# Bill as Introduced

#### SB 174-FN-A- AS INTRODUCED

#### 2013 SESSION

13-0890 10/09

#### SENATE BILL 174-FN-A

ANACT making an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty.

SPONSORS: Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Rep. McKinney, Rock 5; Rep. Packard, Rock 5; Rep. Introne, Rock 5

COMMITTEE: Finance

#### ANALYSIS

This bill makes an appropriation to the department of administrative services for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty for erroneously charged medical benefits.

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removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough]Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

#### SB 174-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED

#### 13-0890 10/09

#### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

#### In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Thirteen

AN ACT making an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty.

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

1 Appropriation; Reimbursement for Payment of Erroneously Charged Medical Benefits. The 2 sum of \$19,164.34 is hereby appropriated to the department of administrative services for the 3 purpose of reimbursing Mrs. Patrick Kelly, the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the 4 line of duty, who through no fault of her own was charged erroneously for medical benefits promised 5 to her by the state of New Hampshire. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum 6 out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. 7 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

LBAO 13-0890 02/08/13

#### SB 174-FN-A - FISCAL NOTE

ANACT making an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department of Administrative Services states this bill, <u>as introduced</u>, will increase state general fund expenditures by \$19,164.34 in FY 2014. This bill will have no impact on county and local expenditures, or state, county, and local revenue.

This bill appropriates \$19,164.34 from the state general fund to the Department of Administrative Services for the purpose of this act.

#### **METHODOLOGY:**

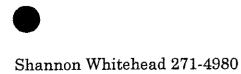
The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) states this bill would appropriate \$19,164.34 in FY 2014 for the purpose of reimbursing a widow of a police officer killed in the line of duty who was erroneously charged for medical benefits. State expenditures will increase accordingly.

# Committee Minutes

.

### SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE FINANCE

Senator Senator Senator Senator	Chuck Morse Jeanie Forreste Peter Bragdon Lou D'Allesand Sylvia Larsen Bob Odell	er V Chairman Iro		Bill Doc Cal Proof:	Use by Senate Clerk's Office ONLY I Status cket lendar Calendar Bill Status February 13, 2013
	m	HEAR			
	<b>1</b>	uesday		/2013	
FINANC	£		SH	H 103	1:00 PM
(Name of	Committee)		(Pl	ace)	(Time)
		EXECUTIVE SESS	SION MAY FO	OLLOW	
1:00 PM	SB150-FN-A-L				nistration for the purpose of
1:15 PM	eligible and completed drinking water, wastewater, and landfill closure projects und aid grant program.				vices for the purpose of funding
5 PM	SB158-FN	relative to habitual truancy			
2:00 PM	SB177-FN	relative to the procurement standards board.	process for state se	ervices and est	tablishing a state contracting
2:30 PM	SB174-FN-A	making an appropriation for who died in the line of duty.		mbursing the	spouse of a law enforcement office
Sponsor					
SB150-F Sen. Andy SB168-F	Sanborn	Sen. Sylvia Larsen	Sen. David Bo	outin	Rep. Mario Ratzki
Sibildo-r		Sen. David Boutin	Sen. David Wa	atters	Sen. Sylvia Larsen
Sen. Jim F		Sen. Martha Fuller Clark	Sen. Jeb Bradl	ey	Sen. Jeanie Forrester
Sen. Share					
SB158-F		San Monoy Stilas	Rep. Mary Gil	۵	Rep. James Verschueren
Sen. David	thea Hooper	Sen. Nancy Stiles	Kep. Mary Gi		Rep. James Versenderen
SB177-F					
Sen. Donn		Sen. David Pierce	Rep. Robert Po	erry	Rep. Sylvia Gale
Rep. Jeffre		Sen. Jeff Woodburn			
SB174-F		a 1 500 1		77:	Day Champer Destand
Sen. Sharo Rep. Robe		Sen. Lou D'Allesandro	Rep. Betsy Mo	:Kinney	Rep. Sherman Packard



Sen. Chuck Morse

Chairman

### SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

#### Shannon Whitehead, Legislative Aide

## SB 174-FN-A – making an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty.

Hearing Date: Feb. 19, 2013

Time Opened: 2:55pm

Time Closed: 3:10pm

Members of the Committee Present: Senators: Morse, Odell, Bragdon, Larsen, Forrester, D'Allesandro

#### Members of the Committee Absent: No one

**Bill Analysis:** This bill makes an appropriation to the department of administrative services for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty for erroneously charged medical benefits.

Sponsors: Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Rep. McKinney, Rock 5; Rep. Packard, Rock 5; Rep. Introne, Rock 5

Who supports the bill: Senator Carson, Lt. John Encarnacao (DOS, Comm. Assistant Comm. Sweeney) David Goldstein, Barry Charewicz (DPD) Anthony Ruggirio, Robert Comtois, Patricia Kelly, and Michael Houle.

Who opposes the bill: No one appeared in opposition

#### Summary of testimony presented in support:

#### Senator Carson:

- The bill came about from a constituent. Explained that the bill will reimburse the widow (Patricia Kelly) of Sergeant Thomas Kelly, late of the Derry Police Department, for money that she was promised long ago, but never received.
- Patricia Kelly is the only widow of a fallen police officer in this state that has had her monthly insurance subsidy suspended.
- \$19,000 balance should be reimbursed.
- The bill appropriates \$19,164.34 from the state general fund to the Department of Administrative Services for the purpose of this act

#### Sen. Bragdon:

• Commented that there was a struggle in the House from a similar bill in 2011. The House thought that it would establish a precedent.

#### **Barry Charwicks**:

• Ms. Kelly never asked for anything, had her son and was pregnant with her daughter at the time of losing her husband.

#### Patricia Kelly:

- Husband died in the line of duty on September 17, 1989 at age 35.
- February 3, 2010 received a certified letter from the NHRS stating that starting the following month would be required to pay medical subsidies out of the pension which presently is receiving.
- Four months later, on July 1<sup>st</sup>, without notice, another \$400 was taken out for the medical subsidy account. Essentially, what was previously a monthly pension of \$2,900 was now \$1,300.
- The letter which she received also stated that, in addition to the pension being reduced by a \$1,000 per month that she could be responsible for all the subsidy unpaid, totaling approximately \$90,000.

#### Anthony Ruggirio:

• Honored and Privileged to have worked with Tom Kelly and now is retired.

#### Michael Houle:

- Legally Ms. Kelly was going to receive medical benefits for life which was a stipulation of the contract.
- This is the time to support the police officers. Our chance to let Patricia Kelly know that her sacrifices did not go unnoticed and Thomas is not forgotten.

<u>A letter was handed in to the committee members on the support SB 174 from the</u> <u>Department of Safety, Commissioner Sweeney.</u>

Fiscal Note: Please refer to FN report 02/08/13

Future Action: OTP 6-0. Senator D'Allesandro for the committee

sgw Date hearing report completed: Feb 25, 2013

[file: SB 0174-FN-A report]

#### SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

State House, Room 103 Concord, NH Tuesday, February 19, 2013

#### SENATE BILL 174 FN-A, AN ACT making an

appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty.

#### TESTIMONY OF:

Senator Sharon Carson	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pg.	1
Barry Charewicz	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pg.	4
Patricia Kelly	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pg.	5
Anthony Ruggirio	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	-	Pg.	7
Michael Houle	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pg.	7

(Hearing commenced at 2:53 p.m.)

<u>CHAIRMAN MORSE</u>: Okay. Let's open the hearing on Senate Bill 174 and ask the prime sponsor, Senator Carson, to introduce the bill.

SEN. SHARON CARSON, State Senator, Senate District #14: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee. For the record, my name is Sharon Carson, and I have the pleasure and the distinction of representing Senate District 14 comprising the Towns of Londonderry, Hudson, and Auburn. And I have for your consideration today Senate Bill 174-FN-A, which asks for making an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty.

This bill is being brought forward on behalf of a constituent. Her husband back in the 1990s was a police officer in the Town of Derry, and he died in the line of duty. At that particular time she had received a letter from the State promising her medical benefits for the rest of her life, which I believe was pretty standard at that time.

Since - since that time - um - changes have been made to a variety of different systems here in the State of New Hampshire, and unfortunately Mrs. Kelly got caught up in one of those changes, and she began to receive a notice from - um - the - I believe it was the LGC, but please don't - I'm not sure exactly who it was - um - that she was now going to be required to pay for half of her medical benefits. They had taken out a little over \$19,000, and that - um - that sum is in the bill of \$19,164.34.

I'm here today to ask that money be reimbursed. I had introduced a bill last year which all of you voted for and supported that restored the benefit fully, and it has going forward, but she is owed this back money. The State promised that they were going to take care of her -um - her family -um - their medical bills, medical insurance, and they didn't for a period of time.

So all I'm asking is for all of you today to please vote to restore the money that was taken from her, and

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE February 19, 2013

SENATE BILL 174-FN-A

2

I'll be more than happy to answer questions, but Mrs. Kelly and a number of other people are here today to testify, also.

<u>CHAIRMAN MORSE</u>: Questions for Senator Carson? Senator Bragdon.

SEN. PRESIDENT BRAGDON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You said this passed the Senate last year. Can you give us a little idea of what struggle she ran into somewhere else?

SEN. CARSON: The struggle we ran into was in the House. They were not happy with the idea of reimbursing her. They felt that it would have - would establish a precedent, and they refused to do that.

SEN. PRESIDENT BRAGDON: Thank you.

<u>CHAIRMAN MORSE</u>: Further questions? Seeing none, thank you, Senator.

SEN. CARSON: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

<u>CHAIRMAN MORSE</u>: Okay. Lieutenant Encarnacao is signing up in favor and signing up for Commissioner Sweeney who's in favor. David Goldstein signing up in favor. Barry Charewicz?

MR. CHAREWICZ: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Do you wish to speak?

<u>BARRY CHAREWICZ</u>: If you don't mind. I just wanted to put a face on this. You don't have the opportunity - oh, sorry.

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE February 19, 2013

MS. WHITEHEAD: Could you just state your name for the record.

MR. CHAREWICZ: Barry Charewicz. I think sometimes we go through these bills, and we don't have an opportunity to understand who we're talking about here. Tom Kelly was the consummate - - he is what you want in a law enforcement officer. He had all the right character traits. He was incredibly well—liked by both the administration and by the immediate patrolman. He did more for the Derry Police Department than probably any other officer we've ever had.

In addition to that, I wanted to let you know that Pat, his wife, at the time she had one child. She had another - - she was pregnant with her second child, Laura. Um - - throughout the entire situation she never did anything as far as asking for anything. You know, she - she dealt with what she was given, and she really did it with a lot of character. Um - -I guess that we want to take care of the people that are the front-line people, and the biggest way we can take care of them is by letting them know that we're going to take care of their family if something happens to them, and I think that's pretty much universal. Any cop, any firefighter is going to tell you I understand the issues of my job, but if I die, I really look for the people that I'm working for to take care of my family. And that's really all I have.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Any questions? Thank you.

MR. CHAREWICZ: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: I apologize to Mrs. Kelly. She

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE February 19, 2013

signed up, and I didn't have that sheet.

PATRICIA KELLY, Widow of Sergeant Thomas C. Kelly: Thank you. Um - first, I want to thank you for listening to me today. My name is Patricia Kelly. I'm the widow of Sergeant Thomas C. Kelly. Um - in September - on September 17th of 1989, my husband died suddenly. I came to find out it was because he was in the line of duty as a police officer. I did have a two-year-old son, and I was pregnant with my daughter.

In June of 1990, I received a letter, and I don't have it, but I do remember it was - - um - - from the NHRS signed by Tammy Eckhart saying that for the rest of my life, if I did not remarry, I would have my health benefits paid in full. Fast forward to February 3rd, 2010. I had had no problem. I did not get remarried. I just went on with my life the best I could. February 3rd of 2010, I got a certified letter in the mail from the NHRS. Essentially what it said was that I was going to be responsible for my insurance payments.

They told me it would commence in March of that year. I did try and call them. I got nowhere with them. I explained to them I was hoping I could maybe get a payment plan. I didn't understand any of this. I sent them a letter saying I had a letter in 1990. They told me that it didn't matter. Rules had changed.

So on February 1st, my monthly insurance was reduced — — my monthly pension was reduced 33 percent. There was nothing I could do. Then as the insurance premiums were raised again in July, my monthly pension check was reduced 47 percent. So essentially

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE February 19, 2013

I went from receiving \$2,937 a month to \$1,367. I had told -- I had told the people who would listen I cannot afford to live on this amount of money. I cannot sustain myself. I kept up my bargain that I lived within my means as I felt it was, and you took this right from out under my rug, and nobody is telling me how they're going to help me. Well, after many phone calls, many E-mails, I was directed to Senator Carson, who was nice enough to get the bill passed.

Complications arose. I don't want to talk about it because I don't feel I know enough about it, but I'm still owed \$19,000 in arrears from when this bill - from when they first took the money out to when I - to when I was reinstated in full. So Governor John Lynch signed the bill in full, and I got my money, and I think it was July of 2010.

So I'm asking for the 19,000-dollar reimbursement. The New Hampshire Retirement System had also stated that they were going to possibly ask for money in arrears, which would have been \$20,000 of for the health insurance - um - \$90,000 for the health insurance payment just for those 20 years. I never got the letter, but I've never been told I'm not going to be getting it. They stated that they were going to consider billing me \$90,000 for those 20 years of health insurance payments that I never knew I had to pay.

I'm disappointed. It's been - um - a tremendous burden for me financially, emotionally. It's taken a lot of time. I don't know how the political system works. A lot of people have been wonderful to me. Other people I've been confused about their responses, so I'm asking you today to please

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE February 19, 2013

do the right thing.

And I had a policeman write a letter stating put yourself in my position. I thought I did everything right. I've been trying to raise my family the best I could under very difficult circumstances. And I would like to put an end to this chapter. Thank you.

<u>CHAIRMAN MORSE</u>: Thank you, Mrs. Kelly. Anthony Ruggirio.

ANTHONY RUGGIRIO, retired police officer, Town of Derry, New Hampshire: Good afternoon. My name is Anthony Ruggirio. I apologize for my appearance. I was out not long ago, and I felt strongly enough to want to make an appearance. I'm a retired police officer of Derry Police Department, and I had the opportunity and pleasure to work with Sergeant Kelly for about five years before he passed away. Mr. Charewicz pretty much said it all, but I just wanted to put a face to my position and ask you to please support this. Thank you.

<u>CHAIRMAN MORSE</u>: Thank you. Signing up in favor, John Musse and Robert Comtois and Michael Houle. Would you like to speak?

MICHAEL HOULE, retired police officer, Town of Derry, New Hampshire: Yes, please. Good afternoon, Honorable Committee Members. My name is Michael Houle. I've been a member - - I've been a resident of New Hampshire all my life. I grew up in Nashua. I served with the Litchfield Police Department from 1986 to 1992. Then I went to the Derry Police Department and retired in 2010. I'd like to thank all the people that have showed up today to support this bill. I'd also like to thank Senator Carson for introducing the bill.

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

February 19, 2013

As most of you know from reading different things, Tom died in - September 17th of 1989. At that - in 1990, Mrs. Kelly received a letter from the New Hampshire Retirement System stating that she would be given health care for the rest of her life.

In 2010, that was taken away from her, and she had to make monthly payments. Also, she was threatened to have to pay \$90,000 in arrears. She called me one night and said, "What do I do? I'm going to lose my house. I'm going to lose everything I have." The stress that the State has put her through is unbelievable. I'm asking you. You guys have the power today or next week or whenever the vote is to right this wrong.

In 2000 - July of 2011, the wrong was righted with a - a bill was passed where now the insurance is being paid, but the monies in arrears was never given back. This is - in my understanding, it's the only widow in the State of New Hampshire that is affected this way. By approving this bill and giving the \$19,000, it's not like you're going to be giving it to every widow in the State of New Hampshire. It's a one-person situation.

Legally, I feel that she was given a document from the New Hampshire Retirement System stating that she was going to receive this benefit for life, and I think that's a binding contract. And in her feeling she felt that -um - - that she was going to receive that benefit for life. Morally and ethically, it's the right thing to do.

I ask all of you to put yourselves in her

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE Febru

February 19, 2013

SENATE BILL 174-FN-A

8

situation. Your spouse dies serving the State of New Hampshire. You are told that you're going to get X, Y, Z, and then years later it's taken away. I ask you to think about that.

Each year I've attended the police memorial service across the street. I've only missed it one year, but I can tell you that every Governor that has spoken over there, and I'm going to go out on a limb and say that Mrs. - - Governor Hassan will probably say the same, that the State of New Hampshire supports its police officers.

This is the time to support your police officers. Law enforcement needs the State to stand behind them, and the Governor has always said that at each service next-door. Your decision in the next couple days can back up those words. Thank you.

<u>CHAIRMAN MORSE</u>: Thank you. Any questions? Seeing none, that's the last person I have here --

MR. HOULE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: -- wanting to speak.

<u>MR. HOULE</u>: Also - I'm sorry. There's a - some letters here that we want to present from Assistant Commissioner Earl Sweeney. There's copies for everybody. If you could please take that into consideration, also.

CHAIRMAN MORSE: Thank you. Seeing no one else here to speak, I'll close the hearing on Senate Bill 174.

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE February 19, 2013

(Hearing concluded at 3:08 p.m.)

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE February 19, 2013

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Debra L. Mekula, 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.

Debra L. Mekula, LCR, RMR State of New Hampshire License No. 26

. . . . . .

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

February 19, 2013

SENATE BILL 174-FN-A

11

# Speakers

----

------

			SEN	JATE FIN		COMMIT	TEE	
	Date	2/19/13	<u>Ti</u>	me 2:30 p.r	<u>n. Pu</u>	blic Hearir	ng on SB 174	1-FN-A
		Making ai		iation for th ment office				ouse of a law
c		-	s) that app R OPPOSE	•	NAME (Ple	ase print)	REI	PRESENTING
X	X	X		NATOR		M CHR		50#14
V			- FOR	ASSISTANT CO.	n. Sweever -	LT. ENCAR	NACAO	DOS
V		Ø		Dein 3 4	/ 			Sour
V		X		ANNY CH	IANEWIC	cz		DPD
Ø		<u>X</u>		Thory Ru	gqvio			Setf
				,	use .			SICI-
١		X	07	Robert	Conto	is		Self
					••• ••, ••, ••			
								••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
					**************************************	<del>8,1 x 1 − 1 − 1 − 1 − 1 − 1 − 1 − 1 − 1 − </del>	., <u></u>	
					<del></del>			
					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•		The month and a local difficulty array on the con-
				······································		<u> </u>		

. ...

....

<u>ate</u> a	2/19/13	Time 2:	30 p.m. Public Hearing	<u>on SB 174-FN-A</u>
			for the number of noimhunci	
<u>(//</u>	laking a		for the purpose of reimbursin officer who died in the line of	
Please ch	eck boxle	s) that apply.		
	G FAVO		NAME (Please print)	REPRESENTING
	<u>v</u>		Itatricia Kelly	mysetf
6	র্দ		MICHAEL HOULE	myselF
			•	
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		 П		
	<u></u>	 		
<u> </u>		<u> </u>		· · ·

- -- -

sector and sector sectors and

and a second second second

## Testimony

2/10/13



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

February 19, 2013

Honorable Chuck Morse, Chair Senate Transportation Committee State House, Room 100 Concord, NH 03301

#### Re: SB 174

Dear Senator Morse and Honorable Committee Members:

This letter is being sent in support of SB 174 sponsored by Senator Sharon Carson, which will reimburse the widow of Sergeant Thomas Kelly, late of the Derry Police Department, for money that she was promised long ago but tragically, never received.

I, along with many others in law enforcement who date back to the time when Sergeant Kelly passed away, greatly appreciate Senator Carson listening to this story and introducing legislation to right a wrong.

The sum of money involved, a little more than \$19 thousand, means little to the State coffers but will make a world of difference to Ms. Kelly and her family. As you will hear in the testimony, this represents the insurance payments that she was promised would be taken care of and never were.

I was Director of Police Standards and Training at the time of Sgt. Kelly's death. He was the Training Officer for his department. They had just switched from revolvers to the new semi-automatic pistols. It was in the wintertime and they were doing their transition training at a local Fish and Game Club firing range. Because he was as devoted to his duties as he was, he was determined to get everyone trained and using these new and more effective weapons as soon as possible, without cutting any corners in the training. He worked for a week or more, many hours a day so as to accommodate the officers on all three shifts without incurring a lot of overtime for the Town.

People in those days were not as knowledgeable as they are today about the hazards of lead, and the ventilation system in the old Fish and Game club was virtually nonexistent by today's standards. Sgt. Kelly came home one night near the end of the training, went to bed and never awakened, leaving behind his wife and young children. The autopsy indicated that lead poisoning in his blood was the cause of death. It had prevented

sufficient oxygen from reaching his vital organs. It was a truly tragic turn of events and everyone reached out to the sorrowing family assuring them that they, and Tom's sacrifice, would never be forgotten. Unfortunately, it was. His widow soldiered on and at great personal sacrifice became both mother and father to those children and raised a fine little family.

This is our chance to let Patricia Kelly know that her sacrifices did not go unnoticed, and that Tom has not been forgotten. Please find this bill "ought to pass."

Very truly yours,

Earl M. Sweeney Assistant Commissioner

EMS:clb

#### Chroniak, Deborah

Page 1 of 1

From: Steve Inserra [inserras@comcast.net]

Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 7:37 PM

To: Barry Charewicz; grampyc@comcast.net; kellyconnect@comcast.net; Carson, Sharon; earl.sweeney@dos.nh.gov; egarone@derrynhpolice.com; nairbsnibbets@yahoo.com; Bruce.Twyon@nh.gov; birdshabs@comcast.net; jward@seiu1984.org; glenn@molanmilner.com; Chroniak, Deborah

Subject: Re: SB 331 (2013 - SB 174-FN-A) Is now scheduled

To Whom it may concern;

My name is Steven Inserra. Some of you may remember me as a Detective Lieutenant with the Derry NH Police Department. I am now retired but during my proud career as a law enforcement officer I had the honor and privilege to know Sergeant Tom Kelly and call him a friend as well as coworker. My family has come to know the Kelly family, especially after Tom's untimely passing. As you all know Tom gave his life in line duty as a police officer. Those of us that knew the Kelly family after Tom's passing, saw the struggles the family went through. Seeing Pat raising her two young children over the years was amazing. Her strength and love for those children obviously held her together during the most difficult of times. The fact that Pat, to my knowledge, is the only widow of a fallen officer in this state that has had her monthly insurance subsidy suspended, is an unconscionable decision by those who put this action in to play. I understand that Pat's monthly insurance subsidy has been reinstated. I applaud those involved in that decision, however the monies owed to her because of the suspension is another matter that needs to be rectified. The \$19,000.00 balance should be reimbursed. I ask and urge those involved in making the decision on this Bill to put yourself in Pat's situation. If each one of you do this, there is only on decision to be made. The Kelly family has gone through enough – please make this right for them.

Unfortunately I can not be present to show my support for Pat this Tuesday as I am traveling in my current job. For this reason, I write this letter to all, to show support and to speak up on Pat's behalf. Please take this letter to heart and pass a copy on to those who will be deciding this bill. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter

Respectfully Submitted Steve Inserra

### FINANCE COMMITTEE SENATOR D'Allesandro SB 174-FN MARCH 6, 2013

Thank you Mr. President.

I move Senate Bill 174-FN ought to pass. This bill makes an appropriation from the state general fund in FY 14, for the purpose of reimbursing Mrs. Patricia Kelly, the widow of Sergeant Thomas Kelly who died in the line of duty, for erroneously charged medical benefits.

The committee heard compelling testimony from Mrs. Kelly that her monthly insurance subsidy had been suspended and that she would be held responsible for all subsidy unpaid. This dramatic reduction caused astronomical hardship on Mrs. Kelly and her family to move forward.

This is a time to support our police officers, a chance to let this family know that their sacrifice did not go unnoticed and that our fallen officer has not been forgotten.

Please support the Finance committee's motion of ought to pass.

Th**a**k you, President.

# Committee Report

### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

### SENATE

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**

Date: February 19, 2013

#### THE COMMITTEE ON Finance

to which was referred Senate Bill 174-FN-A

AN ACT making an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty.

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

**OUGHT TO PASS** 

BY A VOTE OF: 6-0

Senator Lou D'Allesandro For the Committee

Shannon Whitehead 271-4980

#### New Hampshire General Court - Bill Status System

\_\_\_\_\_

## Docket of SB174

**Docket Abbreviations** 

**Bill Title:** making an appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing the spouse of a law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty.

#### Official Docket of SB174:

Date	Body	Description
1/31/2013	S	Introduced and Referred to Finance
2/13/2013	S	Hearing: 2/19/13, Room 103, SH, 2:30 p.m.; <b>SC9</b>
2/20/2013	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 3/7/13; SC10
3/7/2013	S	Ought to Pass: RC 24Y-0N, MA
3/7/2013	S	Pending Motion OT3rdg
3/7/2013	S	Sen. Morse Moved Laid on Table, MA, VV; SJ 6

NH House

NH Senate

## Other Referrals

## COMMITTEE REPORT FILE INVENTORY SB174 FN-ARIGINAL 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 # \_\_\_\_\_\_ - AMENDMENT # - AMENDMENT# - AMENDMENT# ALL AVAILABLE VERSIONS OF THE BILL: AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE AS INTRODUCED AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE \_\_\_ FINAL VERSION OTHER (Anything else deemed important but not listed above, such as amended fiscal notes): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Vernences IF YOU HAVE A RE-REFERRED BILL, YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE UP A DUPLICATE FILE FOLDER Date delivered to Senate Clerk 7-26-13 BY COMMITTEE AIDE

Revised 2011