

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SB107

Bill as
Introduced

SB 107 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-1057
/10

SENATE BILL **107**

AN ACT relative to financial assistance for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SPONSORS: Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Sherman, Dist 24; Sen. Cavanaugh, Dist 16; Sen. Prentiss, Dist 5; Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Rep. McBeath, Rock. 26; Rep. Griffith, Hills. 18; Rep. Kenney, Straf. 6; Rep. DiLorenzo, Rock. 17; Rep. Wilhelm, Hills. 42

COMMITTEE: Commerce

ANALYSIS

This bill provides that new businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic will be eligible for federal relief funds.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

SB 107 - AS INTRODUCED

21-1057
/10

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT relative to financial assistance for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

- 1 1 COVID-19 Federal Funds; Assistance for Newly Formed Businesses. To the extent permitted
- 2 by federal law, federal relief funds received by the state of New Hampshire to assist businesses
- 3 affected by the COVID-19 pandemic shall be made available to businesses that were not eligible for
- 4 grants from the Main Street Relief Fund because the businesses were established after May 26,
- 5 2019. Eligibility criteria for the financial assistance shall not include business filings from 2019 or
- 6 similar requirements that would disqualify businesses that began operation on or after May 26,
- 7 2019.
- 8 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Committee Minutes

SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE

Commerce

Sen Harold French, Chair
Sen Bill Gannon, Vice Chair
Sen Jeb Bradley, Member
Sen Donna Soucy, Member
Sen Kevin Cavanaugh, Member

Date: February 18, 2021

HEARINGS

Tuesday	03/02/2021	
(Day)	(Date)	
Commerce	REMOTE 000	9:00 a.m.
(Name of Committee)	(Place)	(Time)
9:00 a.m.	SB 107	relative to financial assistance for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
9:15 a.m.	SB 126-FN	adopting omnibus legislation on landlord tenant proceedings.
9:30 a.m.	SB 160-FN	relative to multiple employer welfare arrangements.

Committee members will receive secure Zoom invitations via email.

Members of the public may attend using the following links:

1. Link to Zoom Webinar: <https://www.zoom.us/j/98120126504>
2. To listen via telephone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): 1-312-626-6799, or 1-646-558-8656, or 1-301-715-8592, or 1-346-248-7799, or 1-669-900-9128, or 1-253-215-8782
3. Or iPhone one-tap: 13126266799,,98120126504# or 16465588656,,98120126504#
4. Webinar ID: **981 2012 6504**
5. To view/listen to this hearing on YouTube, use this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjBZdtrjRnQdmg-2MPMiWrA>
6. To sign in to speak, register your position on a bill and/or submit testimony, use this link:
<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/remotecommittee/senate.aspx>

The following email will be monitored throughout the meeting by someone who can assist with and alert the committee to any technical issues: remotesenate@leg.state.nh.us or call (603-271-6931).

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

Sponsors:

SB 107

Sen. Perkins Kwoka
Sen. Sherman
Rep. McBeath
Rep. Wilhelm

Sen. D'Allesandro
Sen. Cavanaugh
Rep. Griffith

Sen. Rosenwald
Sen. Prentiss
Rep. Kenney

Sen. Watters
Sen. Soucy
Rep. DiLorenzo

SB 126-FN

Sen. Perkins Kwoka

SB 160-FN

Sen. Bradley

Aaron Jones 271-4063

Harold F. French
Chairman

Senate Commerce Committee

Aaron Jones 271-4063

SB 107, relative to financial assistance for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hearing Date: March 2, 2021

Time Opened: 9:05 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:52 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators French, Gannon, Bradley, Soucy and Cavanaugh

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill provides that new businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic will be eligible for federal relief funds.

Sponsors:

Sen. Perkins Kwoka

Sen. D'Allesandro

Sen. Rosenwald

Sen. Watters

Sen. Sherman

Sen. Cavanaugh

Sen. Prentiss

Sen. Soucy

Rep. McBeath

Rep. Griffith

Rep. Kenney

Rep. DiLorenzo

Rep. Wilhelm

Who supports the bill: Please refer to sign-in sheet

Who opposes the bill: Cathyrn Baird, Bruce Berk

Who is neutral on the bill: No one

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka

- Last year, the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) established the Main Street Relief Fund.
- Many new small businesses were excluded from accessing relief funds because they weren't established prior to the May 30th, 2019 deadline or they didn't have financial statements from 2019.
- This bill would allow new businesses, regardless of their establishment date, to access any future federal relief funds that are allocated to New Hampshire.
- Senator Perkins Kwoka said the newer businesses are, the more critical it's to support them.

- Typically, newer businesses don't have capital savings from previous years that they can use in times of need.
- Often, business openings are delayed as a result of permitting, financing, and/or supply chain issues.
- Through this bill and other efforts, Senator Perkins Kwoka said the Legislature should continue to support the operation of these businesses going forward.
- **Senator French** asked if small businesses would have to show any records to a bank so that they could receive funds.
 - **Senator Perkins Kwoka** said that the bill would ensure that businesses aren't declared ineligible for funds solely based on their date of formation. However, the statute does provide GOFERR with the discretion to establish rules that would require businesses to produce certain types of records. Senator Perkins Kwoka said she hoped the Committee would fill the gap created by last year's relief fund rules.
- **Senator Gannon** asked how the Legislature would know if they're funding businesses that will ultimately fail.
 - **Senator Perkins Kwoka** acknowledged that new restaurants have a failure rate of 80 percent. However, for example, there's one business in her district where the owner bought an existing business, but she didn't qualify for relief funds as a result of a technicality. In that instance, records already existed documenting the assets from the previous business. Senator Perkins Kwoka said that recently formed businesses would have to work together with stakeholders, such as financing partners, to determine how to evaluate the eligibility of their business.

Lizabeth Tompkins, Owner, Puttin' on the Glitz

- In September 2019, Ms. Tompkins became the owner of Puttin' on the Glitz in Portsmouth.
- Given the nature of the pandemic, Ms. Tompkins wondered why the Main Street Relief Fund 2.0 still had the May 30th, 2019 formation eligibility requirement.
- While business plans are often crafted, those plans don't always work out. For example, some businesses had resiliency plans in place to last for 3 to 6 months; however, none accounted for a pandemic.
- Throughout the pandemic, most businesses in Portsmouth have experienced revenue declines between 20 to 60 percent.
- Last year, Ms. Tompkins received an economic injury loan to help her recover the 3 months her business was shut down. She stated that she stretched the loan until November 2020; however, since then, she has been concerned about cash flow because her business is her only source of income.
- Currently, there doesn't exist a robust appeals process. Ms. Tompkins made two typographical errors in her initial form; however, under the existing process, there's no way to discuss extenuated circumstances.
- If smaller businesses fail, then Ms. Tompkins stated that larger corporations will replace them.

- Some businesses have been forced to repay funds because they received too much assistance, or they received assistance from multiple sources. Ms. Tompkins wondered if those repaid funds could be redirected to struggling small businesses.
- Ms. Tompkins asked what would be considered a Main Street business if hers wasn't.
- **Senator French** asked if her business was still open.
 - Ms. Tompkins replied yes.
- **Senator French** asked if her business was open its regular hours.
 - Ms. Tompkins said that her business hours had been reduced in January and February. Even under normal circumstances, those months tend to be slower.
- **Senator French** said he had been to Portsmouth in the last few months and he had noticed a big change from two years ago. He wondered if foot traffic in the city had decreased.
 - Ms. Tompkins responded that foot traffic varies; however, consumer confidence is the biggest problem. Last fall, her business was down 23 percent compared to the previous year. With her payroll protection having run out, she said she has been doing a lot of work herself, such as marketing. She hoped to apply to a grant to create a shoppable website because all existing revenue she has received has been directed toward her income and paying off debt services.
- **Senator Gannon** wondered what Ms. Tompkins meant by her saying she was on target. Also, he wondered if without relief she would be in danger of going out of business.
 - Ms. Tompkins said that she was on target based on the projections made in her business plan model. That model took into consideration the necessary revenue needed to pay her basic debt services, fill her inventory, meet basic business needs, and allow her to have a salary. Last year, when she closed her business, she stopped all orders and only paid her basic debt services. She said she's scared of the prospect of losing her business because it's her only source of income.

Kimberly Clark, Owner, Clark's American Bistro & Ciao Trattoria and Wine Bar

- Both restaurants are located on Main Street in Durham.
- Ms. Clark said that they chose Durham because it's an underserved community that doesn't have many family-run restaurants that provide lunch and dinner.
- For over 3 years, Ms. Clark and her husband planned the opening of Clark's American Bistro. For Ciao, they had started building it two years in advance.
- After their restaurants opened, Ms. Clark said there were immediately embraced by the community.
- They applied to the Main Street Relief Fund, but they didn't qualify since they didn't meet the date of formation criteria, despite their business properties having been incorporated and invested in over an extended period of time.

- They have survived throughout the pandemic; however, as cases increase in Durham and at the University of New Hampshire, they have seen their business decline. Most recently, they saw a decline of 40 percent.
- Ms. Clark said that relief funding would provide them with some breathing room to get them through the remainder of the pandemic.
- Ms. Clark stated that Main Street businesses and entrepreneurship are the heart of America.
- She urged the Committee to reconsider the arbitrary formation date criteria that businesses must satisfy in order to apply to the Main Street Relief Fund.

Patrick Kelly, Owner, Stripe Nine Brewing

- In September 2019, Mr. Kelly opened Stripe Nine Brewing in Somersworth. At the time of their opening, they employed over 18 people.
- In March 2020, they temporarily closed; however, they reopened in April to provide takeout services. Mr. Kelly said he never intended his business to do takeout.
- Once outdoor seating went away, his business saw a 60 to 70 percent decline in revenue.
- To address Senator Gannon's earlier question, Mr. Kelly said they should have been entitled to relief funds because they experienced limited visibility in their first year of business.
- He stated that businesses that apply for relief should provide documentation, such as balance sheets, to demonstrate that they're able to financially maintain their business on an ongoing basis.
- While the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) did help them retain some staff, they only have 7.5 full-time equivalents now, which has been challenging for them.
- Mr. Kelly concluded that they would support any relief that could be provided to businesses that were open less than a year prior to the pandemic.

John Daniels, Co-Owner, Stalk Restaurant

- In January 2020, Stalk Restaurant opened in Dover, and Mr. Daniels said there was an instant connection with the community.
- Once outdoor seating was no longer an option, the restaurant experienced a revenue decline of 60 to 70 percent.
- Under existing guidelines and due to the size of their restaurant, they can only seat 19 customers at a time.
- Throughout the winter, Mr. Daniels said only himself, the other co-owner, and one employee have been working.
- Mr. Daniels said they're not in danger of going out of business; however, they didn't receive enough PPP funding. For the entirety of 2020, Mr. Daniels said that him and the co-owner only paid themselves \$15,000 despite working 80 hours a week.

- He concluded that it's unfair that smaller new businesses weren't thought of the same way that other businesses were.

Kevin Dwyer, Owner, Dwyer Pub

- In December 2019, Dwyer Pub opened in Portsmouth.
- Mr. Dwyer said that their restaurant and pub is very narrow, and it's not designed for COVID-19 seating arrangements.
- Both nationally and locally, there has been a trend of larger corporations taking up spots that have been vacated by local businesses.
- Restaurants have low profit margins, which place them in a much more vulnerable position than larger businesses that received funding.

Valerie Rochon, President, The Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth

- While the intention of the Main Street Relief Fund was good, small businesses who need financial support have been left to fend for themselves.
- Ms. Rochon said there's nothing more Main Street than locally owned small businesses that employ local residents.
- Business plans and financial projections were sufficient enough for banks to provide funding to these businesses; therefore, Ms. Rochon wondered why those businesses couldn't be accommodated by the Main Street Relief Fund.
- Reiterating previous speakers, Ms. Rochon said that those who bought existing companies with proven records of net profits have been denied access to critical funds.
- Also, she acknowledged that the appeals process has been difficult, if not impossible, for business owners to navigate.
- Ms. Rochon urged the Committee to let small businesses be eligible for new relief funds because they're the backbone of the state.
- **Senator Gannon** said he understood that stores and restaurants with years of financial data were a safer bet, but newer restaurants have an 80 percent failure rate. Senator Gannon worried taxpayer money would be put into risky businesses without consideration of existing data.
 - **Ms. Rochon** replied that she was optimistic of the upcoming season because of increased vaccinations, and decreased positivity and hospitalization rates. She predicted that New Hampshire was well positioned for tourism as more visitors go to rural areas, not cities. In Portsmouth, outdoor dining opened recently, and businesses are coming up with other creative ways to increase foot traffic. Ms. Rochon said there could be a compromise made to get this bill passed, such as obligating funds, but not allocating them. Additionally, funding could be based on revenue projections and/or reports that demonstrate goal achievement.

Enna Grazier, Owner, Enna Chocolate

- Ms. Grazier started her business in her own kitchen 4 years ago. Two years ago, she opened a factory in Epping. In January 2020, she decided to relocate to a

larger space in Exeter. After getting the keys to her business in March 2020, she was forced to shut down.

- In August 2020, her business reopened, and they were able to add 5 new employees. For the first time, Ms. Grazier said she was able to pay herself.
- Since she grossed more in 2020 than 2019, her business didn't qualify for any funding opportunities. She said that other associated costs, such as overhead and employee wages, should be taken into consideration when determining funding.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

Neutral Information Presented: None

AJ
Date Hearing Report completed: March 4, 2021

Speakers

Commerce Committee Testify List for Bill SB107 on 2021-03-02

Support: 99 Oppose: 2 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 9

Name	Representing	Position	Testifying
Kovacs Miriam	Myself	Support	Yes
Tompkins Lizabeth	Myself	Support	Yes
Clark Kimberly	Myself	Support	Yes
Dwyer Kevin	Myself	Support	Yes
Grazier Enna	Myself	Support	Yes
Perkins Kwoka Senator Rebecca	Myself (SD 21)	Support	Yes
Daniels John	Stalk	Support	Yes
Kelly Patrick	Stripe Nine Brewing	Support	Yes
Rochon Valerie	Business Community	Support	Yes
Bergevin Leslie	Myself	Support	No
Beaulieu Rebecca	Myself	Support	No
Watters Senator David	Myself (SD 4)	Support	No
Frost Sherry	Myself	Support	No
Crandell Jane	Myself	Support	No
Glass Jonathan	Myself	Support	No
Anastasia Patricia	Myself	Support	No
Koch Helmut	Myself	Support	No
Irwin Virginia	Myself	Support	No
Oscadal Joanne	Myself	Support	No
Clark Denise	Myself	Support	No
Porter Todd	Myself	Support	No
Necol Barbara	Myself	Support	No
Raspiller Cindy	Myself	Support	No
Brown Howard	Myself	Support	No
Brown Morgan	Myself	Support	No
Brown William	Myself	Support	No
Spielman Kathy	Myself	Support	No
Spielman James	Myself	Support	No
Sherman Senator Tom	SD24	Support	No

Commerce Committee Testify List for Bill SB107 on 2021-03-02

Support: 99 Oppose: 2 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 9

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>
St John Michelle	Myself	Support	No
Newton Jay	Myself	Support	No
Cunningham Shela	Myself	Support	No
Dahme Pat	Myself	Support	No
Rettew Annie	Myself	Support	No
Jakubowski Deborah	Myself	Support	No
Wazir Safiya	My Constituents	Support	No
Hope Lucinda	Myself	Support	No
Spencer Donnie	Myself	Support	No
Taylor Stephen	Myself	Support	No
Hinebauch Mel	Myself	Support	No
Lewandowski Jean	Myself	Support	No
Keeler Margaret	Myself	Support	No
Hackmann Kent	Myself	Support	No
Lynch Laura	Myself	Support	No
jakubowski dennis	Myself	Support	No
McCarthy Dian	Myself	Support	No
Gillis Kim	Myself	Support	No
Dewey Karen	Myself	Support	No
FRIEDRICH ED	Myself	Support	No
Jachim Nancy	Myself	Support	No
Maisttison Maureen	Myself	Support	No
Arnold Neil	Myself	Support	No
Ford Burley Nicole	Myself	Support	No
Weber Jill	Myself	Support	No
Richman Susan	Myself	Support	No
Manseau Joline	Myself	Support	No
Oldak Peter	Myself	Support	No
Casino Joanne	Myself	Support	No

Commerce Committee Testify List for Bill SB107 on 2021-03-02

Support: 99 Oppose: 2 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 9

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>
Istel Claudia	Myself	Support	No
St Germain Diane	Myself	Support	No
Baird Cathryn	Myself	Oppose	No
ellermann maureen	Myself	Support	No
McNamee Brigid	Myself	Support	No
perez maria	Myself	Support	No
Dean Shawn	Myself	Support	No
Rosenwald Cindy	SD 13	Support	No
Soucy Donna	SD 18	Support	No
Groetzinger Tonda	Myself	Support	No
Nelson Elizabeth	Myself	Support	No
Larson Ruth	Myself	Support	No
Fordey Nicole	Myself	Support	No
st.martin tom	Myself (from NH)	Support	No
Torpey Jeanne	Myself	Support	No
Stevens Representative Deb	My 10K constituents	Support	No
Gordon Laurie	Myself	Support	No
Hayes Randy	Myself	Support	No
Perencevich Ruth	Myself	Support	No
Spencer Louise	Myself	Support	No
Spencer Rob	Myself	Support	No
Falk Cheri	Myself	Support	No
Damon Claudia	Myself	Support	No
Corell Elizabeth	Myself	Support	No
barnes ken	Myself	Support	No
Greenwood Nancy	Myself	Support	No
Stinson Benjamin	Myself	Support	No
Pedersen Michael	Hillsborough 32	Support	No
Garen June	Myself	Support	No

Commerce Committee Testify List for Bill SB107 on 2021-03-02

Support: 99 Oppose: 2 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 9

Name	Representing	Position	Testifying
Briggs Ronald	Myself	Support	No
House Don	Myself	Support	No
hatch sally	Myself	Support	No
Straiton Marie	Myself	Support	No
Carter Lilian	Myself	Support	No
Lucas Janet	Myself	Support	No
Padmore Michael	NH Medical Society	Support	No
Reed Barbara	Myself	Support	No
Brookmeyer Janet	Myself	Support	No
Blanchard Sandra	Myself	Support	No
Leach Kyle	Myself	Support	No
BERK BRUCE	Myself	Oppose	No
Jones Andrew	Myself	Support	No
DeMark Richard	Myself	Support	No

Testimony

The Chamber _____
COLLABORATIVE
_____ of Greater Portsmouth

SB 107 – COM – 9:00 AM – 3/2/21

Good morning Chairman French and Members of the Senate Commerce Committee:

My name is Valerie Rochon and I am the President of the Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth. We represent close to 800 businesses in the greater Portsmouth area. Small businesses comprise 80% of our membership.

I am here to testify in support of SB107, – relative to financial assistance for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The intentions of the Main Street Relief Fund allocated from the Cares Act funds were good, in that the need for financial support necessary to shore up our businesses was recognized, and action taken.

However, some of our small businesses who desperately needed – and still need – the financial support provided to others, have been left to fend for themselves.

SB107 proposes that entrepreneurs who started businesses shortly before and during the pandemic, and those who purchased pre-existing businesses during the same period, will be eligible for federal relief funds.

There is nothing more Main Street than our locally owned, small, entrepreneurial businesses, who employ our local residents. Those who started businesses during this time agonized over business plans and financial projections, which were sufficient in most cases to bring to the banks to get the funds for their startups. Why then, would they not also be accommodated in the Main Street Fund program?

What of new owners who purchased existing businesses with years of financial data? They have proven track records of successful revenue generation and net profits, yet they were also denied access to these critical funds.

And yes, there was an appeals process, which was difficult if not impossible to navigate, with business owners frustrated in their attempts to speak with a real human being.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Commerce Committee, I urge you not to let these small businesses, who are the backbone of our communities and our economy, fall by the wayside yet again when new relief packages are funded.

Please vote to pass SB107, which ensures that new businesses and new business owners will be eligible for federal relief funds.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Valerie Rochon, President, the Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth

Valerie@PortsmouthCollaborative.org; 60.610.5517

Voting Sheets

Senate Commerce Committee
EXECUTIVE SESSION RECORD
2021-2022 Session

Bill # SB 107

Hearing date: 3/2/21

Executive Session date: 3/2/21

Motion of: OTP Vote: 5-0

Committee Member	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. French, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Gannon, V-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Bradley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Cavanaugh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Soucy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion of: CONSENT Vote: 5-0

Committee Member	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. French, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Gannon, V-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Bradley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Cavanaugh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Soucy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion of: _____ Vote: _____

Committee Member	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. French, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Gannon, V-Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Bradley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Cavanaugh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Soucy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reported out by: SEN. SOUCY

Notes: _____

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SENATE
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

THE COMMITTEE ON Commerce

to which was referred **SB 107**

AN ACT relative to financial assistance for businesses
affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 5-0

Senator Donna Soucy
For the Committee

Businesses established after May 26, 2019 were ineligible to receive grants from the Main Street Relief Fund. As a result, many small businesses that did not have access to sufficient capital savings, which are crucial for their continued operation, were harmed. This bill would allow businesses, regardless of their establishment date, to be able to apply for future relief funds. In addition, the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) would still have discretion over rulemaking.

Aaron Jones 271-4063

FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

COMMERCE

SB 107, relative to financial assistance for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Donna Soucy for the committee.

Businesses established after May 26, 2019 were ineligible to receive grants from the Main Street Relief Fund. As a result, many small businesses that did not have access to sufficient capital savings, which are crucial for their continued operation, were harmed. This bill would allow businesses, regardless of their establishment date, to be able to apply for future relief funds. In addition, the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) would still have discretion over rulemaking.

Docket of SB107

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: relative to financial assistance for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.*Official Docket of SB107.:*

Date	Body	Description
1/29/2021	S	Introduced 01/06/2021 and Referred to Commerce; SJ 3
2/18/2021	S	Remote Hearing: 03/02/2021, 09:00 am; Links to join the hearing can be found in the Senate Calendar; SC 12
3/3/2021	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 03/11/2021; Vote 5-0; CC; SC 14
3/11/2021	S	Ought to Pass: RC 23Y-1N, MA; OT3rdg; 03/11/2021; SJ 7
3/17/2021	H	Introduced (in recess of) 02/25/2021 and referred to Commerce and Consumer Affairs HJ 4 P. 50
3/17/2021	H	Public Hearing: 03/23/2021 11:00 am Members of the public may attend using the following link: To join the webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/97167243328 / Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day (time permitting) from the time the committee is initially convened.
5/5/2021	H	==RECESSED== Executive Session: 05/13/2021 10:00 am Members of the public may attend using the following link: To join the webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/93883325643
5/18/2021	H	==CONTINUED== Executive Session: 05/25/2021 10:00 am Members of the public may attend using the following link: To join the webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/94122935505
5/26/2021	H	Majority Committee Report: Inexpedient to Legislate (Vote 11-7; RC) HC 26 P. 16
5/26/2021	H	Minority Committee Report: Ought to Pass
6/3/2021	H	Inexpedient to Legislate: MA RC 194-176 06/03/2021

NH House

NH Senate

Other Referrals

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill Number: SB 107

Senate Committee: Commerce

Please include all documents in the order listed below and indicate the documents which have been included with an "X" beside

Final docket found on Bill Status

Bill Hearing Documents: {Legislative Aides}

Bill version as it came to the committee

All Calendar Notices

Hearing Sign-up sheet(s)

Prepared testimony, presentations, & other submissions handed in at the public hearing

Hearing Report

N/A Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided by the Senate Clerk's Office

Committee Action Documents: {Legislative Aides}

All amendments considered in committee (including those not adopted):

___ - amendment # _____ ___ - amendment # _____

___ - amendment # _____ ___ - amendment # _____

Executive Session Sheet

Committee Report

Floor Action Documents: {Clerk's Office}

All floor amendments considered by the body during session (only if they are offered to the senate):

___ - amendment # _____ ___ - amendment # _____

___ - amendment # _____ ___ - amendment # _____

Post Floor Action: (if applicable) {Clerk's Office}

___ Committee of Conference Report (if signed off by all members. Include any new language proposed by the committee of conference):

___ Enrolled Bill Amendment(s)

___ Governor's Veto Message

All available versions of the bill: {Clerk's Office}

___ as amended by the senate ___ as amended by the house

___ final version

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