

Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 19, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Majority of the Committee on Transportation to which was referred HB 224,

AN ACT relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles.

Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Gregory Hill

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Transportation
Bill Number:	HB 224
Title:	relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles.
Date:	February 19, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2021-0446h

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The majority of the committee understands that the amendment would recognize the level of window tinting on the two windows on either side of the driver, that is allowed by national standards directly from the manufacturer, to be equal to the level of window tinting that could be put on any NH car by after-market installers. The amount of light transference would be 70%. After passage, NH cars with tinting would be able to drive the same NH roads that out-of-state cars with that same level of tinting can currently drive legally in NH. The majority of the committee finds no disagreement with the benefits that window tinting provides to the motoring public which includes protection of the suns UVA rays, which are a leading cause of skin cancer, the reduction in sun and headlight glare, the lowering of cabin temperatures for animals and occupants , and less UV damage to the interior components including seat belts. The majority heard the testimony of State Police who feel the tinting would be more dangerous performing traffic stops. Thus far, no research or studies have been provided to show increased risk to officers even though 46 other states already allow tinting of the same or greater darkness.

Vote 12-7.

Rep. Gregory Hill
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Transportation

HB 224, relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Gregory Hill for the **Majority** of Transportation. The majority of the committee understands that the amendment would recognize the level of window tinting on the two windows either side of the driver, that is allowed by national standards directly from the manufacturer, to be equal to the level of window tinting that could be put on any NH car by after-market installers. The amount of light transference would be 70%. After passage, NH cars with tinting would be able to drive the same NH roads that out-of-state cars with that same level of tinting can currently drive legally in NH. The majority of the committee finds no disagreement with the benefits that window tinting provides to the motoring public which includes protection of the sun's UVA rays which are a leading cause of skin cancer, the reduction in sun and headlight glare, the lowering of cabin temperatures for animals and occupants, and less UV damage to the interior components including seat belts. The majority heard the testimony of State Police who feel the tinting would be more dangerous performing traffic stops. Thus far, no research or studies have been provided to show increased risk to officers even though 46 other states already allow tinting of the same or greater darkness. For these reasons we find that HB 224 Ought To Pass.

Vote 12-7.

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 19, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Minority of the Committee on Transportation to
which was referred HB 224,**

AN ACT relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles.

**Having considered the same, and being unable to agree
with the Majority, report with the following resolution:**

RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. George Sykes

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Transportation
Bill Number:	HB 224
Title:	relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles.
Date:	February 19, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill is this session's bill which removes the prohibition on aftermarket window tint on driver and passenger side vehicle windows. The minority has concerns with the bill, particularly if aftermarket tint is applied to a vehicle that already has manufactured tint. Darker tint can obscure a driver's face and prevent eye contact between a driver and cyclists, pedestrians, and other drivers that could result in an accident. Finally, NH State Police and law enforcement were clear in their opposition to the bill due to their concerns when approaching a vehicle during a traffic stop when you are unable to see inside a vehicle, stating that tinted windows lead to a high risk traffic stop.

Rep. George Sykes
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Transportation

HB 224, relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. George Sykes for the **Minority** of Transportation. House Bill 224 is this session's bill which removes the prohibition on aftermarket window tint on driver and passenger side vehicle windows. The minority has concerns with the bill, particularly if aftermarket tint is applied to a vehicle that already has manufactured tint. Darker tint can obscure a driver's face and prevent eye contact between a driver and cyclists, pedestrians, and other drivers that could result in an accident. Finally, NH State Police and law enforcement were clear in their opposition to the bill due to their concerns when approaching a vehicle during a traffic stop when you are unable to see inside a vehicle, stating that tinted windows lead to a high risk traffic stop.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Amendment to HB 224

1 Amend RSA 266:58-a, III as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 III. It shall be unlawful to drive on any way any motor vehicle registered in this state which
4 has after market tinting on the windshield [~~or on the windows to the left and right of the driver~~].
5 Where after market tinting is applied to windows to the rear of the driver, outside rear view mirrors
6 shall be required on both the left and right side of the vehicle for the use of the driver and a front
7 seat passenger. The light transmittance of after-market tinted windows *to the left and right of*
8 *the driver where they are allowed shall not be less than 70 percent, and the light*
9 *transmittance of after-market tinted rear windows* where they are allowed shall not be less
10 than 35 percent, except that the light transmittance of after market tinted rear windows of
11 multipurpose passenger vehicles, as defined in 49 C.F.R. *section* 571.3 and pickup trucks may be
12 such percentage as is allowed by 49 C.F.R. *section* 571.205 with respect to pre-market tinted rear
13 windows.

Voting Sheets

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK



1/22/2021 10:08:26 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2021 SESSION

TRANSPORTATION

Bill #: HB 224 Motion: _____ AM #: 0446h Exec Session Date: 2/19/21

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Walsh, Thomas C. Chairman	X		
Gagne, Larry G. Vice Chairman Rep. Torosian	X		
Crawford, Karel A. Clerk	X		
Smith, Steven D.	X		
Hill, Gregory G.	X		
Aron, Judy F.	X		
Ankarberg, Aidan	X		
Gorski, Ted	X		
O'Hara, Travis J.	X		
Pitaro, Matthew Rep. True	X		
Sykes, George E.		X	
Cleaver, Skip J.		X	
Fenton, Donovan W. Rep. Grasse		X	
Pickering, Daniel R.	X		
Rich, Cecilia	X		
Telerski, Laura D.		X	
Fox, Dru		X	
Stevens, Deb		X	
Veilleux, Daniel T.		X	
TOTAL VOTE:	12	7	

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/22/2021 10:08:26 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report



2021 SESSION

TRANSPORTATION

Bill #: HB 224 Motion: OTP/A AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2/19/21

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Walsh, Thomas C. Chairman	X		
Gagne, Larry G. Vice Chairman Rep. Torosian	X		
Crawford, Karel A. Clerk	X		
Smith, Steven D.	X		
Hill, Gregory G.	X		
Aron, Judy F.	X		
Ankarberg, Aidan	X		
Gorski, Ted	X		
O'Hara, Travis J.	X		
Pitaro, Matthew Rep. True	X		
Sykes, George E.		X	
Cleaver, Skip J.		X	
Fenton, Donovan W. Rep. Grasse		X	
Pickering, Daniel R.	X		
Rich, Cecilia	X		
Telerski, Laura D.		X	
Fox, Dru		X	
Stevens, Deb		X	
Veilleux, Daniel T.		X	
TOTAL VOTE:	12	7	

Public Hearing

House Remote Testify

Transportation Committee Testify List for Bill HB224 on 2021-02-05

Support: 24 Oppose: 3 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 3

[Export to Excel](#)

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Siudut, Michelle	mysolutionsnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/3/2021 11:27 AM
Smit, Demerst ("D.	d.smit@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	International Window Film Asse.	Support	Yes (2m)	No	2/4/2021 12:54 PM
Widdick, Rob	rob@robwiddick.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (0m)	No	1/27/2021 4:53 PM
Craig, Kevin	Kevin.Craig@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2021 11:59 PM
Townsend, Daniel	Oblivion7dan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2021 3:05 PM
Townsend, Courtney	chtownsend26@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2021 3:09 PM
Blazek-Ahearn, Caden	soccerblaze12@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/4/2021 6:08 PM
Mennella, Alexandra	amennella1@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/4/2021 8:56 PM
Thomas, Nicholas	nicholas.w.thomas@uconn.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 8:47 AM
Rathbun, Eric	ericrathbun@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/5/2021 9:05 AM
Beene, Holly	holly.beene@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 9:38 AM
Gericke, Carla	carlagericke@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 10:03 AM
Calitz, Louis	lc_gencourt@free603.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 10:13 AM
Moore, Tyler	tylerjmoore@gmail.com	A Member of	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 10:21

		the Public					AM
Lord, Kit	kitlord@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/5/2021 11:43 AM
Mullin, Mickey	wolf@mickeymullin.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 12:17 PM
ploszaj, tom	tom.ploszaj@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 12:18 PM
Sargent, Elizabeth	esargent@sheehan.com	A Lobbyist	NH Association of Chiefs of Police	Oppose	No	No	2/5/2021 2:19 PM
Moore, Corey	coreycraigmoore@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2021 3:14 PM
Moore, Christina	tinatim@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2021 4:41 PM
Moore, Kelly	kmodat@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2021 4:48 PM
Merchant, Karen	Kmcmersch@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2021 9:20 PM
Merchant, John	Jwmerch@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2021 11:37 PM
Moore, Tim	tim@lmoreps.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/4/2021 8:38 AM
Finn, Martin	martinjfinn@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/4/2021 10:07 AM
Wilder, Jeff	jeffwilder02@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/4/2021 10:11 AM
Castle, Richard	richardcastle350@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/4/2021 10:16 AM

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON

BILL TITLE: HB 224 relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles

DATE: 2/5/21

LOB ROOM: 301-303

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 1:03 pm

Time Adjourned: 2:08 pm

Committee Members: Reps. Walsh, Gagne, Crawford, **Smith**, Hill, Aron, Ankarberg, Gorski, O'Hara, Pitaro, Sykes, Cleaver, Pimental, Pickering, Rich, Telerski, Fox, Stevens and Veilleux

Bill Sponsors:
Rep. Yokela

TESTIMONY

- Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted
- Rep. Yokela, this bill will allow the tint to be on the front and side windows 35% visible light through the window. Benefits, decrease heat in the car, reduce glare. I did not see how police could not handle that, just need training. Only 4 states in the country that do not allow tinting.
- Q. -Rep. Terlerski – Amended the bill to 70% why did you not write the bill as it was amended last year. A. - Rep. Yokela , the people in the industry did not like the 70% and wanted it to stay the same, he would be open to an amendment.
- Q.- Rep. Hill – Why would we need line 23 if this should pass. A. in case it needed to be darker.
- Q. - Rep. Hill Do you know if that line is in last year. A. Rep. Skyes that was taken away last time.
- Q. -Rep. Gorski, What is a medical condition that you would need this ? A. different eye conditions.
- Q - Rep. O'Hara would this be the same as is allowed in SUV? A. Yes
- What state do not have tint? Vermont does not allow it.

Michelle Siudut: 47 states 17 allow 35%, others allow darker. Biggest benefits for skin cancer and UV exposer. Works for a window company. Back window on SUV is darker than 35%.

Q. -Rep. Ankarberg Q Is it widely available in 35% visibility? A. many different shades

Q.- Rep. Hill As you work in MA is it true that NH cars go down to have the tinting? A. Only if they have a waiver for medical.

Q,-Rep. Gorski Is the 35% tint 99% for uv

Demest Smit (D) International Window Film Assoc. promote window tinting for comfort in vehicles Like to have laws with reasonable content.

Q Rep. Aron Know if there is any documentation for visibility for driver? A.He will send information

Q. -Rep. Pimentel: is there any coloration between UV protection, yes they are independent

Rep. Ankarberg – since this would be a new business do you have a % of how many cars this would effect or people would want.

Rep. O'Hara do side windows have some tinting, some degree. A. Yes they do. But after market would be more effective

Rep. Hill Is there police training for them approaching the vehicles that are dark tinting? A. Not sure what kind of training they would have. Q Any difference in officer safety with or without tinting? A. He will see about that.

Rob Widdick – second time back supports the 35% met light transmitting. He has a waiver for tinting but his wife does not and they drive the same cars, it's a problem. Will send testimony

Q. -Rep. O'Hara – While you waited for waiver did you feel you were a danger on the road? Yes at times.

Sgt. Chris Kelbie – State Police is opposed because of safety there is no training that they receive, window tint does cause concern on a stop, biggest concern is distracted drivers, I approach on the right side.

Q. -Rep. Sykes to Trooper Kelbie – is eye contact is important with driver A. yes

Q. -Rep. Aron –Are you aware of any training of officer in other states for tinted windows? A. Sgt. Kelbie , They do high-risk vehicle stops training but are not aware of other states.

Q. -Rep. O'Hara how do you pull over a MA car with tinted windows? A. Sgt. We handle it the same but with great caution. I have been assaulted by a guy with tinted windows who had rifles in the front sea, luckily I saw them.

Capt. Haynes: opposed to the bill. Q. Rep. Stevens – are there statics of officer safety with tinted windows. A. Not at this time

-Rep. Pimental take Rep. Fenton's place

Testimony

Archived: Friday, July 16, 2021 4:23:15 PM

From: Rob Widdick

Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 3:09:06 PM

To: ~House Transportation Committee

Subject: 2021 - HB224 - Support Docs

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

NH Automotive Tint Facts.docx 

Dear Transportation Committee,

Thank you for the HB224 webinar today in which I was able to provide my voiced testimony and opinions pertaining to HB224. I would like to provide my written testimony below along with my supporting document containing additional facts around automotive tint.

My name is Rob Widdick and I moved to NH about 8 years ago from AR for work. To my surprise back then, NH barred tint from the left and right of the driver and windshield without a waiver. I immediately found and went to my PCP to request a window tint waiver application to be filled out and signed. I then submitted it to the state, exposing my personal health information, and waited a couple of weeks to receive the approved waiver.

During the time between moving to NH and getting my waiver, I had continued to drive with window tint because it was applied prior to me moving to NH. I had no plans to remove the tinted film because it cost over \$350 to install. This put me at risk of traffic stops, so I kept the application in the car in the case I was pulled over but also knowing that if I were to have been pulled over, I would have rolled down all windows in respect to the officer. If any tickets were given, I would have fought them in court with the waiver - assuming it was approved. New Hampshire *shouldn't have to worry about this*.

I am in favor of HB224, allowing for a 35% window tint to the left and the right of the driver. I am also in favor of a 35% Net Volume Light Transmittance (NVLT) - which is the combined light transmittance that takes into factor the glass itself (which can contain a tint in the glass from the factory) and any applied film. The NVLT can be measured by a special light metering tool that tint shops and officers tend to have.

35% NVLT is a common shade that seems to be the de facto in my experience over 15 years of talking to shops and having tint applied. It's important to note that 35% NVLT is not a limousine tint - you can still see through it, especially in the sun or with a flashlight.

While UV-A and UV-B light blocking is a great feature of window film, this *should not* be considered the sole benefits of considering HB224. Blocking UV rays is a great secondary feature which clear film can also achieve. However, it does not address the concerns around glare and solar gain, which are the main reasons I chose to install tint in the first place.

With my mild photophobia due to a dual astigmatism, allergies, and symptoms secondary to thyroid disease (eg: dry eye), I strongly prefer to be in a tinted vehicle to alleviate vision headaches and migraines. Photophobia (light sensitivity) is a condition well documented in medical literature and can be caused by various diseases and conditions. (More info: <https://www.goodeyes.com/blog/causes-of-photophobia/>). I am lucky to not have a severe case of it and can still get outside as opposed to others who have thyroid disease.

I am in strong favor of the bill, HB224, as submitted. Tinted windows have many primary benefits such as reducing glare from headlights behind me at night and reducing glare from solar reflections during the day. While the bill may not go as far as I would like it to, it's a great start for New Hampshire and potentially beneficial to business.

The window film market size is valued at nearly \$10 billion in 2019 and is expected to grow, with 36% attributed to the automotive sector. NH businesses could be a part of this growth in revenue instead of losing the revenue to neighboring states as it pertains to shaded automotive window tint. (<https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/window-films-market>)

In my opinion, merely having window tint is not a good reason to be a suspect and pulled over for. The process of requesting a waiver application from my doctor, sending it to the state for review, and me getting pulled over is a waste of time, money, and resources to both me and the state/local police. It costs me money to see a doc to get the application, and it costs the various levels of government money - such as processing applications and traffic stops simply due to window tint.

In my research, I could not find a case in which an officer's safety was jeopardized due to window tint. I could also not find any sources where criminal intent was influenced by window tint. I would certainly love to know if any cases do exist, however.

This bill is not asking for a complete blackout of windows.

In a testimony today, a witness had noted that they do not have training around handling window tint in law enforcement. I find this odd because NH statutes do not prevent out-of-state drivers with window tint from entering the state. Moreover, I believe if officer safety was a concern as it pertains to window tint, a process and training for dealing with out of state drivers with window tint should be explored immediately -- for I am also an advocate for officer and public safety.

With your support, and the support of many New Hampshire, I hope that we can pass HB224 in the Committee and on the floors, and ultimately get the bill signed into law.

Have a great day and weekend.

Thank you,
Rob Widdick - Deerfield, NH

Archived: Friday, July 16, 2021 4:23:15 PM

From: [Elliot Axelman](#)

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 11:59:25 PM

To: [~House Transportation Committee](#)

Subject: Please support HB224

Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

My family and I would like you to please support HB224.

This simple bill proposed by my friends Josh, Max, and Michael would make it no longer a crime for my wife and I to tint our front side windows.

Thank you very much.

--

Elliot Axelman, FP-C

Editor-in-chief

LibertyBlock.com

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Editor-in-chief
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With your support, and the support of many New Hampshire residents, I hope that we can pass HB224 in the Committee and on the floors, and ultimately get the bill signed into law.

Have a great day and weekend.

Thank you,
Rob Widdick - Deerfield, NH

NH Automotive Tint Facts

New Hampshire is 1 of 4 states that ban tint on the front windows to the left and right of the driver (<http://tintlaws.com/> <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXI/266/266-58-a.htm>) while the other 46 states allow automotive tint to the left and right of the driver.

Current tint laws affect thousands of NH drivers every day. Benefits of allowing tint to the left and right

windows of the driver include, but are not limited to:

- Adds additional crash safety from shattered glass
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMexcv90NeI>
- Reduces the sun's glare, helping prevent accidents due to solar glare (which are also cautioned against via DOT highway signs)
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window_film#Use
- Reduces headlight glare and brightness from the side view mirrors and from headlights of cars behind the vehicle
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window_film#Use
- Blocks 99.9% of UV radiation which is important to prevent melanoma cancer to the skin and the eyes, especially in children
 - <http://www.llumar.com/film-benefits/for-car-owners/protect-yourself-from-dangerous-uv-rays>
 - <http://www.skincancer.org/prevention/sun-protection/window-film/window-film>
- Keeps vehicles more comfortable by reducing solar heat gain, reducing emissions from less stress on critical automotive cooling components. New, modern tints such like ceramic tint have an incredible heat block.
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window_film#Use
- Adds privacy for drivers, passengers, and belongings
- Potentially reduces auto theft occurrences
 - <http://www.tintworld.com/car-window-tinting-information/>
- Helps protect interior upholstery from fading and leather seats from cracking

Additional points:

- Reduce police stops; allows officers to devote time towards higher priority public safety issues and reduces wasteful spending of tax dollars
- People with medical waivers will no longer have to worry about being pulled over, wasting their time as part of the stop
- People will no longer have the need to request a new or renew a medical waiver for tint through a doctor's visit, freeing up more time for doctors to spend time with other patients, as well as freeing up public servants' time that had went into processing the waivers

We all respect the safety of law enforcement. Law enforcement officers have the tools, training, and equipment to protect themselves. If they have reason to believe they are in danger when approaching a

vehicle with tinted windows, they can always order that person to open their windows using their PA system, use spotlight, or call for backup.

NH Automotive Tint Facts

New Hampshire is 1 of 4 states that ban tint on the front windows to the left and right of the driver (<http://tintlaws.com/> <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXI/266/266-58-a.htm>) while the other 46 states allow automotive tint to the left and right of the driver.



Current tint laws affect thousands of NH drivers every day. Benefits of allowing tint to the left and right windows of the driver include, but are not limited to:

- Adds additional crash safety from shattered glass
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMexcv9ONel>
- Reduces the sun's glare, helping prevent accidents due to solar glare (which are also cautioned against via DOT highway signs)
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window_film#Use
- Reduces headlight glare and brightness from the side view mirrors and from headlights of cars behind the vehicle
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window_film#Use
- Blocks 99.9% of UV radiation which is important to prevent melanoma cancer to the skin and the eyes, especially in children
 - <http://www.llumar.com/film-benefits/for-car-owners/protect-yourself-from-dangerous-uv-rays>
 - <http://www.skincancer.org/prevention/sun-protection/window-film/window-film>
- Keeps vehicles more comfortable by reducing solar heat gain, reducing emissions from less stress on critical automotive cooling components. New, modern tints such like ceramic tint have an incredible heat block.
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window_film#Use
- Adds privacy for drivers, passengers, and belongings
- Potentially reduces auto theft occurrences
 - <http://www.tintworld.com/car-window-tinting-information/>
- Helps protect interior upholstery from fading and leather seats from cracking

Additional points:

- Reduce police stops; allows officers to devote time towards higher priority public safety issues and reduces wasteful spending of tax dollars
- People with medical waivers will no longer have to worry about being pulled over, wasting their time as part of the stop
- People will no longer have the need to request a new or renew a medical waiver for tint through a doctor's visit, freeing up more time for doctors to spend time with other patients, as well as freeing up public servants' time that had went into processing the waivers

We all respect the safety of law enforcement. Law enforcement officers have the tools, training, and equipment to protect themselves. If they have reason to believe they are in danger when approaching a vehicle with tinted windows, they can always order that person to open their windows using their PA system, use spotlight, or call for backup.

Archived: Thursday, July 1, 2021 8:59:36 AM
From: [Karel Crawford](#)
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 9:56:51 PM
To: [Karel Crawford](#)
Subject: Fwd: 2021 - HB224 - Support Docs
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
[NH Automotive Tint Facts.docx](#)  [TT00001.htm](#) 

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rob Widdick <rob@robwiddick.com>
Date: February 5, 2021 at 3:08:43 PM EST
To: HouseTransportationCommittee@leg.state.nh.us
Subject: 2021 - HB224 - Support Docs

Dear Transportation Committee,

Thank you for the HB224 webinar today in which I was able to provide my voiced testimony and opinions pertaining to HB224. I would like to provide my written testimony below along with my supporting document containing additional facts around automotive tint.

My name is Rob Widdick and I moved to NH about 8 years ago from AR for work. To my surprise back then, NH barred tint from the left and right of the driver and windshield without a waiver. I immediately found and went to my PCP to request a window tint waiver application to be filled out and signed. I then submitted it to the state, exposing my personal health information, and waited a couple of weeks to receive the approved waiver.

During the time between moving to NH and getting my waiver, I had continued to drive with window tint because it was applied prior to me moving to NH. I had no plans to remove the tinted film because it cost over \$350 to install. This put me at risk of traffic stops, so I kept the application in the car in the case I was pulled over but also knowing that if I were to have been pulled over, I would have rolled down all windows in respect to the officer. If any tickets were given, I would have fought them in court with the waiver - assuming it was approved. New Hampshireites *shouldn't have to worry about this.*

I am in favor of HB224, allowing for a 35% window tint to the left and the right of the driver. I am also in favor of a 35% Net Volume Light Transmittance (NVLT) - which is the combined light transmittance that takes into factor the glass itself (which can contain a tint in the glass from the factory) and any applied film. The NVLT can be measured by a special light metering tool that tint shops and officers tend to have.

35% NVLT is a common shade that seems to be the de facto in my experience over 15 years of talking to shops and having tint applied. It's important to note that 35% NVLT is not a limousine tint - you can still see through it, especially in the sun or with a flashlight.

While UV-A and UV-B light blocking is a great feature of window film, this *should not* be considered the sole benefits of considering HB224. Blocking UV rays is a great secondary feature which clear film can also achieve. However, it does not address the concerns around glare and solar gain, which are the main reasons I chose to install tint in the first place.

With my mild photophobia due to a dual astigmatism, allergies, and symptoms secondary to thyroid disease (eg: dry eye), I strongly prefer to be in a tinted vehicle to alleviate vision headaches and migraines. Photophobia (light sensitivity) is a condition well documented in medical literature and can be caused by various diseases and conditions. (More info: <https://www.goodeyes.com/blog/causes-of-photophobia/>). I am lucky to not have a severe case of it and can still get outside as opposed to others who have thyroid disease.

I am in strong favor of the bill, HB224, as submitted. Tinted windows have many primary benefits such as reducing glare from headlights behind me at night and reducing glare from solar reflections during the day. While the bill may not go as far as I would like it to, it's a great start for New Hampshire residents and potentially beneficial to business.

The window film market size is valued at nearly \$10 billion in 2019 and is expected to grow, with 36% attributed to the automotive sector. NH businesses could be a part of this growth in revenue instead of losing the revenue to neighboring states as it pertains to shaded automotive window tint.

(<https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/window-films-market>)

In my opinion, merely having window tint is not a good reason to be a suspect and pulled over for. The process of requesting a waiver application from my doctor, sending it to the state for review, and me getting pulled over is a waste of time, money, and resources to both me and the state/local police. It costs me money to see a doc to get the application, and it costs the various levels of government money - such as processing applications and traffic stops simply due to window tint.

In my research, I could not find a case in which an officer's safety was jeopardized due to window tint. I could also not find any sources where criminal intent was influenced by window tint. I would certainly love to know if any cases do exist, however.

This bill is not asking for a complete blackout of windows.

In a testimony today, a witness had noted that they do not have training around handling window tint in law enforcement. I find this odd because NH statutes do not prevent out-of-state drivers with window tint from entering the state. Moreover, I believe if officer safety was a concern as it pertains to window tint, a process and training for dealing with out of state drivers with window tint should be explored immediately -- for I am also an advocate for officer and public safety.

With your support, and the support of many New Hampshireites, I hope that we can pass HB224 in the Committee and on the floors, and ultimately get the bill signed into law.

Have a great day and weekend.

Thank you,
Rob Widdick - Deerfield, NH

Bill as
Introduced

HB 224 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0230
11/05

HOUSE BILL **224**

AN ACT relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles.

SPONSORS: Rep. Yokela, Rock. 33; Rep. Yakubovich, Merr. 24; Rep. Abramson, Rock. 37; Rep. Hill, Merr. 3; Rep. O'Hara, Belk. 9; Rep. Belanger, Rock. 9

COMMITTEE: Transportation

ANALYSIS

This bill allows for after market tinting of side windows.

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.

21-0230
11/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT relative to tinted windows on motor vehicles.

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

1 Rules of the Road; Special Rules; Tinted Windows. Amend RSA 265:95, III(a) to read as follows:

(a) Except as permitted by subparagraph (b), no person shall drive upon any way any vehicle with any sign, poster, sticker, or other nontransparent material upon or adjacent to the front windshield, side wings, or side or rear windows of such vehicle which shall obstruct the driver's clear view of the way or any intersecting way, unless authorized by the director so to do. No person shall drive upon any way any vehicle with after market tinting on the windshield [~~or on the windows to the left and right of the driver~~], as prohibited under RSA 266:58-a.

2 Equipment of Vehicles; Tinted Glass. Amend RSA 266:58-a, I-III-a to read as follows:

I. It shall be unlawful to sell or inspect any motor vehicle in this state which has after market tinting on the windshield [~~or on the windows to the left and right of the driver~~].

II. It shall be unlawful to install after market tinting on the windshield [~~or on the windows to the left and right of the driver~~] on any motor vehicle which is registered in this state.

III. It shall be unlawful to drive on any way any motor vehicle registered in this state which has after market tinting on the windshield [~~or on the windows to the left and right of the driver~~]. Where after market tinting is applied to windows to the rear of the driver, outside rear view mirrors shall be required on both the left and right side of the vehicle for the use of the driver and a front seat passenger. The light transmittance of after-market tinted windows where they are allowed shall not be less than 35 percent, except that the light transmittance of after market tinted rear windows of multipurpose passenger vehicles, as defined in 49 C.F.R. **section** 571.3 and pickup trucks may be such percentage as is allowed by 49 C.F.R. **section** 571.205 with respect to pre-market tinted rear windows.

III-a. Persons who require for medical reasons after market tinting on the windshield [~~or on the windows to the left and right of the driver~~] may apply for a special permit pursuant to RSA 266:61-a, IX.

3 Equipment of Vehicles; Equipment Waiver for Disabled. Amend RSA 266:61-a, IX to read as follows:

IX. The commissioner may waive the requirements of RSA 266:58-a and issue a special permit to a person who for bona fide medical reasons requires after market tinting on the windshield [~~or on the windows to the left and right of the driver~~] and who applies for such permit. Such waiver shall be granted in accordance with this section and shall only authorize the use of after market tinted windows with a light transmittance of not less than 35 percent. In reviewing the application for a permit under this paragraph, the commissioner may seek the advice and recommendation of a medical review board designated by him *or her* for such purpose.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.