

Bill as
Introduced

HB 632-A - AS INTRODUCED

2013 SESSION

13-0028

08/05

HOUSE BILL

632-A

AN ACT

establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Sad, Ches 1; Rep. Jasper, Hills 37; Rep. Haefner, Hills 37

COMMITTEE:

Environment and Agriculture

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

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

1 1 Future Farmers of America; State Advisor. There is created within the department of
2 agriculture, markets, and food the classified part-time position of state advisor of the FFA, who shall
3 be under the direction of the commissioner of the department of agriculture, markets, and food
4 pursuant to RSA 485-A:30, I-a. The state advisor of the FFA shall be responsible for the statewide
5 oversight of FFA programs to support youth leadership development in agricultural education.

6 2 Appropriation. The sum of \$20,000 is hereby appropriated to the department of agriculture,
7 markets, and food for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014 to contract for a state advisor of the FFA
8 established in section 1 of this bill. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out
9 of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

10 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Amendments

Rep. Sad, Ches. 1
February 4, 2013
2013-0156h
08/04



Not Adopted

Amendment to HB 632-A

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

2

3 AN ACT making an appropriation for the activities of the state FFA program in the
4 department of agriculture, markets, and food.

5

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

7

8 1 Appropriation. The sum of \$40,000 is hereby appropriated to the department of agriculture,
9 markets, and food for the biennium ending June 30, 2015 to fund the activities of the state FFA
10 program (formerly known as Future Farmers of America). The governor is authorized to draw a
11 warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

12 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

2013-0156h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill makes an appropriation for the activities of the state FFA program (formerly known as Future Farmers of America) in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

Speakers

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # HB 1032-A Date February 12, 2013
 Committee Environment + Agriculture

** Please Print All Information **

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one)	
				Pro	Con
Rep Shawn Jasper	Hudson	566-4348	Hills 37	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Robert Johnson, II	295 Sheep Barn Rd Concord, NH 03301	224-1934	NH Farm Bureau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LORRAINE MERRILL	DAMF	271-3551	NH DAMF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maria Vandulwade	Leicester	783-9051	FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Christina Murdoch	Chickster	603-674-9775	FFA/FB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emmalee Garvin	76 Pine St Rollinsford NH	603 969 6575	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haley Paradis	180 Tolend Rd Dover NH	743-3135	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda Bartley	Hudson, NH	496-2231		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Linda Murray	Concord NH			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RUTH MAUN	CANTERBURY		NH FB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JAMES McCONAUGHEY	CONCORD		NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth Craig	Norbury	631-5965	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Erica Comeale	Derry, NH	603-490-6116	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sophie LaRoche		746-3712	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matt Demers		546-0658	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sabrina Brisson	RPT, NH	603-226-5627	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emerald Wright	Chester	603-887-8260	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Zoe Picanso	Exeter	(603) 686-1964	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nick Stafford	Kingston	(603) 918 7537	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brian Berridge	East Kingston	(603) 418-0909	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce FARA	57 CASAMONT RD Rollinsford	942 8128		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jennifer Gorman	141 WILSON AVE CONCORD	603-3238	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indya Grant	Eliot, ME	207-752-4469	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jodi Hibbard	38 Warner Hill Derry NH	552-3161	NH FFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 632-A

BILL TITLE: establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

DATE: February 12, 2013

LOB ROOM: 303 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:00 p.m.

Time Adjourned: 2:35 p.m.

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Sad, Moynihan, Whittemore, Brown, Burns, Turcotte, Bixby, Lauer, Bartlett, Gardner, Miller, Haefner, Comtois, Johnson, Palmer, Parison, Groen, Gordon, Peckham and O'Connor.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Sad, Ches 1; Rep. Jasper, Hills 37; Rep. Haefner, Hills 37

TESTIMONY

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

Rep. Tara Sad - Prime sponsor of the bill. Amendment replaces entire bill as initially presented. The amendment designates the sum of \$40,000 to provide funding for the activities of the NH FFA, including the payment of a contracted employee advisor. This would not entail the expense of benefits or insurance. Position of advisor was formerly in the Department of Education, but was cut as result of budget reductions.

Lorraine Merrill, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture - Supports the bill.

* **Sophie LaRochelle, NH FFA** - Supports the bill. NH FFA has around 700 members. Related the many skill sets developed by FFA programs, at local, state and national level. Personally grows and sells vegetables as well as animals for meat. Many students engaged in production and sales of NH products.

* **Jodi Hibbard, NH FFA Association** - Supports the bill. Related how involvement with FFA developed speaking, leadership and interpersonal skills which prepare for future career. Job shadowed with Rep. Robert Haefner as guide last year.

Erica Comeau, NH FFA - Supports the bill.

Linda Burleigh - Supports the bill.

Gary Keough, FFA Foundation - Supports the bill.

* **Emmalu Garvin, NH FFA** - Supports the bill. Member of FFA since 2006. With FFA able to build confidence,, sense of belonging; program reinforces classroom learning with career skills. Advisor motivates, inspires and connects students with local, state and national opportunities.

Kyle LeBlanc, NH FFA - Supports the bill. 700 members in New Hampshire.

* **Haley Paradis, NH FFA** - Supports the bill. Past President of FFA. Leadership training: horse judging, leadership training in Washington, DC; experience small business buying and selling horses; raising chickens for sale.

Elizabeth Craig, NH FFA - Supports the bill. National FFA started in 1928; New Hampshire established in 1931. New Hampshire Foundation needs financial support.

Maria Vanderwoude, NH FFA - Supports the bill. Current State FFA Advisor: Looking to retire at some point; need funding to attract advisor to position. Annual budget for FFA \$30,000 with no salary; supports scholarships, student training, awards, travel, leadership camp. Funding cut in 2011. Found a couple of small grants to fund advisor; foundation usually funds student-related activities. Only now received national FFA list to reach out to alumni for financial assistance; list needs updating. No one can do this job without financial support from spouse due to insufficient funding. \$13,500 serves seven chapter advisors. Advisor could easily be a full-time job. Most other states have at least two full-time staff members of FFA.

Rep. Virginia Irwin - Supports the bill. Initial funding was \$119k divided seen ways; pittance for advisor. Believes FFA to be largest student organization in the country. Provides career, leadership skills for anyone in field related to agriculture. Amount requested small to serve 700 students in New Hampshire.

James McConough, FFA Foundation - Supports the bill. Formerly funded through the Department of Education, which has abandoned program due to funding cuts.

Rick Martineau, NH FFA Foundation & NH AAE - Supports shift of funding from the Department of Education to the Department of Agriculture.

Bruce Farr - Supports the bill. Need a voice in public schools for agriculture, environment and government. This position keeps the doors open. National level, funded through the Department of Agriculture; would prefer the New Hampshire Department of Education oversight, but wants position funded.

Rep. Robert Haefner - Co-sponsor of the bill. Alvirne is only high school east of Mississippi River that has working dairy farm. He wrote letters to congratulate National Award winners.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Lisa I. Whittemore
Acting Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 632-A

BILL TITLE: establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

DATE: 2/12/13

LOB ROOM: 303 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:00 pm.

Time Adjourned:

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Sad, Moynihan, Whittemore, Brown, Burns, Turcotta, Bixby, Lauer, Bartlett, Gardner, Miller, Haefner, Comtois, Johnson, Palmer, Parison, Groen, Gordon, Peckham and O'Connor.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Sad, Ches 1; Rep. Jasper, Hills 37; Rep. Haefner, Hills 37

TESTIMONY

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

See attached -

HB 632-FN

Rep Tara Sad – Prime Sponsor: Amendment replaces entire bill as initially presented. The amendment designates the sum of \$40,000 to provide funding for the activities of the NH FFA, including the payment of a contracted employee advisor. This would not entail the expense of benefits or insurance. Position of advisor was formerly in the Dept of Education, but was cut as result of budget reductions.

Lorraine Merrill – NH DAMF – Supports.

***Sophie LaRochelle** – Supports: NH FFA has around 700 members. Related the many skill sets developed by FFA programs, at local, state and national level. Personally grows and sells vegetables as well as animals for meat. Many students engaged in production and sales of NH products.

***Jodi Hibbard, Sec’y of Granite State Association of FFA** – Supports: Related how involvement with FFA developed speaking, leadership and interpersonal skills which prepare for future career. Job shadowed with Rep Robert Haefner as guide last year.

Erica Comeau – Supports.

Linda Burleigh – Supports.

***Emmalu Garvin, Sr in Agricultural Education and Management** – Supports: Member of FFA since 2006. With FFA able to build confidence, sense of belonging; program reinforces classroom learning with career skills. Advisor motivates, inspires and connects students with local, state and national opportunities.

Kyle LeBlanc – Supports: 700 members in NH.

Haley Paradis – Supports: Past president FFA – leadership training: horse judging, leadership training in Washington DC; experience small business buying and selling horses; raising chickens for sale.

Elizabeth Craig – Supports: National FFA started in 1928; NH established in 1931. NH Foundation needs financial support.

Maria Vanderwoude – Current State FFA Advisor: Looking to retire at some point; need funding to attract advisor to position. Annual budget for FFA \$30,000 with no salary; supports scholarships, student training, awards, travel, leadership camp. Funding cut in 2011. Found a couple of small grants to fund advisor; foundation usually funds student-related activities. Only now received national FFA list to reach out to alumni for financial assistance; list needs updating.

Rep Virginia Irwin – Supports: Initial funding was \$119k divided seen ways; pittance for advisor. Believes FFA to be largest student organization in the country. Provides career, leadership skills for anyone in field related to agriculture. Amount requested small to serve 700 students in NH.

James McConough (sp) former president of FFA Foundation - Supports. Formerly funded through the Dept of Education, which has abandoned program due to funding cuts.

Rick Martineau – NH Agriculture Teachers Assoc – NH FFA Foundation – NHA AE – Supports shift of funding from Dept of Ed to Dept of Agriculture.

Bruce Farr – Supports: Need a voice in public schools for agriculture, environment and government. This position keeps the doors open. National level, funded through Dept of Agriculture; would prefer the NH Dept of Education oversight, but wants position funded.

Maria Vanderwoude – Supports: No one can do this job without financial support from spouse due to insufficient funding. \$13,500 serves seven chapter advisors. Advisor could easily be a full-time job. Most other states have at least 2 full-time staff members of FFA.

Rep Haeffner: Alvirne is only high school east of Mississippi River that has working dairy farm. He wrote letters to congratulate National Award winners.

Testimony

Good afternoon Mdm/Mr Chair and representatives thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. My name is Sophie LaRochelle and I am the President of the Granite State Association of FFA, which is an organization for students interested in the business, science, and technology of agriculture. Across the country there are over half a million FFA members with the opportunity for personal growth, premier leadership, and career success-all key components of the FFA.

In New Hampshire we have around 700 FFA members. FFA begins in the agricultural classroom. Across our state we have students enrolled in classes ranging from introduction to agriculture to interior horticulture and from veterinary science to agricultural business. Once a student is enrolled in an agricultural class they have the opportunity to join the FFA. Those students that do join the FFA are welcomed with the opportunity to expand on the knowledge they learn in the classroom. These opportunities begin on the chapter level where members can start their own Supervised Agricultural Experience, or SAE. For instance if a student learns about plant breeding in their Plant Science class and wants to learn more they might start an SAE to develop a squash that contains desirable traits of both the green and yellow variety of squash making a more marketable variety. Or a student could spend extra hours on the school farm or garden expanding their knowledge of proper farm management as well as work ethic. Also on the chapter level a student can achieve a chapter officer position or work to organize activities for their chapter. However the number of opportunities a student has available to them skyrockets once they begin to participate on the State Level. The student who started an SAE in Beef Production after learning about Beef Cattle in their Animal Science class can compete against other students across the state for a proficiency award. Or the student who has some really good ideas but is to shy to present them to her chapter can attend one of our many leadership events and gain confidence and knowledge about how she can lead her chapter in the direction she wants to. Or the student who excelled in his Agricultural Business class can compete in the Agricultural Sales Career Development Event against student teams from across the state.

It is at the State Level of participation that students really grow. They have the opportunity to befriend other students who are interested in the same things as them, or to compete against a larger pool of talent in a multitude of events. Students who participate in Career Development Events, or CDE's, often improve their ability to work as a team as well as gaining knowledge highly valuable in the workplace such as product creation, marketing strategies, food safety procedures, parliamentary law, plant and animal identification and care, and material processing processes. Those students who succeed at this level even have the opportunity to compete on the national level! However without State Level competition students would lose the ability to gain these skills and opportunities.

The FFA provides students with the opportunity to discover a passion for agriculture they wouldn't have otherwise known existed, and this is extraordinary.

important. For if we do not have young people prepared to be successful in the field of agriculture how are we going to feed a rapidly growing population?

New Hampshire has a tradition of being a rural state. It is going to require young people that are savvy and passionate about agriculture to keep that tradition strong, and that is what the FFA provides. Young people who are passionate about agriculture, who have the skills to help feed the growing population and the knowledge to keep our state rural and profitable.

FFA members are already helping to feed our state, I myself grow and sell vegetables as well as beef, lamb, pork, and chicken. Many students operate maple syrup production operations. Many more own fruit and vegetable operations. By supporting us you support the future of the popular local farming trend.

FFA also puts a great deal of emphasis on service. Many chapters grow food that they donate to food pantries across the state. Our Association recently raised a great deal of money for a family in need. So by supporting us you are supporting our communities.

FFA also helps to assure our students career success. Many colleges greatly appreciate the value of the FFA experience and students who were involved in FFA are more likely to be accepted. I myself was accepted to Cornell University with the help of my FFA achievements. Students who compete nationally and do well are often given large scholarships to continue in that area and even on the State level we have sponsors of a number of CDE's and SAE's that provide small scholarships for students who are successful.

To ensure the success of such a diverse and important an organization takes a great deal of work on the chapter, state, and national level. Due to a lack of funding the State level of our Association is being threatened. Without state organization students won't be challenged to grow. This threatens not only the success of our students but also the success of New Hampshire agriculture and the New Hampshire way of life. For these reasons I am asking for your support of

House Bill 632-A

_____ please help us to ensure the success of our Association, our students, and our way of life.

Thank you Mr./Mme. Chair!

Good afternoon, my name is Jodi Hibbard, Secretary of the Granite State Association of FFA, and I live in Derry, New Hampshire.

I know by now my friends, colleagues, and fellow supporters of House Bill 632 have shared important facts and statistics about the National FFA Organization, including our membership which stands over a half a million members strong, or that in New Hampshire alone there are nearly 700 active members who passionately stand behind our organization. Although I could easily list the many figures that show the FFA's impact in student lives, career preparation, or the agricultural industry itself, I would like to instead share how the FFA has impacted me personally.

Three years ago I entered my agriculture business class at Alvirne High School as your "typical teenager". I have always loved animals and liked that this class gave me the unique opportunity to work with dairy cows, but still wasn't exactly sure what I was doing there. My hair dyed black, the seat in the back corner of the room, and the fact that I never spoke all served as my shell. One in which I could hide from my peers and glide through the motions of class unnoticed. As FFA became more familiar in my life, however, so did my passion which is livestock production, my peers who became my friends (some of whom are sitting behind me today), and my own personality which is no longer the reserved student in the back of the class, but a confident leader able to share this with you today!

FFA is not just for farmers. Although I have chosen FFA as an avenue to begin a career in global livestock production, the organization has presented myself and many others with the opportunity to explore nearly any career imaginable. One of my most memorable experiences in the FFA was a job shadow I did last year with a friend of mine. Perhaps you've heard of him? Representative Bob Haefner was my guide as I experienced an entire workday here in the Legislative Office Building. I visited offices, spoke briefly with the governor, and was even able to serve as an "honorary representative" in two hearings just like this one! I gained so much insight from this experience and even considered future careers in this area.

So what exactly is the money from House Bill 632 going toward? Supporting positions in leadership to educate New Hampshire's FFA students to become not only future farmers, but also future business leaders, educators, communicators, and maybe even congressmen and women!

Granite State FFA Funding

Funding History

The Granite State Association of FFA has a long history dating back to the 1920s. State funds supported the State FFA Advisor/Agricultural Education consultant position at the Department of Education (DOE) through 2003. From their inception, *all* Career & Technical Student Organizations had state advisor positions funded through the NH Department of Education. However, these positions were cut in 1992. At that time, the FFA and its supporters worked hard to get the FFA's position reinstated. Although this effort was a success, the newly hired FFA State Advisor, Dr. Richard Barker, had many other duties at the DOE and was allotted only a small percentage of his time to work on FFA. At this point, NH FFA was still following the national model for state FFA leadership, which includes an individual at the DOE who serves as State FFA Advisor and at least one other person to fill the role of FFA Executive Secretary (or Executive Director).

Meanwhile, directors of the Career & Technical Education (CTE) Centers in NH (at that time known as "Vocational Centers") stepped in and created a consortium called "TEC NH". Each vocational center contributed 3% of the federal Carl Perkins funding it received to TEC NH, which distributed it to the CTSOs and teacher development initiatives. Each CTSO received less than \$6,000, with FFA's portion going to fund the position of Executive Director. The Executive Director was expected to "pick up the slack" since the State Advisor could no longer give a significant amount of time to FFA.

In 1997, due to the efforts of the CTSOs, legislation was passed adding a line to the DOE's budget, providing funding for the seven CTSOs and a state-wide CTSO coordinator. Each CTSO began receiving \$13,500 from the state while TEC NH continued its support at the level of \$5,000 per CTSO. In 2003, Dr. Barker retired from the DOE, leaving the Executive Director as sole state leader. Prior to his departure, Dr. Barker worked with Commissioner of Agriculture Stephen Taylor to secure office space in the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food for the FFA Executive Director.

As of July 1, 2011, state funding for CTSOs through the Department of Education has been eliminated. Due to other cuts in education, TEC NH was forced to withdraw the majority of its financial support for CTSOs as well. Since that time, FFA has continued services to students by utilizing volunteers, private donations and grants. However, it has proven extremely difficult to raise the \$18,500 which was removed. Additionally, the Executive Director is employed on a quarter-to-quarter basis, never knowing if funds will be available for the next three month period.

Other Funding Sources

The Granite State Association of FFA raises a considerable amount of money by soliciting sponsors, collecting membership dues and holding fund raisers. Most of this money goes directly to programs for students. Local FFA chapters generate additional funds through

community sponsorships and fund raisers. Parents, students, alumni and businesses all support FFA financially.

Savings to NH Taxpayers

NH teachers are required to earn a minimum of 75 continuing education units per 3 year certification period in order to maintain their state certification. School districts (taxpayers!) must, under most circumstances, pay for these units. However, all FFA provides continuing education units to local FFA advisors *free of charge*. For example, assuming a minimum cost of \$25 per unit, if only 15 agriculture teachers received 20 units through FFA, that equals \$7,500 in savings to NH taxpayers in one year. Additionally, FFA does an excellent job of “rescuing” at-risk students. The cost of placing ONE at-risk student out of district ranges from a low of about \$45,000 to upwards of \$200,000 per year. If just two at-risk students are kept in school, that’s a minimum of \$90,000 savings to taxpayers per year – far more than we are requesting.

Additional savings comes in the form of thousands of hours of community service performed by local and FFA chapters each year. Many FFA members use these hours to meet high school graduation requirements.

Teacher & Volunteer Contributions

Ag teachers and volunteers give hundreds if not thousands of hours to the Granite State FFA each year. Teachers, who are already giving many, many hours of unpaid time to their local FFA chapters, coordinate the competitions the FFA holds at the state level each year. They also bring students to numerous events, many of which are held on weekends and may involve two or more nights away from home. Most of these teachers are not being paid for their additional time. Volunteers are used to judge competitions throughout the year, raise funds, and help coach teams.

The time required to oversee all of these volunteers, competitions and events, in addition to performing all of the other tasks necessary to run a non-profit organization, is on average 18 hours per week. This is the work that is performed by the Granite State FFA Executive Director/Advisor.

The FFA Organization is rooted in agricultural education, but it is so much more than that. I had never heard of the FFA organization until my oldest daughter was a freshman at Pinkerton Academy. Since she needed something to do after school and had a love of animals, she attended an FFA meeting. That decision changed her life. Through her time with the FFA, she developed excellent public speaking and presentation skills, became a leader and discovered her career path. She traveled to other states to present leadership and motivational workshops. She met with congressman in Washington, DC to discuss agricultural and educational issues. Now she has settled in Orlando, Florida as an Environmental Initiative Project Manager for Walt Disney World. My other daughter enjoyed many of the same opportunities through FFA. When attending the National FFA Convention with 55,000 other students, she tried her hand at welding in a booth at the Career and College Expo. She has since become a certified welder and is working in upstate New York.

FFA is one of the few student organizations that benefits students of all academic levels, capabilities and interests. There are advanced students planning on attending veterinary school, there are students who are in danger of not graduating, there are athletes and artists. They can all come together in FFA and work towards a common goal, be it competing on a team, a community service project or preparing for state and national convention. Many of the projects and competition areas require a blending of academic areas such as science, math, business, public speaking, etc. I have helped students develop a marketing plan, get ready for a food science and technology competition, write a speech, create a product for a sales event and prepare for an environmental science and natural resource event.

The FFA program could not function without the state advisor. The position is critical in coordinating efforts of teachers and members along with arranging conferences and competitions. As a New Hampshire FFA Foundation trustee, I spend a large part of my volunteer time working on ways to raise funds to support the program and the state advisor. I believe this is true of the other trustees as well. With state funding, we would have more time to share our wisdom and experience with students.

In closing, I would like to share a few statistics:

- in 2010, 63% of all high school graduates went on to secondary education, but 83% of graduating FFA members went on to secondary education

- up to 25% of American jobs are based in agriculture

Without the support of the Finance Committee, our state legislature and the governor, FFA may not be able to continue as we know it in New Hampshire. This would be a tremendous loss to the students of New Hampshire and to the future of our state's residents.

Debbie Cox
Derry, NH

Hi my name is Haley Paradis. I am from Dover and I am a past NH FFA State President. I am your typical 19 year old except for the fact I work full time on my parents 70 acre beef and horse farm. My summers don't include pool partys but instead throwing hay, breaking colts and assisting the first time heifers calving. Being an only child you could say i was my fathers favorite son but it wasn't always that way. When I entered high school I litterally had no idea what I wanted to be. I was not even considering a career in the agriculture industry. I was was your typical bratty 15 year old and I hated that I had to wake up early every day when all my other friends got to sleep in. I didn't see the importance of my family farm's roots. The day I enrolled in my schools agriculture class and became active in FFA, was the day my life changed forever. I competed on the state level in many different events and competed in horse judging on a national level. I went through vigirous leadership training as a state officer and one of my favorites I participated in national leadership programs which made me experience how important agriculture is to this country. I felt as though I was a part of something. My work ethic in school and on the farm increased dramactilly and I actually started to get a long with my parents. I even became the Dover chapter's president.

I was impacted so much on what FFA did for me that I wanted to help change others for the better as well. Thats when I ran for state office. Becoming a state officer was the greatest time of my life. We were not just informed on agriculture issues but also how to become leaders. We were trained on how to inspire members and assist on shaping them selves into a better person.

Because of FFA I started my own small business of buying and reselling horses and I raised about 200 broiler chickens and sold the meat. My next step is college in Colorado. I am going to Lamar College in hopes of double majoring in horse training and agriculture business. My aspirations are to take over the family farm and also some day become and ag teacher myself. I can tell you that I am not the only one like this, FFA members earn more than \$4 billion annually through their hands-on work experience. Members of this organization are not just the future of agriculture but the future of our world. FFA takes us into the real world whether we are business men or women, farmers, or maybe even both. We could be your daughter's horse trainer, the logger who cleared your house lot or the cotton grower who is responsible for your shirt.

My name is Emmalee Garvin, I am here to testify in favor of House Bill 632, funding for the NH FFA Advisor Position. I am a senior agriculture education major at the university of New Hampshire. I have been a member of the NH FFA since 2006 and I can tell you honestly that being a member has forever changed my life for the better. I was once a shy child who was often bullied for my love of agriculture. FFA gave me a place where I could be myself, make friends with similar interests, study the things I loved and ultimately become the person I am today. I served as the State secretary in 2009, and received the opportunity to represent NH at the 2010 tournament of roses parade. I have friends in every state, a clear career path, which I am working towards, and a bright future ahead of me. I owe it all to being involved in FFA, it gave me confidence, and a sense of belonging. It allowed me to pursue my passions and has opened many doors for me.

The FFA organization is an integral part of agriculture education. Without it, students are being deprived of an important part of their education. FFA reinforces the classroom learning through practical competition, which allows students to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have learned. Industry exploration, which can include but is not limited to job placement, research, and even starting an agricultural business.

Our State Advisor is very important to the organization; they are the glue that holds are entire state association together. Being older than the rest of us, they are asked from time to time to advise us. Their knowledge is based on wisdom and experience. They motivate and support our chapter advisors, and connect our chapters to each other. They connect our state association with other states, and they are the state's connection to the National Organization and insure that our members have access to the National FFA and all it has to offer (scholarships, jobs, international travel opportunities, agriculture and leadership conferences); the advisor is responsible for the coordinating State activities including leadership conferences, Career Development Events, and our yearly State Convention.

Without the Advisor, the members would have no competitions in which to compete in, no opportunity to earn recognition for their hard work in Supervised Agricultural Experiences and they will miss out on many scholarship opportunities. They will lose the chance to travel to Nationals and to experience how it feels to be part of an organization that is more than half million members strong. When you fund the NH FFA Advisor, you are opening the doors for hundreds of students to develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success. Thank you.

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 632-A

BILL TITLE: establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

DATE: February 19, 2013

LOB ROOM: 303

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. Sad

Seconded by Rep. Lauer

Vote: 11-7 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

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

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: NO

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

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Jane B. Johnson, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 632-A

BILL TITLE: establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.

DATE: 2/19/13

LOB ROOM: 303

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. SAD

Seconded by Rep. LAUBER

Vote: 11-7 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

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

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

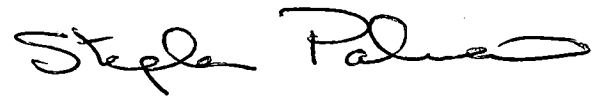
Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:

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

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Jane B. Johnson, Clerk



SERIOUS DISCUSSION
CONCERNING THE NEED
TO SUPPORT THIS BILL.
AS AN AG COM. I
WE FEEL THEY
NEED THIS FUNDING



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/10/2013 9:26:43 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2013 SESSION

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

Bill #: 632-A Title: STATE ADVISOR FOR FFA

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

Motion: ITL Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Sad, Tara A, Chairman	1	
Moynihan, Wayne T, V Chairman	1	
Bartlett, Christy D	1	
Bixby, Peter W	1	
Brown, Rebecca A		1
Burns, Scott A		
Gardner, Janice S	1	
Lauer, Linda D	1	
Miller, David P	1	
Turcotte, Alan J	1	
Whittemore, Lisa I	1	
Haefner, Robert H		1
Groen, Warren J		1
Palmer, Stephen J		1
Comtois, Guy		1
O'Connor, John T		1
Johnson, Jane B, Clerk		
Parison, James A	1	
Peckham, Michele S	1	
Gordon, Richard E		1
TOTAL VOTE:	12	7

Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 21, 2013

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Majority of the Committee on ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE to which was referred HB632-A,

AN ACT establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food. Having considered the same, report the same with the following Resolution: RESOLVED, That it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Tara A Sad

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee: **ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**

Bill Number: **HB632-A**

Title: **establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.**

Date: **February 21, 2013**

Consent Calendar: **NO**

Recommendation: **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill would appropriate \$20,000 per year over the biennium to the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food for funding of the State FFA (formerly Future Farmers of America) Advisor. For over sixty years, the FFA has been training agricultural professionals and leaders, including the hundreds currently active in the program who will become our state's new generation of farmers. The E&A Committee understands that all appropriations for the upcoming biennium need to be addressed in HB1 (the appropriations bill) and not in standalone bills such as this, and therefore reluctantly recommends ITL. However, the committee strongly urges the Finance Committee, during its budget negotiations, to approve this miniscule appropriation request for this essential program that ensures the future of New Hampshire agriculture.

Vote 11-7

Rep. Tara A Sad
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB632-A, establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

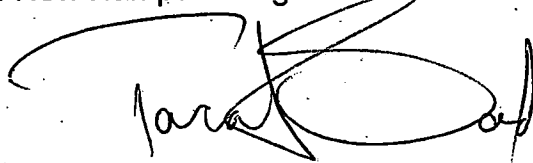
Rep. Tara A Sad for the **Majority** of ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE. This bill would appropriate \$20,000 per year over the biennium to the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food for funding of the State FFA (formerly Future Farmers of America) Advisor. For over sixty years, the FFA has been training agricultural professionals and leaders, including the hundreds currently active in the program who will become our state's new generation of farmers. The E&A Committee understands that all appropriations for the upcoming biennium need to be addressed in HB1 (the appropriations bill) and not in standalone bills such as this, and therefore reluctantly recommends ITL. However, the committee strongly urges the Finance Committee, during its budget negotiations, to approve this miniscule appropriation request for this essential program that ensures the future of New Hampshire agriculture. **Vote 11-7.**

HB 632-A
Majority Blurb

ITL

This bill would appropriate \$20,000 per year over the biennium to the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food for funding of the State FFA (formerly Future Farmers of America) Advisor. For over sixty years, the FFA has been training agricultural professionals and leaders, including the hundreds currently active in the program who will become our state's new generation of farmers. The E&A Committee understands that all appropriations for the upcoming biennium need to be addressed in HB1 (the appropriations bill) and not in standalone bills such as this, and therefore reluctantly recommends ITL. However, the committee *strongly* urges the Finance Committee, during its budget negotiations, to approve this miniscule appropriation request for this essential program that ensures the future of New Hampshire agriculture.

11-7

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Parat" followed by a flourish.

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 21, 2013

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Minority of the Committee on ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE to which was referred HB632-A,

AN ACT establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food. Having considered the same, and being unable to agree with the Majority, report with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Robert H Haefner

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee: **ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**

Bill Number: **HB632-A**

Title: **establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food.**

Date: **February 21, 2013**

Consent Calendar: **NO**

Recommendation: **OUGHT TO PASS**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

While the minority of the committee on Environment and Agriculture understands and even supports the majority - that a bill that adds \$20,000 per year, outside of the budget, is going nowhere, the minority cannot allow the NH House Agriculture Committee to ITL a bill that supports a State Coordinator for the FFA (formerly the Future Farmers of America) without raising a flag. New Hampshire agriculture is important to this state economically, with 4,166 farms which are responsible for our open space and rural culture. The FFA builds mature, disciplined, and confident young adults that are the future of NH agriculture. The statewide coordinator is critically important to the success of the organization - coordinating between the sixteen state chapters and the national organization. Without this position, FFA would be unable to function. This was a funded position for years with the Department of Education until it was defunded a couple of years ago. If we lose FFA, we have lost a treasure of our state and jeopardize the future of New Hampshire Agriculture.

Rep. Robert H Haefner
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB632-A, establishing the position of state advisor of the FFA in the department of agriculture, markets, and food. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

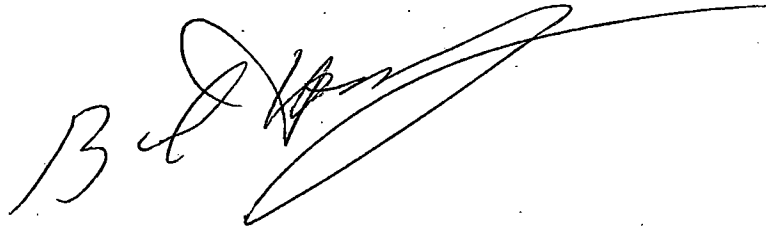
Rep. Robert H Haefner for the **Minority** of ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE. While the minority of the committee on Environment and Agriculture understands and even supports the majority - that a bill that adds \$20,000 per year, outside of the budget, is going nowhere, the minority cannot allow the NH House Agriculture Committee to ITL a bill that supports a State Coordinator for the FFA (formerly the Future Farmers of America) without raising a flag. New Hampshire agriculture is important to this state economically, with 4,166 farms which are responsible for our open space and rural culture. The FFA builds mature, disciplined, and confident young adults that are the future of NH agriculture. The statewide coordinator is critically important to the success of the organization - coordinating between the sixteen state chapters and the national organization. Without this position, FFA would be unable to function. This was a funded position for years with the Department of Education until it was defunded a couple of years ago. If we lose FFA, we have lost a treasure of our state and jeopardize the future of New Hampshire Agriculture.

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

Minority Report for HB 632 – A, Bob Haefner for the Minority.

OTF

While the minority of the committee on Environment and Agriculture understands and even supports the majority - that a bill that adds \$20,000 per year, outside of the budget, is going nowhere, the minority cannot allow the NH House Agriculture Committee to ITL a bill that supports a State Coordinator for the FFA (formerly the Future Farmers of America) without raising a flag. New Hampshire agriculture is important to this state economically, with 4,166 farms responsible for our open space and rural culture. The FFA builds mature, disciplined, and confident young adults that are the future of NH agriculture. The statewide coordinator is critically important to the success of the organization – coordinating between the sixteen state chapters and the national organization. Without this position, FFA would be unable to function. This was a funded position for years with the Department of Education until it was defunded a couple of years ago. If we lose FFA, we have lost a treasure of our state and jeopardize the future of New Hampshire Agriculture.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Haefner', is written across the lower half of the page.