

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

# **SB578**

Bill as  
Introduced

SB 578-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2018 SESSION

18-2962  
05/01

SENATE BILL

**578-FN**

AN ACT

relative to unclassified positions within the department of health and human services.

SPONSORS:

Sen. Reagan, Dist 17; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Rep. McGuire, Merr. 29; Rep. Byron, Hills. 20; Rep. Sytek, Rock. 8; Rep. P. Schmidt, Straf. 19

COMMITTEE:

Executive Departments and Administration

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ANALYSIS

This bill clarifies the terms of appointment and salary for the following positions in the department of health and human services: deputy commissioner, associate commissioner of human services and behavioral health, associate commissioner of operations, and associate commissioner for population health.

The bill is a request of the department of health and human services.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT relative to unclassified positions within the department of health and human services.

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

1 1 Department of Health and Human Services; Salaries of Certain Unclassified Positions;  
2 Associate Commissioner. Amend RSA 94:1-a, I(b), salary grade JJ, to read as follows:

3 JJ Department of health and human services associate commissioner *of human*  
4 *services and behavioral health*

5 2 Department of Health and Human Services; Salaries of Certain Unclassified Positions.  
6 Amend RSA 94:1-a, I(b) by inserting:

7 JJ Department of health and human services associate commissioner of operations

8 JJ Department of health and human services associate commissioner for population  
9 health

10 3 Department of Health and Human Services; Positions of Deputy Commissioner and Associate  
11 Commissioner. Amend RSA 126-A:9, I(a) to read as follows:

12 (a) Subject to the approval of the governor and council, the commissioner of health and  
13 human services shall appoint ~~[an]~~ *a deputy commissioner and 3* associate ~~[commissioner, who]~~  
14 *commissioners, each of whom* shall serve for a term of 4 years *and shall perform such duties*  
15 *as may be assigned by the commissioner. Each appointee shall be qualified by reason of*  
16 *professional competence, education, and experience for his or her position. Any vacancy*  
17 *shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the 4-year term in the same manner as the*  
18 *original appointment.* ~~[The associate commissioner shall perform such duties as may be assigned~~  
19 ~~by the commissioner, which]~~ *The duties of one of the associate commissioners* shall include  
20 oversight of the division for children, youth and families and assigned responsibilities of the  
21 department under RSA 170-G. The annual salary of the ~~[associate]~~ *deputy commissioner and*  
22 *associate commissioners* shall be as prescribed in RSA 94:1-a.

23 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

LBAO  
18-2962  
1/12/18

SB 578-FN- FISCAL NOTE  
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT relative to unclassified positions within the department of health and human services.

FISCAL IMPACT:  State  County  Local  None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable
Funding Source:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill adds the following two unclassified positions to the Department of Health and Human Services: Associate Commissioner of Operations, and Associate Commissioner for Population Health. Each position is to be established in RSA 94:1-a at salary grade JJ, which has a maximum annual salary of \$121,487. With benefits, the Department estimates the two positions, in total, will cost a maximum of \$370,413 per year given current salary scales. The Department states that the actual cost is indeterminable, as some of the costs could be offset by the deletion of existing, unspecified unclassified positions.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of Health and Human Services

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COMMITTEE: Executive Departments and Administration

QTP 4-0

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**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of Health and Human Services



# Committee Minutes

**Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee**  
*Deb Chroniak 271-1403*

SB 578-FN, relative to unclassified positions within the department of health and human services:

Hearing Date: January 31; 2018

Time Opened: 10:55 a.m. Time Closed: 10:57 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Carson, Reagan, Soucy and Cavanaugh

Members of the Committee Absent: Senator Gannon

**Bill Analysis:** This bill clarifies the terms of appointment and salary for the following positions in the department of health and human services: deputy commissioner, associate commissioner of human services and behavioral health, associate commissioner of operations, and associate commissioner for population health.

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**Sponsors:**

Sen. Reagan  
Sen. Soucy  
Rep. Sytek

Sen. Carson  
Rep. McGuire  
Rep. P. Schmidt

Sen. Gannon  
Rep. Byron

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**Who supports the bill:** Senator John Reagan, District 17; Senator Sharon Carson, District 14; John Williams, Department of Health and Human Services

**Who opposes the bill:** No one

**Who is neutral on the bill:** No one

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

**Senator Reagan** opened his prime legislation.

- A short time ago, SB 534 was passed, which codified the recommendation of the Joint Committee on Employee Classification.
- SB 578-FN was requested by the Governor's office to clarify approval of the governor and council for the unclassified positions within the Department of Health and Human Services.
- It was noted, in SB 534, the process for appointment was not specified.
- This clearly specifies how the Governor and Council approve.

**John Williams**

- Stated Senator Reagan did an exceptional job explaining the legislation and if there were any questions he would be happy to answer them.

Hearing closed at Close 10:57 a.m.

Future Action: Ought to Pass

dac

[SB0578-FN] Date Hearing Report completed: February 5, 2018-F

# Speakers



# Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SENATE  
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

THE COMMITTEE ON Executive Departments and Administration

to which was referred SB 578-FN

AN ACT

relative to unclassified positions within the department  
of health and human services.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 4-0

Senator John Reagan  
For the Committee

Deb Chroniak 271-1403

