

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SB484

Bill as Introduced

SB 484 - AS INTRODUCED

2018 SESSION

18-3021
05/01

SENATE BILL **484**

AN ACT reestablishing the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire.

SPONSORS: Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Feltes, Dist 15; Sen. Carson,
Dist 14; Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Rep. Eaton, Ches. 3; Rep. Wallner, Merr. 10; Rep.
Gile, Merr. 27; Rep. Berrien, Rock. 18; Rep. LeBrun, Hills. 32

COMMITTEE: Health and Human Services

ANALYSIS

This bill reestablishes the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Eighteen

AN ACT reestablishing the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire.

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

1 1 New Section; Human Service; Commission to Address Child Hunger in New Hampshire.

2 Amend RSA 161 by inserting after section 12 the following new section:

3 161:13 Commission to Address Child Hunger in New Hampshire.

4 I. There is established a commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire. The
5 membership of the commission shall be as follows:

6 (a) Two members of the senate, one of whom shall serve on the health and human
7 services committee and one of whom shall serve on the finance committee, appointed by the senate
8 president.

9 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, one of whom shall serve on the health,
10 human services and elderly affairs committee or the children and family law committee, and one of
11 whom shall serve on the finance committee, appointed by the speaker of the house of
12 representatives.

13 (c) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee.

14 (d) The commissioner of the department of education, or designee.

15 (e) One member of the New Hampshire housing finance authority, appointed by the
16 authority.

17 (f) One member of New Hampshire Kids Count, appointed by that organization.

18 (g) One representative of New Hampshire Hunger Solutions, appointed by the coalition.

19 (h) One representative of the Granite State Children's Alliance, appointed by that
20 organization.

21 (i) One representative of the New Hampshire chapter of Every Child Matters, appointed
22 by that organization.

23 (j) One representative of a community action agency, appointed by the governor.

24 (k) One representative of United Ways of New Hampshire, appointed by that
25 organization.

26 (l) One representative of the New Hampshire Head Start Directors Association,
27 appointed by that organization.

28 (m) One representative of a Boys and Girls Club of New Hampshire, appointed by the
29 governor.

30 (n) One representative of End 68 Hours of Hunger, appointed by that organization.

31 (o) One representative of Child and Family Services of New Hampshire, appointed by

1 that organization.

2 (p) One pediatrician licensed in New Hampshire, appointed by the New Hampshire
3 Pediatric Society.

4 (q) One public school principal, appointed by the New Hampshire Association of School
5 Principals.

6 (r) One school superintendent, appointed by the New Hampshire School Administrators
7 Association.

8 (s) One member of the New Hampshire Bar Association, appointed by the association.

9 (t) One representative of Catholic Charities New Hampshire, appointed by that
10 organization.

11 (u) One representative of the Business and Industry Association (BIA), appointed by the
12 association.

13 II. The commission shall address issues related to child hunger in New Hampshire. The
14 commission's duties shall include, but not be limited to:

15 (a) Review of current data regarding child hunger in New Hampshire.

16 (b) Review of current data regarding child hunger in New Hampshire public schools.

17 (c) Identification of causes for hunger affecting New Hampshire children.

18 (d) Development of corrective actions for ending child hunger in New Hampshire.

19 (e) Identification of current actions being taken to eliminate child hunger in New
20 Hampshire and their effectiveness.

21 III. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members.
22 The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first
23 meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Seven
24 members of the commission shall constitute a quorum. The senate health and human services
25 committee staff shall provide clerical, administrative, and research services to the commission as
26 may be needed.

27 IV. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate
28 when attending to the duties of the commission.

29 V. The commission shall submit an interim report of its findings and any recommendations
30 for proposed legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives,
31 the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2020
32 and shall submit a final report on or before November 1, 2022.

33 2 Applicability; Commission Membership. Members of the commission to address child hunger
34 established in 2016, 269:1 shall be reappointed to the commission established in this act provided
35 that the individuals continue to meet the membership criteria established in section 1.

36 3 Repeal. RSA 161:13, relative to the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire,
37 is repealed.

38 4 Effective Date.

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1

I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2022.

2

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Amendments

Sen. Bradley, Dist 3
February 21, 2018
2018-0776s
05/03

Floor Amendment to SB 484

1 Amend RSA 161:13, III as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 III. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members.

4 The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the senate member. The first meeting of the

5 commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Seven members of the

6 commission shall constitute a quorum.

Committee Minutes

Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Kyle Baker 271-2609

SB 484, reestablishing the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire.

Hearing Date: February 13, 2018

Time Opened: 1:00pm

Time Closed: 1:15pm

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Bradley, Avard, Gray, Fuller Clark and Hennessey

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill reestablishes the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire.

Sponsors:

Sen. Fuller Clark

Sen. Bradley

Sen. Feltes

Sen. Carson

Sen. Soucy

Rep. Eaton

Rep. Wallner

Rep. Gile

Rep. Berrien

Rep. LeBrun

Who supports the bill: Rep. Mary Jane Wallner; Barbara Lockett; Sen. Sharon Carson; Janet Sinmor; Viola Katusime; Eisela Jones; Sen. Fuller Clark; Melissa Hinebauch; Lucy Crichton; Kathy Cahill; Sen. Donna Soucy; John Rowe; NH Legal Assistance

Who opposes the bill: None

Who is neutral on the bill: None

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Martha Fuller Clark – Senate District 22

- This is a commission that was established in the last biennium by Former State Senator Molly Kelly.
- This commission needs more time to keep working on the needs of hungry children in our community.
- 20% of the children in our state go to bed hungry at night and that number is growing.
- This is the exact same membership as the current commission and is just an

extension.

- Sen. Hennessey – Has anything changed in the makeup of duties of the commission?
- Sen. Fuller Clark – No it is exactly the same as the original commission was established from the start. This bill just extends the commission.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

Neutral Information Presented: None

Future Action: Ought to Pass with Amendment

KRB

Date Hearing Report completed: February 20, 2018

Speakers

Testimony

February 13, 2018

The Honorable Jeb Bradley, Chair
Health and Human Services Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 101
33 North State Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: New Futures' support for SB 484 (reestablishing the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire),

Dear Senator Bradley and Honorable Members of the Committee,

New Futures appreciates the opportunity to testify in favor of SB 484, reestablishing the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire. New Futures is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that advocates, educates and collaborates to improve the health and wellness of all New Hampshire residents. As New Hampshire's authorized Kids Count organization, New Futures also advocates for data-based policies that support Granite State families.

New Futures stands strongly in support of SB 484 as it aims to reestablish the commission to address child hunger in New Hampshire. This commission, which first formed in 2016, has recommended several pieces of legislation this session that could help to alleviate hunger among children across our state. Bills proposing changes to the state's school breakfast program and the establishment of a committee to study the reinstatement of the unemployed parent program could go far to keep children well fed and thriving. But, as the number of children and families facing food insecurity, continues to rise across New Hampshire, the work of the commission remains unfinished.

According to data released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, an average of 9.6 percent of New Hampshire households were considered food insecure between 2014-2016. This percentage is lower than the national rate of 13 percent, but remains higher than the 7.4 percent of New Hampshire households considered food insecure ten years earlier, between 2004-2006¹. Further, recent census data indicates that as many as 47,000 New Hampshire children live in households that are considered food insecure – an increase over the 44,000 children reported several years ago.

The impact that food insecurity has on children is well known to be detrimental to physical and behavioral health development, and well-being of children over the short- and long-terms. For the sake of children and families across our state, New Futures believes the Commission to Address Child Hunger must continue. We urge the Committee to recommend SB 484 Ought to Pass. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or need additional information.

Respectfully submitted,



Jake Berry, Vice President of Policy, New Futures

¹ "Household Food Security in the United States 2016," U.S. Department of Agriculture, available at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/84973/err-237.pdf?v=42979>