

Bill as
Introduced

HB 453 - AS INTRODUCED

2013 SESSION

13-0702

05/10

HOUSE BILL

453

AN ACT

repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Kurk, Hills 2

COMMITTEE:

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

ANALYSIS

This bill repeals the December 31, 2014 repeal date of RSA 651-F, relative to the information and analysis center.

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT **repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center.**

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

- 1 **1 Repeal. The following are repealed:**
- 2 **I. 2010, 208:8, relative to the repeal of the information and analysis center under RSA 651-F.**
- 3 **II. 2010, 208:10, II, relative to the December 31, 2014 effective date of the repeal.**
- 4 **2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.**

Speakers

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 453

BILL TITLE: repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center.

DATE: January 30, 2013

LOB ROOM: 204 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 10:30 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 11:00 a.m.

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Pantelakos, Cushing, Ginsburg, Berube, Boisvert, Robertson, Grady, Burrige, Harriott-Gathright, Hirsch, O'Hearn, Charron, Fields, Villeneuve, Gagne, Vaillancourt, Warden, Parsons, Fesh and Tasker.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Kurk, Hills. 2

TESTIMONY

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

Rep. Neal Kurk, Sponsor

Explained the reasons for the bill. Supports the repeal of the sunset clause. The analysis is a resource center for mass disasters. No written testimony.

Chris Casco, Department of Safety – supports

Director Perry Plummer, Homeland Security and Emergency Management – supports
The analysis center is a gathering of information from many agencies.

Jennifer Harper, supports

Spoke also. Explained various factors involved.

Respectfully submitted,



Rep. Gene P. Charron, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 453

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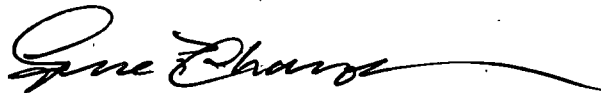
Bill Sponsors: Rep. J. Belanger, Hills 27; Rep. Shurtleff, Merr-11

Rep Kurl, Hills. 2

TESTIMONY

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

Respectfully submitted,



Rep. Gene P. Charron, Clerk

HB-453

① 10:30

Neal Burk, Representative and sponsor, explained the reasons for the bill. Supports the repeal of the Sunset Clause. The analysis is a resource center for mass disasters. no written testimony.

② 10:40

Chris Casco Dept of Safety, supports the bill.

③

Director Blummer - supports bill. The analysis center is a gathering of information from many agencies. supports

④

Jim Harper spoke also, explained various factors involved. supports.

CLOSED 10:05

Testimony



State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
JAMES H. HAYES BLDG. 33 HAZEN DR.
CONCORD, N.H. 03305
603/271-2559

JOHN J. BARTHELMES
COMMISSIONER OF SAFETY

EARL M. SWEENEY
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

NH DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

LEGISLATIVE POSITION PAPER

HB 453 SB AS INTRODUCED () AMENDMENT NO.

In 2010 the Legislature enacted Chapter 208 of the Laws of 2010, which established an Information and Analysis Center at the Department of Safety, and enacted RSA Chapter 651-F, which set forth how the Center would be operated and the procedures that should be taken to ensure that people's civil rights were not violated by the data the Center would be collecting and analyzing.

In the wake of the 9/11 tragedy, a Commission was set up by Congress to study how the nation's intelligence, security, law enforcement, and defense agencies managed to miss the fact that the so-called "9/11 terrorists" had entered this country on fake credentials, traveled across the country including extensively in New England, even passing through New Hampshire, taken lessons on how to fly jetliners, conducted surveillance of airports and public buildings in various parts of the nation including Boston, and ultimately hijacked 2 huge jetliners and crashed the, one into the Twin Trade Towers in New York City and one into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, killing hundreds of people including everyone on the two airliners, all in the name of Al Qaeda, and never been discovered by the FBI, the CIA, or the military. One of them had even received a traffic ticket in New Jersey. Moreover, using false credentials they had obtained driver license from several states.

The Commission issued an extensive report, and Congress funded many of their recommendations through direct appropriations to federal agencies and anti-terrorism grants to states, and local governments. The Committee concluded among other things, that federal agencies were not in the best position to gather intelligence on terrorist organizations and terrorists within the country itself, and that local, state and county law enforcement, being closer to the people, was the first line of defense. They encouraged each state and each of the major cities such as New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, to establish what they called, "Fusion Center" to gather data and information from a variety of classified and open sources, analyze it and exchange any information or data that led to reasonable suspicion of terrorist activities and terrorist "sleeper cells" with other states and the FBI.

New Hampshire was one of the last states to act on this recommendation. We decided to go a different way. We believed that the best way to manage and organization - any organization, whether it is a private business or a government agency - is to collect data and information and use it to streamline your operation and increase its efficiency and effectiveness. We believed that there certainly is a possibility for international terrorists to hide in a rural state such as New Hampshire, and that tips from

alert citizens, business people, and police officers could lead to their discovery, and we have subsequently found, without elaborating on it, that our state and certain locations within our state have been, and continue to be of interest to known terrorists. However, we also have problems with drug smuggling, Ponzi schemes, gangs or sophisticated shoplifter from Massachusetts and New York that victimize our retail stores, identity thieves, and many other criminal activities. We know that by collecting information on these criminal activities, it is sometimes possible to track them as they move up and down or back and forth within the state, detect patterns of activity, and pass information along quickly from one town or city to another and to Troopers statewide and to increase the chances of apprehending these perpetrators. For one thing, we identify cases where more than one police agency is investigating the same group and neither knew what the other was doing until we told them. Then, the agencies got their heads together and through a joint effort, were able to identify specific suspects and make arrests. This is called, "de-confliction" and averts cases where for example, undercover drug investigators from more than one agency have targeted the same drug dealer and in other parts of the country police officers have died from "friendly fire" when two armed groups bumped into one another and each mistook the other for the bad guys. Our IAC, as our Center is called, has de-conflicted case and helped avoid scenarios such as this.

We also felt that by tracking motor vehicle crashes, computer mapping and locating them precisely and determining the time of day, day of the week, season of the year, and the cause of the crash – which usually turns out to be some violation of the rules of the road by one or more vehicles, we can predict where crashes are likely to happen in the future. And by comparing the time of day, day of the week, offenses for which tickets are written, and precise location of the place where the violation that led to the ticket occurred, we can tell whether our Troopers are enforcing the traffic laws when and where and for the type of violation that is most likely to prevent crashes from occurring.

We didn't stop there, however. There are a lot of businesses, public institutions such as schools and colleges, government buildings, defense contractors, electric power plants, municipal water supplies and others whose operation is critical to the health and welfare of the state and its people and which, if severely damaged, would endanger the health and welfare or the economy of the state. A robust data collection system can help us identify what and who those places are and to help warn them, not only of terrorist or criminal activity, but of such natural disaster as hurricanes and floods. By monitoring the depth and speed of melting of the snow pack in the spring we can work with the DES Bureau of Dams and prevent flooding, and we can "lean forward" and proactively place sandbags and other resources in low lying areas in advance of coastal flooding. By participating in social media such as Facebook and Twitter, we can get the word out to the citizenry and prepare them for approaching weather events and other possible disasters.

So what New Hampshire did, which is fairly unique among the states, is to set up what we call and "all crimes/all hazards" center, which is our IAC. We don't just gather and share data on terrorism, or on crimes, but we look at natural hazards as well and try to prepare the state for them, and to prevent them whenever we can.

We also recognized that whenever you collect data, especially data on people, you must have a stringent set of rules and a robust system of oversight in order to avoid unnecessarily and illegally prying into the lives of honest citizens or spying on them. To help us write the laws that would ensure the operation of the Center appreciated and observed the need to ensure that civil rights were not violated, we reached out to, without question the foremost advocate of personal privacy in the Legislature, Rep. Neal Kurk, and he helped us write the legislation, critiqued it for us and even sponsored the bill in 2010. He and the Legislature also wrote into the bill that the IAC would cease to function on December 31, 2014 unless the Legislature renewed its authority.

The Center has been in operation for nearly two years now. It is managed by two co-directors, a State Police Sergeant and a civilian employee of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The Assistant Commissioner of Safety has final oversight of its operations and is required to perform an annual Performance Evaluation to determine if it is following all the state and federal laws and rules and operating in a legal and ethical manner. The Assistant Commissioner and the IAC staff meets periodically, reports to and meets with a member of the Legislature, at this time Rep. Kurk, a representative of the Attorney General's Office, and an official of the NH Civil Liberties Union, and they also get a copy of and are briefed on the Assistant Commissioner's Performance Evaluation. The Center's budget is in a separate section of the Department of Safety's budget and subjected to the same scrutiny as the rest of the State budget – nothing is hidden.

This fall, we asked Rep. Kurk if, rather than waiting until December 2014 and possibly missing a Legislative deadline, if he felt comfortable enough with how the Center is being operated, to sponsor a bill to repeal the December 2014 repeal legislation and give the Center continued life, and he very kindly agreed to do so. We thank him for that, and would be happy for the Committee to tour the Center at any time or to answer any questions you may have before voting on the bill.

APPROVED:

Earl M. Sweeney

Assistant Commissioner

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 453

BILL TITLE: repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center.

DATE: February 19, 2013

LOB ROOM: 204

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

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

Moved by Rep. Burridge

Seconded by Rep. Charron

Vote: 6-13 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

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

Moved by Rep. Burridge

Seconded by Rep. Charron

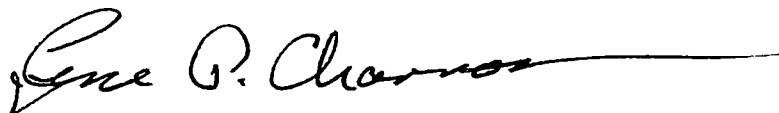
Vote: 14-5 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: {Type VOTE}

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

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,



Rep. Gene P. Charron, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 453

BILL TITLE: repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center.

DATE: 2-19-13

LOB ROOM: 204

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

#2

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

Moved by Rep. BURIDGE

Seconded by Rep. CHARRON .

Vote: 14-5 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

#1

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

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: 6-13 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: {Type VOTE} Yes. No

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

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Gene P. Charron, Clerk

14-5
Regular.



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/10/2013 11:54:23 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2013 SESSION

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Bill #: 453 Title: _____

PH Date: 1/30/13 Exec Session Date: 2/19/2013

Motion: 1TL- Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Pantelakos, Laura C, Chairman		✓
Cushing, Robert R, V Chairman	—	
Berube, Roger R		✓
Robertson, Timothy N		✓
Burrige, Delmar D		✓
Ginsburg, Philip E		✓
Boisvert, Ronald R	✓	✓
Grady, Brenda E		✓
Harriott-Gathright, Linda		✓
Hirsch, Geoffrey D		✓
O'Hearne, Andrew S		✓
Charron, Gene P, Clerk		✓
Fields, Dennis H		✓
Fesh, Robert M		✓
Villeneuve, Moe	✓	✓
Gagne, Larry G	✓	
Parsons, Robbie L		✓
Tasker, Kyle J	✓	
Warden, Mark	✓	
Vaillancourt, Steve	✓	
TOTAL VOTE:		

6 - 13



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/10/2013 11:54:23 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2013 SESSION

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Bill #: 453 Title: _____

PH Date: 1/30/13 Exec Session Date: 2/19/13

Motion: OTP- Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Pantelakos, Laura C, Chairman	✓	
Cushing, Robert R, V Chairman	✓	
Berube, Roger R	✓	
Robertson, Timothy N	✓	
Burrige, Delmar D	✓	
Ginsburg, Philip E	✓	
Boisvert, Ronald R	✓	
Grady, Brenda E	✓	
Harriott-Gathright, Linda	✓	
Hirsch, Geoffrey D	✓	
O'Hearne, Andrew S	✓	
Charron, Gene P, Clerk	✓	
Fields, Dennis H	✓	
Fesh, Robert M	✓	
Villeneuve, Moe		✓
Gagne, Larry G		✓
Parsons, Robbie L	✓	
Tasker, Kyle J		✓
Warden, Mark		✓
Vaillancourt, Steve		✓
TOTAL VOTE:		

14

5

Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 20, 2013

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Majority of the Committee on CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY to which was referred HB 453,**

**AN ACT repealing the prospective repeal of the
information and analysis center. Having considered the
same, report the same with the recommendation that
the bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Linda Harriott-Gathright

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

MAJORITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY
Bill Number:	HB453
Title:	repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center.
Date:	February 20, 2013
Consent Calendar:	NO
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

In 2010 the Legislature established an Information and Analysis Center (IAC) at the Department of Safety, and enacted RSA Chapter 651-F, which set forth how the Center would be operated and the procedures that should be taken to ensure that people's civil rights were not violated by the Center.

After the 9/11 tragedy, a Commission was set up by Congress to study how the nation's intelligence, security, law enforcement and defense agencies missed the fact that the 9/11 terrorists had entered this country on fake credentials, traveled across the country including New England; and were never discovered by the FBI, CIA, or the military.

The Commission concluded that federal agencies were not in the best position to gather intelligence on terrorist organizations and terrorists within the country itself, and that local, state and county law enforcement, being closer to the people should be first line of defense.

A robust data collection system can help us identify what and where these places are and to warn us, not only of terrorist or criminal activity, but also such natural disasters as hurricanes and floods. By monitoring the depth and speed of melting of the snow pack in the spring IAC can work with the DES Bureau of Dams and prevent flooding. We can "lean forward" and proactively place sandbags and other resources in low lying areas in advance of coastal flooding.

New Hampshire did, unique among the states, set up what we call "all crimes/all hazards" center, which is our IAC. We don't just gather and share data on terrorism, or on crime, but we look at natural hazards as well and try to prepare the state for them, to prevent them whenever we can and give safety warning to our citizens.

Further, an advisory committee, including the Attorney Generals Office and the New Hampshire Civil Liberties Union serve to ensure that our civil rights were not violated.

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

Vote 14-5

Rep. Linda Harriott-Gathright
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 453, repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Linda Harriott-Gathright for the **Majority** of CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY. In 2010 the Legislature established an Information and Analysis Center (IAC) at the Department of Safety, and enacted RSA Chapter 651-F, which set forth how the Center would be operated and the procedures that should be taken to ensure that people's civil rights were not violated by the Center. After the 9/11 tragedy, a Commission was set up by Congress to study how the nation's intelligence, security, law enforcement and defense agencies missed the fact that the 9/11 terrorists had entered this country on fake credentials, traveled across the country including New England; and were never discovered by the FBI, CIA, or the military.

The Commission concluded that federal agencies were not in the best position to gather intelligence on terrorist organizations and terrorists within the country itself, and that local, state and county law enforcement, being closer to the people should be first line of defense.

A robust data collection system can help us identify what and where these places are and to warn us, not only of terrorist or criminal activity, but also such natural disasters as hurricanes and floods. By monitoring the depth and speed of melting of the snow pack in the spring IAC can work with the DES Bureau of Dams and prevent flooding. We can "lean forward" and proactively place sandbags and other resources in low lying areas in advance of coastal flooding.

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Vote 14-5.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

SPUT

COMMITTEE:

Criminal Justice

BILL NUMBER:

HB 453

TITLE:

DATE:

2-19-13

CONSENT CALENDAR:

YES

NO

OUGHT TO PASS

OUGHT TO PASS W/ AMENDMENT

INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

INTERIM STUDY (Available only 2nd year of biennium)

Amendment No.

STATEMENT OF INTENT:

COMMITTEE VOTE:

14-5

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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

Rep. *Rep. Linda Harvath-Culbert*
For the Committee *Jule*

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MAJORITY REPORT

HB 453, repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center.

RECOMMENDATION: OUGHT TO PASS VOTE: 14-5

In 2010 the Legislature established an Information and Analysis Center (IAC) at the Department of Safety, and enacted RSA Chapter 651-F, which set forth how the Center would be operated and the procedures that should be taken to ensure that people's civil rights were not violated by ~~the data~~ the Center.

Me ~~We miss the boat with the 9/11 tragedy, and a Commission was set up by Congress to study how the nation's intelligence, security, law enforcement and defense agencies missed the fact that the 9/11 terrorists had entered this country on fake credentials, traveled across the country including New England; all in the name of Al Qaeda. They never were discovered by the FBI, CIA, or the military. As you remember, one received a traffic ticket in NJ. Using false credentials, they obtained driver's licenses from several states.~~ *and won*

The Commission concluded that federal agencies were not in the best position to gather intelligence on terrorist organizations and terrorists within the country itself, and that local, state and county law enforcement, being closer to the people should be first line of defense.

A robust data collection system can help us identify what and where these places are and to warn us, not only of terrorist or criminal activity, but also such natural disasters as hurricanes and floods. By monitoring the depth and speed of melting of the snow pack in the spring IAC can work with the DES Bureau of Dams and prevent flooding. We can "lean forward" and proactively place sandbags and other resources in low lying areas in advance of coastal flooding.

~~So... what we, New Hampshire, did, is unique among the states, We set up what we call "all crimes/all hazards" center, which is our IAC. We don't just gather and share data on terrorism, or on crime, but we look at natural hazards as well and try to prepare the state for them, to prevent them whenever we can and give safety warning to our citizens.~~ *Fed. on safety committee, not*

~~Representative Neal Kurk, who you all know to be an advocate of privacy, along with the Attorney General Office and the New Hampshire Civil Liberties Union serve to ensure that our civil rights were not violated.~~

Rep. Linda Harriott-Gathright

Rep Laura Santelakes

email - J. Hamst-Ga 4th night

HB453 Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee

HB453 Relative to the repeal date of RSA 651-F, Dec. 31, 2014, relative to the Information and Analysis Center (IAC). **OUGHT TO PASS.**

In 2010 the Legislature established an Information and Analysis Center (IAC) at the Department of Safety, and enacted RSA Chapter 651-F, which set forth how the Center would be operated and the procedures that should be taken to ensure that people's civil rights were not violated by the data the Center.

We miss the boat with the 9/11 tragedy, and a Commission was set up by Congress to study how the nation's intelligence, security, law enforcement and defense agencies missed the fact that the 9/11 terrorists had entered this country on fake credentials, traveled across the country including New England; all in the name of Al Qaeda. They never were discovered by the FBI, CIA, or the military. As you remember, one received a traffic ticket in NJ. Using false credentials, they obtained driver's licenses from several states.

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Representative Neal Kurk, who you all know to be an advocate of privacy, along with the Attorney General Office and the New Hampshire Civil Liberties Union serve to ensure that our civil rights were not violated. **Vote 14-5**

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 20, 2013

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Minority of the Committee on CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY to which was referred HB 453,**

**AN ACT repealing the prospective repeal of the
information and analysis center. Having considered the
same, and being unable to agree with the Majority,
report with the following Resolution: RESOLVED, That
it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark Warden

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee: **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Bill Number: **HB453**

Title: **repealing the prospective repeal of the
information and analysis center.**

Date: **February 20, 2013**

Consent Calendar: **NO**

Recommendation: **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The minority feels the New Hampshire Fusion Center (officially known as the information and analysis center) is an unnecessary redundancy. The justification for its existence was to improve communications among federal, state and local law enforcement entities. This can be accomplished without a separate bureaucracy. The original legislation for the center included a sunset provision; this bill would repeal that sunset. With limited resources, the money spent on this program --- run under the auspices of Homeland Security --- could be used for more pressing state needs.

Rep. Mark Warden
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 453, repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark Warden for the **Minority** of CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY. The minority feels the New Hampshire Fusion Center (officially known as the information and analysis center) is an unnecessary redundancy. The justification for its existence was to improve communications among federal, state and local law enforcement entities. This can be accomplished without a separate bureaucracy.

The original legislation for the center included a sunset provision; this bill would repeal that sunset. With limited resources, the money spent on this program --- run under the auspices of Homeland Security --- could be used for more pressing state needs.

REGULAR CALENDAR

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MINORITY REPORT

HB 453, repealing the prospective repeal of the information and analysis center.

RECOMMENDATION: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

The minority feels the New Hampshire Fusion Center (officially known as the information and analysis center) is an unnecessary redundancy. The justification for its existence was to improve communications among federal, state and local law enforcement entities. This can be accomplished without a separate bureaucracy.

The original legislation for the center included a sunset provision; this bill would repeal that sunset. With limited resources, the money spent on this program --- run under the auspices of Homeland Security --- could be used for more pressing state needs.

Rep. Mark Warden

Rep. Laura Santelakes

