

# Committee Report

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**March 10, 2021**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

The Majority of the Committee on Judiciary to which  
was referred HB 550,

AN ACT relative to the nonpayment of rent during the  
state of emergency. Having considered the same, report  
the same with the following resolution: **RESOLVED,**  
that it is **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

**Rep. Michael Sylvia**

**FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

**MAJORITY  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Judiciary
Bill Number:	HB 550
Title:	relative to the nonpayment of rent during the state of emergency.
Date:	March 10, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

**STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The majority know affordable housing to be a serious problem which would be made worse with this unnecessary legislation. This bill seeks to delay evictions during the current state of emergency for which numerous sources of aid have already been provided.

Vote 11-10.

Rep. Michael Sylvia  
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Judiciary

**HB 550**, relative to the nonpayment of rent during the state of emergency. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Michael Sylvia for the **Majority** of Judiciary. The majority know affordable housing to be a serious problem which would be made worse with this unnecessary legislation. This bill seeks to delay evictions during the current state of emergency for which numerous sources of aid have already been provided. **Vote 11-10.**

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**March 10, 2021**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Minority of the Committee on Judiciary to which  
was referred HB 550,**

**AN ACT relative to the nonpayment of rent during the  
state of emergency. Having considered the same, and  
being unable to agree with the Majority, report with the  
recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

**Rep. Mark Paige**

**FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

**MINORITY  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Judiciary
Bill Number:	HB 550
Title:	relative to the nonpayment of rent during the state of emergency.
Date:	March 10, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS

**STATEMENT OF INTENT**

This bill provides both additional time for tenants to secure rental assistance and an efficient process for courts to resolve non-payment of rent disputes that have arisen during the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill will help provide relief in this pandemic for both New Hampshire residents potentially facing evictions and landlords seeking unpaid rent. The goals of this bill are even more likely to be achieved because of the increased amount of rental assistance provided in the federal COVID relief bill passed by Congress in March of 2021.

Rep. Mark Paige  
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

### Judiciary

**HB 550**, relative to the nonpayment of rent during the state of emergency. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Mark Paige for the **Minority** of Judiciary. This bill provides both additional time for tenants to secure rental assistance and an efficient process for courts to resolve non-payment of rent disputes that have arisen during the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill will help provide relief in this pandemic for both New Hampshire residents potentially facing evictions and landlords seeking unpaid rent. The goals of this bill are even more likely to be achieved because of the increased amount of rental assistance provided in the federal COVID relief bill passed by Congress in March of 2021.

# Voting Sheets







2021 SESSION

Judiciary

Bill #: HB550 Motion: ITL AM #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 3-70-2021

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Gordon, Edward M. Chairman	11		
McLean, Mark Vice Chairman	1		
Sylvia, Michael J.	2		
Wuelper, Kurt F. Clerk	3		
Alexander, Joe H.	4		
Rice, Kimberly A.	5		
<del>Silber, Norman J.</del> <u>Lacelles, R</u>	6		
Greene, Bob J.	7		
Kelley, Diane E.	8		
Tausch, Lindsay	9		
Trottier, Douglas R.	10		
Smith, Marjorie K.		1	
Berch, Paul S.		2	
Horrigan, Timothy O.		3	
DiLorenzo, Charlotte I.		4	
Chase, Wendy		5	
Kenney, Cam E.		6	
Langley, Diane M.		7	
McBeath, Rebecca Susan		8	
Paige, Mark		9	
Simpson, Alexis		10	



2021 SESSION

Judiciary

Bill #: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion: ITL AM #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 3-10-21

TOTAL VOTE: \_\_\_\_\_  11  10 

# Public Hearing

# House Remote Testify

## Judiciary Committee Testify List for Bill HB550 on 2021-02-02

Support: 41 Oppose: 22 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 5

[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>
Norman, Nick	NickNorman@yahoo.com	A Lobbyist	Property Owners, AANH	Oppose	Yes (4m)	No	2/1/2021 9:51 AM
Berry, Elliott	eberry@nhla.org	A Lobbyist	Myself	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/1/2021 2:30 PM
Conley, Casey	caseymconley@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/2/2021 9:26 AM
Margolin, Elissa	elissa@housingactionnh.org	A Lobbyist	Housing Action NH	Support	Yes (1m)	No	2/2/2021 9:15 AM
Mortell, Ben	blmortell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (0m)	No	2/1/2021 7:54 AM
Spielman, Kathy	jspielman@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 8:04 AM
Spielman, James	jspielman@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 8:04 AM
Farrelly Jr, Joseph	joefarrelly@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 8:27 AM
Corell, Elizabeth	Elizabeth.j.corell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 8:34 AM
Kelly, Jon	jonmkelly@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 9:23 AM
Platt, Elizabeth-Anne	lizanneplatt09@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2021 7:10 AM
Rettew, Annie	abrettew@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2021 8:11 AM
Ellermann, Maureen	ellermannf@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2021 8:20 AM
Ewart, Cheryl	peakrentals@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2021 8:39 AM
Coss, Adrian	adrian.coss@unhlaw.unh.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2021 10:00 AM
Brennan, Nancy	burningnan14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2021 10:18 AM
Yen, Lidia	lyen@afsc.org	A Member of the	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2021 1:27 PM

Istel, Claudia	claudia@sover.net	Public A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2021 4:01 PM
Fontneau, Tim	Tim.Fontneau@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/4/2021 10:08 AM
Lloyd, Sheridan	sheridan.lloyd@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/4/2021 11:40 AM
Gould, Marcus	Marcusgouldnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/8/2021 9:59 AM
Frost, Sherry	sherry.frost@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 2:32 PM
Larson, Walter	chipandsarahlarson@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 3:09 PM
Guaraldi, Luke	LUKEJGUARALDI@HOTMAIL.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 3:23 PM
Carter, Lilian	lcarter0914@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 3:28 PM
Hinebauch, Melissa	melhinebauch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 3:41 PM
Hampton, Doris	dandmhamp38@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 4:00 PM
Knoy, Sarah Jane	sjk@granitestateinterfaithactionfund.org	A Lobbyist	Granite State Interfaith Action Fund	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 5:47 PM
Cline, David	DClineNH@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 7:25 PM
Katusiime, Viola	violakat@granitestateorganizing.org	A Lobbyist	Granite State Organizing Project	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 7:28 PM
Pierog, Jake	pierogjake@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 8:14 PM
Rathbun, Eric	ericrathbun@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 11:05 PM
Makris, Paul	paul.makris@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 10:21 AM
Torpey, Jeanne	jtorp51@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 10:30 AM
sweet, jennifer	jenniferl.sweet81@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 12:15 PM
Lord, Kit	kitlord@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 3:01 PM
Anderson, Keryn	kerynlanderson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 12:55 PM
Schleyer, Chris	cschleyer@elmgroveccompanies.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 1:14 PM
Berry, Jake	jberry@new-futures.org	A Lobbyist	New Futures	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 2:28 PM
Watters, Senator		An Elected Official	Myself (SD 4)	Support	No	No	1/27/2021 2:47 PM

David	david.watters@leg.state.nh.us						
Rockwell, Sarah	sarahrockwell@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2021 3:39 PM
Pinto, Josie	josie@nhyouthmovement.org	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Youth Movement	Support	No	No	1/29/2021 11:21 AM
Podlipny, Ann	apodlipny57@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2021 3:11 PM
Chretien, Suzanne	suzannechretien3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2021 4:33 PM
Grossi, Anne	adgrossi7982@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2021 9:36 PM
DiBacco, Aron	aron1208@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2021 11:58 AM
Maynard, Richard	maynardrick@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2021 12:25 PM
Gould, Rep. Linda	lgouldr@myfairpoint.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2021 4:07 PM
Fenner-Lukaitis, Elizabeth	glukaitis@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2021 4:13 PM
Fordey, Nicole	nikkif610@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2021 8:07 PM
Feder, Marsha	marshafeder@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 10:17 AM
Telerski, Laura	Laura.Telerski@Leg.State.NH.US	An Elected Official	Hillsborough 35	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 3:06 PM
Mitchell, Katherine	katherinemitchell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 6:19 PM
Tetu, Emile	etetu@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 6:29 PM
Hartford, Mitchell	MitchHartford75@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 8:11 PM
Garen, June	jzanesgaren@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 8:24 PM
Hartford, Jennifer	JenniferHartford@ymail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 8:26 PM
Damon, Claudia	cordsdamon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 8:31 PM
Wazir, Safiya	s.wazir@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	My Constituents	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 8:58 PM
McWilliams, Rebecca	rebecca.mcwilliams@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Merrimack 27	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 9:01 PM
Spencer, Louise	kentstusa@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 10:46 PM
Fletcher, Wesley	Casadewes@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 6:26 AM
Beaulieu, Malcolm		A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 11:21 AM

malcolm.beaulieu@gmail.com

Public



# Testimony

Bill as  
Introduced

HB 550 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0718  
10/05

HOUSE BILL **550**

AN ACT relative to the nonpayment of rent during the state of emergency.

SPONSORS: Rep. Conley, Straf. 13; Rep. Stapleton, Sull. 5; Rep. Andrew Bouldin, Hills. 12; Rep. Schultz, Merr. 18; Rep. Meuse, Rock. 29; Rep. Wilhelm, Hills. 42; Rep. Wazir, Merr. 17; Rep. McWilliams, Merr. 27; Rep. Fenton, Ches. 8; Rep. Labranche, Hills. 22; Sen. Watters, Dist 4

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a procedure for a court to continue an eviction action for a residential property during the state of emergency.

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.

21-0718  
10/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One*

AN ACT relative to the nonpayment of rent during the state of emergency.

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

1 New Section; Provisions Related to the State of Emergency. Amend RSA 540 by inserting after section 9-a the following new section:

540:9-b Provisions Related to the State of Emergency. For the period of the state of emergency, in any possessory action under RSA 540 based on non-payment of one or more rental payments for a residential property that became due on or after March 19, 2020, upon a showing by the defendant that he or she has made an application for rental assistance under a federal, state, or local housing assistance program, the court shall continue the case for 30 days. If, prior to the expiration of the continuance period, the defendant, or a third party acting on his or her behalf makes or offers full payment of all rent which became due prior to the end of the continuance period, the possessory action shall be dismissed. The granting of a continuance shall not affect a tenant's liability for unpaid rent except that he or she shall not be liable for late fees that were assessed after March 19, 2020. For this section, "state of emergency" means the State of Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak declared by the governor in executive order 2020-04 on March 13, 2020, and all extensions thereof.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.