Hills 6

COMMITTEE: Executive Departments and Administration

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the state transparency website to include certain information relative to full-time state employee positions.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twelve

AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

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

1 1 Online Access to Budget Information and Reports; State Employee Positions. Amend RSA 9-
2 F:1, II (d) to read as follows:

3 (d) *All full-time state employee positions including state agency, accounting*
4 *unit, position number, job title, current labor grade and step, current annual salary*
5 *and whether the position is vacant or filled, in a searchable format. Information*
6 *published under this subparagraph shall not include employee names and shall be*
7 *updated no later than biweekly.*

8 (e) Any other information as determined by the department of information technology
9 and the department of administrative services, in consultation with the legislative oversight
10 committee established in RSA 9-F:2.

11 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

HB 1687-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE
- Page 2 -

LBAO
12-2701
Revised 02/03/12

HB 1687 FISCAL NOTE

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HB 1687-FN – AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

7Mar2012... 0883h

04/18/12 1543s

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HOUSE BILL *1687-FN*

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LBAO

12-2701 Revised 02/03/12

HB 1687 FISCAL NOTE

AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Legislative Budget Assistant has determined that this legislation has a total fiscal impact of less than \$10,000 in each of the fiscal years 2012 through 2016.

CHAPTER 266
HB 1687-FN - FINAL VERSION

7Mar2012... 0883h
04/18/12 1543s
6June2012... 2435CofC

2012 SESSION

12-2701
05/01

HOUSE BILL ***1687-FN***

AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

SPONSORS: Rep. L. Ober, Hills 27; Rep. Weyler, Rock 8; Rep. Belvin, Hills 6

COMMITTEE: Executive Departments and Administration

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CHAPTER 266
HB 1687-FN – FINAL VERSION

7Mar2012... 0883h
04/18/12 1543s
6June2012... 2435CofC

12-2701
05/01

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twelve

AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

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

1 266:1 Online Access to Budget Information and Reports; State Employee Information. Amend
2 RSA 9-F:1, II(b) to read as follows:

3 (b) Annual salaries of all full-time state employees, listed by pay type category and in a
4 searchable format *that includes the state agency, accounting unit, job title, position number,*
5 *and whether the position is vacant or filled.*

6 266:2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

7

8 Approved: June 18, 2012

9 Effective Date: August 17, 2012

Amendments

Rep. Hawkins, Hills. 18
February 17, 2012
2012-0883h
05/10

Amendment to HB 1687

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Online Access to Budget Information and Reports; State Employee Positions. Amend RSA 9-F:1, II (d) to read as follows:

(d) *All full-time state employee positions including state agency, accounting unit, position number, job title, current labor grade and step, current annual salary and whether the position is vacant or filled, in a searchable format. Information published under this subparagraph shall not include employee names and shall be updated no later than biweekly.*

(e) Any other information as determined by the department of information technology and the department of administrative services, in consultation with the legislative oversight committee established in RSA 9-F:2.

2012-0883h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the state transparency website to include certain information relative to full-time state employee positions.



Amendment to HB 1687-FN

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

2

3 1 Online Access to Budget Information and Reports; State Employee Information. Amend
4 RSA 9-F:1, II(b) to read as follows:

5 (b) Annual salaries of all full-time state employees, listed by pay type category and in a
6 searchable format *that includes the state agency, accounting unit, job title, position number,*
7 *and whether the position is vacant or filled.*

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Committee Minutes

SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE
FINANCE

Senator Chuck Morse Chairman
Senator Bob Odell V Chairman
Senator John Barnes, Jr.
Senator Peter Bragdon
Senator Lou D'Allesandro
Senator Jeanie Forrester
Senator John Gallus

For Use by Senate Clerk's Office ONLY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bill Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	Docket
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calendar
Proof: <input type="checkbox"/>	Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Status

Date: March 28, 2012

HEARINGS

Thursday

4/5/2012

FINANCE

SH 103

1:00 PM

(Name of Committee)

(Place)

(Time)

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

1:00 PM	HB269-FN	(New Title) relative to the authority of departments to transfer funds among budget accounting units.
1:15 PM	HB1687-FN	relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.
1:30 PM	HB1662-FN	relative to preparation of fiscal notes.
2:00 PM	HB350-FN	updating laws relative to the fiscal committee of the general court.

Sponsors:

HB269-FN

Rep. Spec Bowers

Rep. Paul Mirski

Rep. Kevin Avard

Sen. Raymond White

HB1687-FN

Rep. Lynne Ober

Rep. Kenneth Weyler

Rep. William Belvin

HB1662-FN

Rep. Carol McGuire

Rep. David Bettencourt

Rep. Kenneth Weyler

HB350-FN

Rep. Robert Foose

Rep. Neal Kurk

Finance Committee

Hearing Report

TO: Members of the Senate

FROM: Shannon Whitehead, Legislative Aide

RE: Hearing report on HB 1687-FN – relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

HEARING DATE: April 5, 2012

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE PRESENT: Senators: Morse, Bragdon, Odell, Barnes, Forrester, D'Allesandro and Gallus

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ABSENT: No one

Sponsor(s): Rep. L. Ober, Hills 27; Rep. Weyler, Rock 8; Rep. Belvin, Hills 6

What the bill does: This bill requires the state transparency website to include certain information relative to full-time state employee positions.

Who supports the bill: Rep. Seidel, Rep. Ober, Rep. Dan McGuire, Rep. Belvin, Joe Bouchard (Assist. Commissioner of Dept. of Admin. Services) Rep. Pilotte, Rep. Weyler, Jay Ward (SEIU) Theresa Pare Curtis (DoIT)

Who opposes the bill: No one appeared in opposition

Summary of testimony received:

Rep. Ober

- This bill as amended by the House would allow the Finance Committee to obtain the number of employees and their salaries to be posted on the state transparency website without their names.
- Currently during budget deliberations there is no easy way to get that information.
- In the House there were changes of the source from the Transparent NH web site to using data from GHRIS database at DAS. The Transparent NH site is only posted once a year.
- The GHRIS information is available after each pay period.

Rep. Belvin:

- This grew out of the budgeting process last year. The status of the employees is important. The lapses authorized, vacant positions and grant limited positions and forthcoming.

- There are part time positions and there are permanent positions with departments such as DRED or DOT - for seasonal activities.
- Looking for who works for the state, this bill helps that.

Joe Bouchard:

- We found out that the amount of hours is about 250 hours in programming and 60 hours of manual maintenance for the website.
- Not saying we wouldn't be able to put it in our budget. I think we could. We would have limitations.

Sen. D'Allesandro:

- Has concerns with updating database bi weekly. Seems to be a bit more than we need. Maybe we could do semi-annually.
- What changes take place?

Joe Bouchard:

- Our pay role system goes back to 1991, which is being revamped.
- Searchable database makes it more complex. There are not the many people that can do this type of work.
- There are so many moving parts there are always going to be a disparity as to what it looks like in the budget
- For a good product to be developed we need to know the limitations of it.

Jeff Pattison:

- Two different components here- budgeting and human resources tracking. In the budget system from Admin. Services and the legislature we have used it for a biennium. We are not able to use it.
- We manually track position, changes through legislative process there is an on and off key.

Sen. D'Allesandro:

- At this time this is a fairly cumbersome thing. We can already identify them. Maybe this is a step we don't really need.

Rep. Ober:

- Stated she would be happy for the bill to go back to the way it was, as introduced.

Sen. Bragdon:

- This bill as introduced was very simple.

Rep. Ober:

- Yes

Jay Ward:

- We support full transparency and income. We are concerned about the information being used though.
- Majority of the budget is outside contracts. Would like to see it expand to all, so that public can see all expenditures.
- There is a difference between what the public can see and what is seen with the budget

Theresa Curtis:

- We would be doing a lot of the programming.
- Concerned about staff resources. As a dept is limited. As we add more items to the transparency website, although we think is a great idea. But this will take time. There will be some additions for the data base such as updates and fields

Funding: See Fiscal Note

Future Action: OTP-A 7-0 Senator Morse for the committee

sgw
[file: HB 1687-FN report]
Date: April 6, 2012

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
State House, Room 103
Concord, NH
Thursday, April 5, 2012

HOUSE BILL 1687-FN, AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

TESTIMONY OF:

Rep. Lynne Ober.	Pg. 1
Rep. William Belvin.	Pg. 3
Joe Bouchard	Pg. 4
Jeffry Pattison.	Pg. 7
Jay Ward	Pg. 10
Theresa Perry Curtis	Pg. 11

(Convened at 1:22 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN MORSE: We'll open the hearing on House Bill 1687 and recognize Representative Ober to introduce the Bill.

LYNNE OBER, State Representative, Hillsborough, District #27: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And you guys were nicer to me than I was to Senator Bragdon yesterday. He had to speak, leave, and then come back. So I'm feeling a little guilty today.

1687 is what I call the "Jeff Pattison memorial legislation", and I want to take you back to the Committee of Conference on House Bill 1 and House Bill 2. We, in the House, deleted abolished positions and it was in the back of House Bill 2. When it came back from Senate Finance some of those positions had been put back and they were put back with position number and we had taken them out with position number; but we never kept a detailed spreadsheet tying a position number with position title and an agency. So I said to the LBA when we got House Bill 2 back, "Can you run a report for us and tell us what positions got put

back so we can see if we want to work on them?" And the answer was, "Well, that will take about a hundred hours." I said, "You're joking?" I said, "Can I look it up on-line someplace?" "No, it's not anywhere." I said, "Really?" "No."

Okay. There were more important things to do in the budget. And I said to myself, the transparency website could just have the position number added to it and then if this happened again, either Branch could just go on the transparency website, type "Control F," you get a search box, key in the position number. Poof! Up pops the information you need. We don't have to have -- waste valuable staff time, but we can get the information and both sides could make better decisions. So that is really all this little Bill does. And you can see that it is -- I'm the prime sponsor as Vice-Chair of Finance. The Chair of Finance, Ken Weyler, is a co-sponsor, and Chairman Bill Belvin of Finance Division I is a co-sponsor. All three of us sat on the Committee of Conference with several of you gentlemen. So you heard the same things we heard as we were trying to deal with it. And that was the purpose of this Bill was to make a simple change to an existing system and make information easily available so that we could all have it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Thank you. Questions?

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Is Joe Bouchard going to speak to this?

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Yes. Thank you.

REP. OBER: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Rep. Weyler.

KEN WEYLER, State Representative, Rockingham County, District #08: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think Representative Ober covered it all.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Might get on track. Representative Belvin.

WILLIAM BELVIN, State Representative, Hillsborough County, District #06: I trust I will not slow you down.

For the record, I'm Representative Bill Belvin, Hillsborough 6, the towns of Milford and Amherst.

As Representative Ober has mentioned, this grew out of the whole budgeting process last year, deeply engaged us at this time last year. I just want to remind the Committee that knowing for the full-time employees what their status is is an important part of the budgeting process. Think of where most of the lapses come from if back-of-the-budget cuts are required. Accurate information here is most helpful, and you would think it be simple to know this. But there are authorized vacant funded positions. There are authorized occupied positions. There are some grant based positions that are time limited. Is this thing going to roll on over? We would hope that this information would be forthcoming.

The Bill does not address further complexities. I don't know if you want to do anything about it. There's less material. But you have part-time positions and they can be funded and vacant or they could be occupied. And there are permanent part-time positions. These tend to form in certain agencies, like DRED or DOT, where they have seasonal activities. And, lastly, in correctional officers they have to maintain open positions because some of their staff are deployed as National Guardsmen. So the simple question of who works for the State turns out not to be simple. This Bill is meant to try to help resolve that. I'm happy to answer any questions.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Questions for Representative Belvin? Thank you very much. Joe Bouchard.

JOSEPH BOUCHARD, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services: Good afternoon, Senator.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Good afternoon.

MR. BOUCHARD: Good afternoon, Senators. I think the testimony of a couple of speakers have kind of helped bring some light to the intent of the Bill. The -- from the perspective of Administrative Services, our responsibility is, in cooperation with DoIT, is to maintain the transparency website. Currently, the only payroll data that is supported out there is an annual salary synopsis for every State employee, full-time, part-time, temporary, based on the positions that they held over the course of the year.

I had done an original Fiscal Note that spoke to updating that annual transparent website action, if you would, that we could incorporate basically more data fields to be added into the website from a searchable basis, making it -- but that's -- that was taking a picture of once a year. Taking a bi-weekly snapshot of the State's GHR system, the payroll system we currently use, creates a much more complex searchable -- in a searchable database. Basically would require that a new search feature be pulled together.

Just in discussion with DoIT, just the last couple of days, we found out the amount of hours that would take for us to -- for programming, for them to build a website, that could do what the Representatives appear to vision. And it would take in the neighborhood of 250 hours of programming and another 60 hours of annual maintenance. We budget for web services, needs approximately 500 hours of web work, if you will, that includes all the work that needs to be done in a year to enhance the website or any other web needs that the Agency might have. So, obviously, with 500 hours budgeted, and about 310 that would be required for this effort, we -- I certainly can't sit here today and say that we wouldn't be able to incorporate it into our budget

'cause we would. Now that would mean this would take the place of any other initiatives that the oversight committee, of which some of you gentlemen are members of, would choose to do in lieu of this action. We just want to make -- our Department just wants to be really clear we are limited with our budget ability as everyone else. So we would have limitations to anything else we might be able to do over the next year if this were to be the action taken by the Committee and become law.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Questions.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Senator D'Allesandro.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Joe, what I -- when I read it and I saw updated no later than bi-weekly, to go through this whole -- you have to go through this whole thing. And bi-weekly seems to be a bit more than we need. I mean, I could -- I could -- maybe I could see it semi-annually or at the end of the Fiscal Year, something of that nature. But updating this on a bi-weekly basis, I mean, what kind of changes take place?

MR. BOUCHARD: Well, the reality of it is Agency staff -- Agency receive daily with -- in our old system, our payroll system which is currently being revamped, is from the 19 -- I think it's from 1991, but there are -- this is a hard-coded system and there's a vacancy report that's generated everyday for Agencies to see who works for them and what positions are currently vacant.

Now, we look at it from the perspective of currently there's no one in the system in that position but they may well be being recruited. We may have the ability to hire four or five people. So it's -- it's static for that day but it's run everyday. So it's not something that we certainly wouldn't be able to get out of the next system. Putting it in a searchable database makes it more

complicated.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Right.

MR. BOUCHARD: Because then we are dealing with queries by Agency and the like and that's really not -- that's a skill set that DoIT would need to speak to. That's why they have a Fiscal Note of what they feel the need would be. I know they are very much strapped with resources and part of the reason that one of our major initiatives currently in law, which is the detailed search for the expenditure register, hasn't quite been completed. We hope to have it done by the end of April. It's just there are just limited resources that DoIT, even though the design has been in their hands for some months, it's just there aren't that many people that can do this stuff, so. But to answer your question, the data is certainly there. And we -- it could be built to be able to provide that to the public. And it would be a fully public scenario.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Sure.

MR. BOUCHARD: Now, I would caution those of us that all work in the budget world that when we load our -- when we load the budget that starts this process, which will be some -- this August, the Agencies -- we give the Agencies opportunity to make their changes based on perpetual hiring or vacancies that come up right through -- there are submissions in October. Then it's pretty much a snapshot in time. So, unfortunately, once the Governor's Budget comes over to the House February 15th, it has not been updated continually from October on just because there's so many moving parts, as you folks know, with the budget. So once it comes to the House there's -- there's always going to be a disparity of what it looked like in the budget -- in the budget development system versus what's in GHRS today, our human resource system that we run everyday.

The biggest barrier, the biggest hurdle there I think we got over, because as you remember, we abolished some

1100 positions this past budget, had we been running bi-weekly reports through the House and Senate version while you folks were making your final, those would still show up in all these reports and they would be different from what decisions had been made by the House and Senate. So we just need to keep that in perspective to get -- if there's a good product to be developed, we would all want to know what the criteria and the limitations might be.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Sure. Just one further question.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Further question.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: What are we apportioned for an hourly cost for an IT person?

MR. BOUCHARD: We have for web services budgeted approximately \$50 an hour.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: \$50 an hour.

MR. BOUCHARD: We have \$27,500 of web work of which this would eat up 310. So well over half.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Right. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Further question? Thank you, Joe.

JEFF PATTISON, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant: If I could just follow-up with a comment Joe made. I just want to make perfectly clear that everybody understand that what we are talking about is really two different components. You're talking about budgeting.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Right.

MR. PATTISON: And you're talking about on-line human resources and position tracking. Those systems are not tied together. The budget system when we start working on it come January is not going to be updated with the

information that comes out of the human resources system. We still will be in, I think -- I believe the same position if Representative Ober were to ask me again that we still would not be able to provide her the information unless we manually went through and compared a current database out of the human resources system with the budget system. And one of the things I would like to also share with you though is that you need to understand that in the budget system, once it's transferred from Administrative Services to the Legislative Branch, we have now used it for two bienniums the new budget system. But both of those bienniums the Legislative Budget Office has had to turn off the personnel component of the budget system because it does not work. We are unable to utilize that component. So, again, that's another problem we have. Our office, what we do is, we manually track the position changes that you folks make during the legislative process, because we cannot go in and -- there's an on and off key for each of the positions. We can't use that.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: But in the -- I understand what Representative Ober wants and what Representative Weyler wants, but the time and effort spent to do this at this point in time, I mean, that's a fairly cumbersome thing.

Now, I know that if you had an interactive system and you had a report writer sitting on top of that system, you could go to the report writer and ask for these essential items, but that's a design feature. That's an expensive feature. And we still -- I mean, as I said, we can get the information that we need at an appropriate time. You give it -- you give it to us. For example, when the thing is being put to bed, being put together, the Chairman can say to you, I want to know how many people we have and I want to know these position numbers because we identify them in the process. We identify them when we're -- if you were eliminating and so forth. So it just seems to me that at this point in time this -- this is -- this is a step that maybe we don't -- we don't really -- we don't really need. We can get to it; but to have a report on a bi-weekly basis

that's -- that's a big-time effort.

REP. OBER: If I could just say one more thing, Senator. You're correct. My Bill as originally presented asked for the position number to be added once a year. I don't like to throw anybody under the bus. So let me say I am a computer geek. I know that doesn't take 300 hours. I did have pink eye and was not able to drive because of the medicine I had the day this Bill was heard. And I called Representative Carol McGuire of ED&A and I believe she did the best she could. They did amend the Bill to the bi-weekly. They amended the Bill to the searchable. Because I do not believe that Representative McGuire and her Committee understood that if you put the position number once a year onto the transparency website and you use Internet Explorer as your browser, Internet Explorer has a browse capability. You can "Control F." You get a box. You key in your position number. It goes to it. DoIT doesn't have to make it searchable. And that's all my Bill originally asked for.

What you have is the Bill as amended out of ED&A. If you went back and you amended it to have the position number added once a year so you could see it, that was it. I didn't ask for bi-weekly. I didn't ask for constant updates. I just want to be able to get it because we could not get the information from the LBA during the budget cycle. So I tried to make it as simple as possible. I would be happy for you guys to put it back that way.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Thank you.

REP. OBER: I just want to make that really clear. I just wanted one simple little field added.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Thank you very much. And that makes -- that makes a great deal of sense and that's pretty easy to do.

MR. BOUCHARD: Yes, it is.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: That's simple and you can get all the -- they can get all the information that they want.

REP. OBER: Yes.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Right?

REP. OBER: Exactly right. I could have sat at the computer and done everything I wanted, no help from anybody.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Right. Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: A home run.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Thank you. Any further questions?

SEN. PRESIDENT BRAGDON: Yeah. Can I follow-up on that? So it's my understanding that the Bill as introduced from a technical perspective is pretty simple to do.

MR. BOUCHARD: Very simple.

SEN. PRESIDENT BRAGDON: Thank you.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Thanks, Joe.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Jay Ward.

JAY WARD, State Employee Association: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee. For the record, my name is Jay Ward, and I'm here representing the State Employees Association. And we continue to support full transparency of all State positions, dollars, expenditures, income. And so we do support this. What we are concerned about though is given the fact that, you know, we live in a very voyeuristic age, people will look at this and sort of

misuse the information. Remembering that State employees are 18% of the entire budget, which means -- and that's wages and benefits -- which means that the majority of the budget is outside contractors. We have contractors that are sitting side by side with State employees. If State employees' information is going to be up there, we believe that we should start to consider expanding it to all contractors so the public knows exactly where all of the expenditures are going, rather than just looking at one piece of it and, of course, being able to misuse that information. So again, we support full transparency. We do think that there is a difference in what public can see and what budget-wise needs are. And I just caution you before everything goes up on-line where everyone in the world can see it that we think about how it's going to be used.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Any questions?

MR. WARD: Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Theresa Curtis.

THERESA PERRY CURTIS, Department of Information Technology: Good afternoon. For the record, my name is Theresa Perry Curtis. I'm with DoIT. I'm really only here to speak about the mechanics of putting this on-line. It isn't overly complicated. It does take a little time to do the programming. We would be doing a lot of the programming based on the existing employee website, employee search website. A lot of fields could be the same. The only concern DoIT actually has on this right now is limited staff resources, similar to what Joe Bouchard just mentioned. It's really the fact that having the staff time to be able to do this has proven problematic due to the fact that DoIT resources are pretty limited across the Board.

We've been waiting to be able to complete one component of the transparency website for free text searching across the expenditure checkbook. That's still

not completed yet due to the fact that we haven't been able to assign someone to that. So as we add these additional features to the transparency website which, speaking personally, not as a representative of DoIT, personally I think it's an excellent idea. It's just getting it done in a timely manner is just going to prove a little bit problematic. So that's the only thing I wanted to bring to this Committee and I'm happy to answer any questions.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Senator Bragdon.

SEN. PRESIDENT BRAGDON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Representative Ober was speaking I thought she was referring to an HTML document that you could just search with Internet Explorer. I wouldn't think something like that would require new fields or anything. Are we talking two different things?

MS. CURTIS: What Representative Ober was referring to, correct me if I'm wrong, if we take the existing application that we have for the annual update, adding in a new field to that, it's still a searchable database. We add a new field to that so the data load we get once a year from Administrative Services would include that record. Then what she is really suggesting is that you would do a search without any filters on it so that it would produce one long document. Basically, still coming from a database, not an HTML file. It presents as an HTML file. And then you would do a key word search using your browser feature. It still be a little bit of minor programming in that, but it wouldn't be creating a whole new application.

SEN. PRESIDENT BRAGDON: That's what I thought. Thank you.

REP. OBER: She asked me if I could respond.

MS. CURTIS: Yes.

REP. OBER: I'm going to respond.

MS. CURTIS: Okay.

REP. OBER: You heard DAS say they run a daily report of all the people; what positions are vacant, what positions are not. You could take that report on June 30th, Senator, put a link on it, put it out there. It has the position number on it. You could get your information. It takes a few seconds to put a link to an existing document the browser would let you look at. And I would suggest -- 'cause I was not looking to add a lot of time to DoIT. I do know how busy they are and how much they have on their plate. So I was not looking to do that. I just wanted to be able to get simple information during budget cycle without killing the LBA staff and make sure we made the best decisions. So something like that works perfectly well. And they don't have to touch their existing system. And I think Theresa would say that that's all doable.

MS. CURTIS: We would have to add the personnel field but other than that that would be very light touching.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Kissing. Kissing.

SEN. PRESIDENT BRAGDON: Kissing.

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: Make love to the system. That's very simple.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: You have a question, Senator?

SEN. D'ALLESANDRO: No.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Thank you, Theresa.


MS. CURTIS: Thank you.

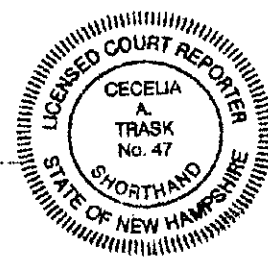
CHAIRMAN MORSE: Anyone else wishing to speak on House Bill 1687? Seeing no one, I'll close the hearing on House Bill 1687.

(Concluded at 1:45 p.m.)

CERTIFICATION

I, Cecelia A. Trask, a Licensed Court Reporter-Shorthand, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate transcript from my shorthand notes taken on said date to the best of my ability, skill, knowledge and judgment.


Cecelia A. Trask, LSR, RMR, CRR
State of New Hampshire
License No. 47



Speakers

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Date: April 6, 2012

THE COMMITTEE ON Finance

to which was referred House Bill 1687-FN

AN ACT relative to state employee information available on the
state transparency website.

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

OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

BY A VOTE OF: 7-0

AMENDMENT # 1543s

Senator Chuck Morse
For the Committee

Shannon Whitehead 271-4980

New Hampshire General Court - Bill Status System

Docket of HB1687

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.*Official Docket of HB1687:*

Date	Body	Description
1/4/2012	H	Introduced 1/4/2012 and Referred to Executive Departments and Administration; HJ 7 , PG.364
1/10/2012	H	==CANCELLED== Public Hearing: 1/24/2012 2:30 PM LOB 306
1/18/2012	H	==RESCHEDULED== Public Hearing: 2/16/2012 2:00 PM LOB 306
2/15/2012	H	Executive Session: 2/21/2012 3:00 PM LOB 306
2/21/2012	H	Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment #0883h for Mar 7 (Vote 12-0; CC); HC 18 , PG.1067
2/21/2012	H	Proposed Committee Amendment #2012-0883h ; HC 17 , PG.1037
3/7/2012	H	Amendment #0883h Adopted, VV; HJ 21 , PG.1306
3/7/2012	H	Ought to Pass with Amendment #0883h: MA VV; HJ 21 , PG.1305-1306
3/7/2012	S	Introduced and Referred to Finance
3/29/2012	S	Hearing: 4/05/12, Room 103, SH, 1:15 p.m.; SC13
4/10/2012	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment #2012-1543s , 4/18/12; SC15
4/18/2012	S	Committee Amendment 1543s; AA, VV
4/18/2012	S	Ought to Pass with Amendment 1543s, MA, VV; OT3rdg
5/15/2012	H	House Non-Concurs with Senate AM #1543s and Requests C of C (Rep C.McGuire): MA VV; HJ 43 , PG.2281
5/15/2012	H	Speaker Appoints: Reps Hawkins, L.Ober, Belvin, and D.McGuire; HJ 43 , PG.2281
5/23/2012	S	Sen. Morse Accedes to House Request for Committee of Conference; MA, VV
5/23/2012	S	President Appoints: Senators Gallus, D'Allesandro, and Forrester
5/24/2012	H	==CANCELLED== Conference Committee Meeting: 5/29/2012 1:00 PM LOB 306
5/25/2012	H	Conference Committee Meeting: 5/30/2012 LOB 306 1:00 PM or Immediately Following Session
5/31/2012	S	Conference Committee Report #2012-2435c ; Senate Amendment, Filed
6/6/2012	S	Conference Committee Report 2435c; Adopted, VV
6/6/2012	H	Conference Committee Report #2435c Adopted, VV
6/6/2012	S	Enrolled
6/6/2012	H	Enrolled
6/22/2012	H	Signed By Governor 06/18/2012; Effective 08/17/2012; Chapter 0266

NH House

NH Senate

Other Referrals

HB1687

COMMITTEE REPORT FILE INVENTORY

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

HANDOUTS FROM THE PUBLIC HEARING

PREPARED TESTIMONY AND OTHER SUBMISSIONS

SIGN-UP SHEET(S)

ALL AMENDMENTS (passed or not) CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEE:

- AMENDMENT # 1543s - AMENDMENT # 0883h
 - AMENDMENT # _____ - 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): transcript, FN, CFC report

IF YOU HAVE A RE-REFERRED BILL, YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE UP A DUPLICATE FILE FOLDER

DATE DELIVERED TO SENATE CLERK 7-2-12

Shannon Whitehead
BY COMMITTEE AIDE

May 30, 2012

2012-2435-CofC

05/01

Committee of Conference Report on HB 1687-FN, an act relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

Recommendation:

That the House recede from its position of nonconcurrency with the Senate amendment, and concur with the Senate amendment, and

That the Senate and House each pass the bill as amended by the Senate.

The signatures below attest to the authenticity of this Report on HB 1687-FN , an act relative to state employee information available on the state transparency website.

Conferees on the Part of the Senate Conferees on the Part of the House

Sen. Gallus, Dist. 1 Rep. Hawkins, Hills. 18

Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist. 20 Rep. L. Ober, Hills. 27

Sen. Forrester, Dist. 2 Rep. Belvin, Hills. 6

Rep. D. McGuire, Merr. 8