Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR April 25, 2018

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Executive Departments and Administration to which was referred SB 508,

AN ACT (New Title) establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders. Having considered the same, report the same with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Dianne Schuett

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Executive Departments and Administration
Bill Number:	SB 508
Title:	(New Title) establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.
Date:	April 25, 2018
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill would have created a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder among first responders. The committee voted to kill this bill in deference to SB 553, which created a commission to study this same subject matter and has already passed the House. Committee members who supported this bill were concerned that the commission will also study whether or not these individuals should qualify for workers' compensation.

Vote 13-5.

Rep. Dianne Schuett FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Executive Departments and Administration

SB 508, (New Title) establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders. INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Dianne Schuett for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would have created a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder among first responders. The committee voted to kill this bill in deference to SB 553, which created a commission to study this same subject matter and has already passed the House. Committee members who supported this bill were concerned that the commission will also study whether or not these individuals should qualify for workers' compensation. Vote 13-5.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Simmons, Miriam

From:

Carol McGuire < mcguire4house@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, April 25, 2018 9:08 AM Schuett, Dianne; Simmons, Miriam

To: Subject:

Re: Majority Blurb for SB 508

Looks good.

On Wed, Apr 25, 2018 at 9:00 AM Schuett, Dianne < <u>Dianne.Schuett@leg.state.nh.us</u>> wrote:

April 24, 2018 INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE Report (vote 13-5)

SB 508, establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.

This bill would have created a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among first responders. The committee voted to kill this bill in deference to SB 553, which created a commission to study this same subject matter and has already passed the house. The vote against killing this bill was over concerns that the commission will also study whether or not these individuals should qualify for workers' compensation.

Rep. Dianne E. Schuett

Carol

Voting Sheets

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 508

BILL TITLE:

(New Title) establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic

stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.

DATE:

April 24, 2018

LOB ROOM:

306

MOTIONS:

INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Schuett

Seconded by Rep. Proulx

Vote: 13-5

CONSENT CALENDAR: NO

Statement of Intent:

Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Jacalyn Cilley, Clerk

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 508

BILL TITLE:

(New Title) establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic

stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.

DATE:

April 17, 2018

LOB ROOM:

306

MOTIONS:

ADOPTION of AMENDMENT - Executive Session April 17, 2018

Moved by Rep. Proulx

Seconded by Rep. Jeudy

AM Vote: 15-0

Amendment # 2018-1437h

Recessed Executive Session April 17, 2018

CONSENT CALENDAR: NO

Statement of Intent:

Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Kep Jacalyn/Cilley, Clerk

Rep. Proulx, Hills. 44 April 10, 2018 2018-1437h 08/05



Amendment to SB 508

Amend the bill by replacing sections 3-4 with the follo

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3 Duties. The committee shall study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder and other related disorders among first responders including police officers, fire persons, emergency medical service providers, and 911 dispatchers, and consider how to mitigate cases of PTSD and other related disorders in those fields.

7 8

4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

9 10



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/5/2018 10:28:37 AM Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2018 SESSION

Bill#: <u>SB S0</u>8 Title: Exec Session Date: _ PH Date: Amendment #: Motion: **YEAS NAYS MEMBER** McGuire, Carol M. Chariman Sytek, John Vice Chairman Hansen, Peter T. Beaudoin, Steven P. Proulx, Mark L. Hoell, J.R. Kaczynski, Thomas L. Woitkun, Steven J. Brewster, Michael A. Marsh, Henry A. Smith, Ryan D. Gagnon, Raymond G. Schmidt, Peter B. Jeudy, Jean L. Sullivan, Daniel J. ampion Goley, Jeffrey P. Cilley, Jacalyn L. Clerk Roberts, Carol R. Schuett, Dianne E. Schultz, Kristina TOTAL VOTE:

13 - 5,



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

2018 SESSION

1/5/2018 10:28:37 AM Roll Call Committee Registers Report

Report

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Bill #: SB 508 Title:		
PH Date: 4 1 10 1 18	Exec Session Date:	17/18
Motion: <u>Amendment</u>	Amendment #: 20/8	14372
MEMBER	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
McGuire, Carol M. Chariman	V '	
Sytek, John Vice Chairman		
Hansen, Peter T.		
Beaudoin, Steven P.		9
Proulx, Mark L.		
Hoell, J.R.		
Kaczynski, Thomas L.		
Woitkun, Steven J.	V .	9
Brewster, Michael A.		1
Marsh, Henry A.		
Smith, Ryan D.		
Gagnon, Raymond G.	'	
Schmidt, Peter B.		
Jeudy, Jean L.		5 ×
Sullivan, Daniel J.		
Goley, Jeffrey P.	V .	
Cilley, Jacalyn L. Clerk		
Roberts, Carol R.		
Schuett, Dianne E.		4
Schultz, Kristina		
TOTAL VOTE:		

15-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 508

	BILL TITLE: (New Title) establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.										
	DATE:	4/17/18	+4/24/18								
	LOB ROOM:	306									
	MOTION: (Ple	ase check one box	4/17/18								
	\square OTP	□ITL	☐ Retain (1st year)	Adoption of Amendment # 20/6-1437							
			☐ Interim Study (2nd year)	(if offered)							
	Moved by Rep. (Troulx	Seconded by Rep. Jeud	Vote: 15-0							
E	XCC SE MOTION: (Ple	ase check one box)	cessed								
	□ OTP	rP/A □ ITL	☐ Retain (1 st year)	Adoption of Amendment #							
			☐ Interim Study (2nd year)	(if offered)							
Re a	Moved by Rep MOTION: (Ple	ase check one box)	Seconded by Rep.	Vote:							
	\Box OTP \Box	OTP/A IIIL	☐ Retain (1st year)	Adoption of Amendment #							
	Moved by Rep. $_$	Schuett	□ Interim Study (2nd year) Seconded by Rep	(if offered)							
	MOTION: (Ple	ase check one box)									
	\square OTP \square	OTP/A □ ITL	☐ Retain (1st year)	☐ Adoption of Amendment #							
			☐ Interim Study (2nd year)	(if offered)							
	Moved by Rep		Seconded by Rep	Vote:							
		CONSENT CA	LENDAR:YES	NO							
	Minority Repo	rt?Yes	_ No If yes, author, Rep:	Motion							
	F	Respectfully submitted	l: Jacalyn Rep Jacalyn	Cilley, Clerk							

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 508

BILL TITLE:

(New Title) establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic

stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.

DATE:

April 24, 2018 and April 17, 2018

LOB ROOM:

306



MOTIONS:

ADOPTION of AMENDMENT - Executive Session April 17, 2018

Moved by Rep. Proulx

Seconded by Rep. Jeudy

AM Vote: 15-0

Amendment # 2018-1437h

Recessed Executive Session April 17, 2018



EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 508 - April 24, 2018

MOTIONS:

INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Schuett

Seconded by Rep. Proulx

Vote: 13-5

CONSENT CALENDAR: NO

Statement of Intent:

Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Jacalyn Cilley, Clerk

Hearing Minutes

PUBLIC HEARING ON SB 508

BILL TITLE: (New Title) establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-

traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among

first responders.

DATE: April 10, 2018

LOB ROOM: 306 Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 10:45 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 11:05 a.m.

<u>Committee Members</u>: Reps. McGuire, Sytek, Cilley, Hansen, Beaudoin, Proulx, Woitkun, H. Marsh, Gagnon, P. Schmidt, Jeudy, D. Sullivan, Goley and Schultz

Bill Sponsors:

Sen. AvardSen. BirdsellSen. BradleySen. CarsonSen. D'AllesandroSen. Fuller ClarkSen. GannonSen. GiudaSen. InnisSen. WardSen. WattersRep. ChandlerRep. CarrRep. ProulxRep. J. Belanger

Rep. M. McCarthy

TESTIMONY

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

Rep. Mark Proulx, co-sponsor of the bill introduced the bill.

He leads the Critical Instance Stress Management Team. He doesn't believe he needs a committee to tell him that, but the data is needed to ensure that Workers Comp.

He noted that a critical incident could provoke a bout of PTSD, but it is the repetitive nature of seeing these things that becomes cumulative.

<u>Sen. Keven Avard, Prime Sponsor</u> - He introduced this bill because he is familiar with and is friends with many police and firefighters.

He has learned of the causes of "compassion fatigue" that comes from repetitive incidents seeing situations that would horrify most individuals. Many of these people are in hostile environments that occur day after day.

He offered an amendment to add additional staff within the first responder field. When asked whether he believed that the scope of the duties of this committee were narrowly crafted in that there is one phrase (consider how to mitigate cases of PTSD) and whether this night be broadened. He feels strongly that the desire here is to keep this very narrowly crafted, focused specifically on PTSD.

*Ken Norton, NAMI NH - He testified in support of the bill, written testimony submitted. He provided his background that demonstrated his extensive professional credentials and policy boards. He is also here as a family member of someone experiencing trauma.

He submitted written testimony. See that document for the full range of comments he offered during the hearing.

Respectfully submitted by

Ren. Jackie Cilley, Clerk

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Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Hearing on SB 508, establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders

Start time: 10:45 a.m.

End time: 11:05 a.m.

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Ken Norton, NAMI NH

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Submitted by Jackie Cilley

PUBLIC HEARING ON SB 508

		FOBLIC HEARING	N 2D 900
BILL TITLE:		stress disorder (PTSD)	ttee to study the prevalence of post- and other related disorders among
DATE:	4)10/1	8	
ROOM:	306	Time Public	e Hearing Called to Order: 10:45
			Time Adjourned://
		(please circle if pro	esent)
Kaczynski, Weit	kun, Brews	McGuire, Sytok Cille ter, H. Marsh, R. Smith thuett and Schultz	y Hansen, Beaudoin, Frouls Hoell, Gagnon, P. Schmidt, Jeudy, D
Bill Sponsors:			
Sen. Avard		Sen. Birdsell	Sen. Bradley
Sen. Carson		Sen. D'Allesandro	Sen. Fuller Clark
Sen. Gannon		Sen. Giuda	Sen. Innis
Sen. Ward		Sen. Watters	Rep. Chandler
Rep. Carr Rep. M. McCartl	hv	Rep. Proulx	Rep. J. Belanger
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		TESTIMON	Y
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SIGN UP SHEET

	- 6	To Register O	pinion If Not S	peaki	ng
Bill#	23	208	Date	4	110/18
Comm	nittee	ED +A			

** Please Print All Information **

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Name	Address	Phone	Representing	Pro	Con
Senator Mai	Aha Foller Clark		507/21	V	
Sey. Regina	Bi-dsell		80419	1	
Sen. Ruth	Ward		SD#8	1	
Sen. Kevin	Avarial		SU#12		
1	n Carson		SD#14	1	
Rep. Inus	la Dearson	Rock	#34	-	
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Judy Studity	1M1	NH A	FL-Clo	V	

Testimony

April 10, 2018

Honorable Chairman Carol McGuire
House Executive Departments and Administration Committee
Legislative Office Building #306
33 N. State Street
Concord. NH 03301

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Kenneth Norton and I serve as Executive Director of NAMI NH, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. On behalf of NAMI NH, I am here today to speak in favor of SB 508.

By way of background, I am very familiar with trauma from my years of clinical work in community mental health as well as leading the development of NAMI NH's Connect Suicide Prevention program where I provided training and technical assistance to the NH National Guard as well as the Department of Defense and Defense Center on Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury. For the past four years I have also served as an appointed member of the legislatively established Military and Veterans Commission on PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury. But I consider my real expertise as a family member who has intimately experienced the effects of a life changing traumatic event on a loved one and how the post-traumatic stress disorder which followed affected every dimension of their life, school, work, relationships and health eventually resulting in addiction, repeated incarceration and homelessness. I am now also very fortunate to witness the effectiveness of appropriate treatment and the joys of recovery and healing.

From those experiences, two pieces of knowledge I would like to impart is that while there are clusters of symptoms that we can recognize resulting from trauma, how it manifests itself can be unique to that individual. And as demonstrated by our Veterans, we also know that trauma can lie dormant for periods of time and then be triggered resulting in the rapid onset of symptoms.

Our first responders are our everyday super heroes. They leave their homes and get into their uniforms each day knowing they are placing their lives on the line. Without hesitation they run into burning buildings or place themselves in harm's way to help and save others. On a daily basis they see the worst of humanity. Murder and terrible crimes, horrific accidents, life threatening medical conditions, tragic fires, drug overdoses, and suicide. When they take their uniforms off at the end of the day it is difficult or perhaps impossible to leave all that behind them. Yet they return home to their families and loved ones and they do their best to not bring those events home with them.

They truly are super heroes, but they are first and foremost human and we need to look no further for that evidence than the body of research showing police and first responders experience higher rates of depression, and trauma than the general population.

Suicide is an important and preventable public health issue, one which first responders are intimately familiar with. In New Hampshire suicide is the second leading cause of death ages 10-34, the third leading cause of death ages 35-44 and the fourth leading cause of death ages 45-54 and the 10th

overall. Sadly, first responders have significantly higher rates of suicide than the general population. Some estimates indicate that suicide is the leading cause of death for fire and emergency medical service providers. Estimates for police are that suicide deaths are triple the number of line of duty deaths in the US each year. Tragically, during the past year, suicide has taken the lives of three New Hampshire police officers.

New Hampshire is fortunate to have some very strong leadership in addressing the mental health needs of police and first responders. Department of Safety Commissioner Barthelmes has established a peer support program for state police led by Trooper

NH Top Ten Leading Causes of Death 2011-2015

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	Age Groups										
Rank	≤]	1.4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-	All Age
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Terms for Causes of Death

rinter-Friendly Version

Gahr, Franklin Chief David Goldstein has long been a proponent of providing mental health supports to law enforcement and EMS Director Deb Prendergast has been working hard to close the gap for emergency medical personnel and William McQuillen has also been strong advocate for firefigthers. NAMI NH provides 16 hours of training to all cadets coming through NH Police Standards and Training Academy on mental illness including their own risk for PTSD, depression and suicide.

However we need to do more to support our police and first responders. Establishing this commission is an important step in the right direction. Therefore on behalf of NAMI NH I am asking you to vote this bill as ought to pass.

Please vote SB 508 as ought to pass. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Norton, LICSW

Executive Director

April 10, 2018

Honorable Chairman Carol McGuire
House Executive Departments and Administration Committee
Legislative Office Building #306
33 N. State Street
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NH Top Ten Leading Causes of Death 2011-2015

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Terms for Causes of Death

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Respectfully,

Kenneth Norton, LICSW

Executive Director

Amendments

Rep. Proulx, Hills. 44 April 10, 2018 2018-1437h 08/05



Amendment to SB 508

Amend the bill	by replacing	sections 3-4	with the	following:
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3 Duties. The committee shall study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder and other related disorders among first responders including police officers, fire persons, emergency medical service providers, and 911 dispatchers, and consider how to mitigate cases of PTSD and other related disorders in those fields.

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4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

Sen. Avard, Dist 12 April 9, 2018 2018-1398s 06/03



Amendment to SB 508

1	Amend	the	bill	by	repl	acing	section	3	with	the	following	:
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5 6 3 Duties. The committee shall study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder and other related disorders among first responders including police officers, fire persons, emergency medical service providers, and 911 dispatchers, and consider how to mitigate cases of PTSD and other related disorders in those fields.



Rep. McGuire, Merr. 29 April 20, 2018 2018-1675h 08/04

Amendment to SB 508

1	Amend the bill by inserting after section 5 the following and renumbering the original section 6 to
2	read as 7:
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4	6 Contingency. If SB 553-FN of the 2018 regular legislative session becomes law, then this act
5	shall not take effect. If SB 553 -FN does not become law, then this act shall take effect as provided
6	in section 7 of this act.

Bill as Introduced

SB 508 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

02/15/2018 0535s

2018 SESSION

18-2908 08/06

SENATE BILL

508

AN ACT

establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress

disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.

SPONSORS:

Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Giuda, Dist 2; Sen. Innis, Dist 24; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Rep. Chandler, Carr. 1; Rep. Carr, Hills. 26; Rep. Proulx, Hills. 44; Rep. J.

Belanger, Hills. 27; Rep. M. McCarthy, Hills. 29

COMMITTEE:

Public and Municipal Affairs

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder and other related disorders among first responders.

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.

18-2908 08/06

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Eighteen

AN ACT

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establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.

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

- 1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the prevalence of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.
 - 2 Membership and Compensation.
 - I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:
 - (a) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.
 - (b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.
- II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the committee.
 - 3 Duties. The committee shall study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder and other related disorders among first responders, including police officers, fire persons, and emergency medical service providers, and consider how to mitigate cases of PTSD and other related disorders in those fields.
 - 4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.
 - 5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.
- 6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.